

Announcing the Spring 2018 Student Writing Competition

With the increase in healthcare costs and reduced rate of insurance reimbursements, how do compounding pharmacies remain competitive?

The IACP Foundation created its semi-annual Student Writing Competition to recognize outstanding original papers on a particular topic affecting pharmacy compounding. Up to **TWO** winners will be selected by a review committee from the papers submitted. The winners of this writing competition will each receive a \$1000 cash prize. All pharmacy students are encouraged to compete.

What is Pharmacy Compounding?

Pharmacy compounding is the long-established tradition in pharmacy practice that enables practitioners to prescribe for human and animal patients to take medicines that are specially prepared by pharmacists to meet patients' individual needs. For them, personalized medication solutions—mixed safely by trained, licensed pharmacists—are the only option to achieve the desired health care outcome. These pharmacists work with physicians, nurse practitioners and veterinarians to create customized medication solutions for patients and animals whose health care needs are not met by off-the-shelf manufactured medications.

Applicant Criteria

1. All authors must be currently enrolled in an accredited US or Canadian school or college of pharmacy.
2. No paper that has been previously published in any form will be considered; however, paper written for scholarly classes will be allowed as long as they have not been published.
3. All papers submitted will receive consideration for publication in the IACP publication *Custom Rx Connection*.
4. It is recommended authors be a member of IACP. Membership is free to current pharmacy students. Go to www.iacprx.org/membership for more information or to register.

Format

1. The format rules below and applicant criteria must be followed exactly. **PAPERS THAT DO NOT FOLLOW ALL OF THESE RULES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
2. **The paper's length must not exceed 1,750 total words.** The word count is applicable to the total paper; the words on the title page, footnotes, figures and tables are to be included.
3. All papers are to be submitted in Word document format, using 12 point Times New Roman font for all text. Papers must be typed double-spaced, with one-inch margins and all pages are to be numbered. All citations are to be as footnotes, which should be in 10 point Times New Roman font, single-spaced, and with one-inch margins. The theme for the Spring 2018 Student Writing Competition is: **With the increase in healthcare costs and reduced rate of insurance reimbursements, how do compounding pharmacies remain competitive?**
4. The first page must be the cover page, which must include the following information: the author's name and contact information, including a telephone number, email address, the name of the author's school, and the name, title and contact information of the author's faculty advisor. The cover page must also contain the final word count obtained from Word.

Content

1. Papers must contain only uncollaborated original work but may relate to research done by the author.
2. The author should directly address the changing climate of healthcare costs and/or reduced insurance reimbursement rates. Papers should clearly define ideas to create a financially competitive compounding pharmacy. The author should address problems and solutions in the paper that a compounding pharmacy may need to address to overcome the financial climate. These issues may include, but are not limited to, third party testing, marketing, operation costs, workflow, design, or third party billing.

Judging

1. The Education Committee of the IACP Foundation will judge all papers. Some of the criteria the Committee will use include the following: appropriateness of subject matter, originality, quality of writing, and citations/support for arguments. The decision of the judges is final.
2. All prizes may not be awarded each year if the Education Committee determines that no entry meets the standards of a winning paper.

Deadline and Submission

1. The papers must be submitted only via online application. The application can be found [here](#). Papers transmitted or sent in any other form will not be considered for the writing competition.
2. Authors must submit their papers by end of the business day, **Wednesday, March 15, 2018**. Under no circumstances will any paper be considered unless it is submitted by the deadline and in the required format. Winners will be notified by email in early April 2018 and announced via our social media outlets and newsletter.
3. Direct questions to foundation@iacprx.org.