



Hirsh Student Writing Competition in Legal Medicine

CALL FOR STUDENT PAPERS

The American College of Legal Medicine (ACLM) invites students to submit their papers in Legal Medicine for the ACLM 2025 Annual Conference, scheduled to take place at the Hilton University of Houston from February 28 to March 2, 2025.

All students are encouraged to compete, particularly those studying medicine, law, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, podiatry, healthcare administration, public health, or other healthcare fields.

The writer of the winning paper will be presented the **Hirsh Award** and will receive **\$1,000.00, round trip economy airfare to Houston, one-night hotel accommodations during the conference, and conference registration** to attend the ACLM 2025 Annual Conference where they will have an opportunity to present the paper, receive the award, and meet with experts in the field of legal medicine. The winning paper will be published in The Journal of Legal Medicine, and all other papers entered for the Hirsh Award will receive consideration for publication in The Journal of Legal Medicine.

The second-place winner will receive **\$500.00**.

The third-place winner will receive **\$250.00**.

The top three winners will receive **complimentary one-year membership** in the American College of Legal Medicine and will be invited to serve on the 2026 Student Awards Committee.

Participation Criteria

- ❖ Contestants must be currently enrolled in an accredited college or postgraduate school in the United States or Canada.

Content of Papers

- ❖ Submissions may address any aspect of legal medicine, including healthcare law, medical licensure, regulation of the profession, business aspects of medical practice, liability of physicians, hospitals, and managed care organizations, ethics, bio-pharmaceutical and medical device regulation, public health law, legal issues in physician-patient relationships, food and drug law, regulation of clinical research, forensic science, or the history of legal medicine.
- ❖ Submissions must be the entirely original work of the individual contestant.
- ❖ Submissions may have been used for academic credit but must not have been submitted for publication.

Format

- ❖ There is no word count limit, but articles under 25,000 words, including footnotes, are preferred.
- ❖ The first page is the cover page with the author's name and contact information and a telephone number, email address and the name of the author's school. It should have the title "2025 Student Writing Competition" and the final word count.
- ❖ At the top of page # 2 and onwards the author must place the title of the paper in all capitals.
- ❖ If an author wishes to acknowledge an individual or institution this can be done on the cover page.
- ❖ The author may not have a financial interest directly or indirectly in the material presented and must disclose any other financial conflicts on the last page of the document.
- ❖ All papers must be submitted in MS Word or Google Doc format using 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, and with one-inch margins. All citations must be footers in 10-point Times New Roman font and single-spaced. All pages must be numbered.

Deadline for Submission

- ❖ **Wednesday, January 15, 2025** at 11:59 pm is the deadline for submission of papers.
- ❖ Papers must be sent by email to info@aclm.org.
- ❖ Only papers sent by email, submitted by the deadline, and in the requested format will be considered.
- ❖ Please direct all questions to info@aclm.org.

Judging Papers

- ❖ All papers will be judged in a blinded review process by the Student Awards Committee of the American College of Legal Medicine. The Committee's decisions are final and may not be appealed. Further, the Committee reserves the right not to award any prize if the entries do not meet the standards of a winning paper.
- ❖ The papers will be judged based on the following areas:
 - Relevance of the subject matter
 - Originality and thoughtfulness
 - Quality of writing and depth of analysis
 - Citation authority in support of arguments

Note: All submitted papers preferably must not be submitted for publication in a journal or law review until they are released back to the author. The release of papers will be completed by email from the ACLM to the author by **March 30, 2025**.

The American College of Legal Medicine

Established in 1960, ACLM is the foremost professional society for individuals with joint degrees in law and medicine or dentistry that works to address pressing issues that exist at the intersection of law and medicine. The ACLM is also the representative organization for the field of Legal Medicine within the American Medical Association (AMA). Membership is open to medical doctors, dentists, other health professionals, and attorneys as well as students who are pursuing degrees in law or medicine. More information is available at our website [American College of Legal Medicine](http://www.aclm.org).

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