

NSRT
ESSAY COMPETITION
RULES

1. CLASSIFICATIONS

There will be three (3) classifications of essay competition. They shall be:

- 1) **Registered Technologist** - This includes any technologist who is registered and/or certified by a nationally recognized professional certification agency for radiologic sciences.
 - 2) **Registered Technologist enrolled as Full Time Student** – This includes technologists registered and/or certified by a nationally recognized professional radiation science certification agency and currently enrolled full time in an advanced certification program accredited by an appropriate national accreditation agency.
 - 3) **Student** – This includes students currently enrolled full time in professional radiation science professional programs recognized by an appropriate national accreditation agency. These participants shall not be registered and/or certified by a nationally recognized radiation science professional certification agency.
- A. Students enrolled in programs described in either Classification 2 or 3 SHALL NOT compete in Classification 1.
- B. Technologists not enrolled as full-time students in programs, as described in Classification 2, SHALL NOT compete in either Classification 2 or 3.

2. PRIZES

- A. First, second and third place awards shall be awarded, only if a minimum of 80% is received from each judge.
- B. Awards will be determined by the Board of Directors on a yearly basis.
- C. In the event of a TIE, the two or more entries will receive the same award
- D. Only 3 awards will be presented. If a 1st place 2-way tie occurs, there will be no 3rd place award; however, if there is a 3-way tie or more, there will be no 2nd or 3rd place award given. In an event of a 2-way tie or more for 2nd place, there will be no 3rd place award. If there is a 2-way tie for 1st place and a 2-way or more tie for 2nd place, no 3rd place award will be given; however, all 1st and 2nd place essays will receive awards. If there is a 2-way tie or more for 3rd place, awards will be given to all essay winners.

3. ELIGIBILITY

Any member of the NSRT in good standing, at the time of application, is eligible to compete for awards. The President is ineligible.

4. DEADLINE

All essays to be judged must be received by the Executive Secretary or other designated individual prior to a date determined by the Board of Directors. Applications and requested deadline dates will be available on the NSRT website (www.nsrt.net) or from the NSRT Executive Office.

NSRT ESSAY CONTEST RULES (cont)

5. SELECTION OF JUDGES

- A. Three (3) judges shall be appointed by the President and their names will be withheld from publication. Identities of the judges shall be known only to the Executive Board and, at the President's discretion, may be acknowledged at the Awards Luncheon.
- B. The judges must not be teaching or working in an institution from which the essays are entered.
- C. **The judges' decisions will be final.**

6. MANUSCRIPTS

- A. All manuscripts must be original compositions not previously published prior to the Annual Conference. Plagiarism will be grounds for disqualification.
- B. All essays shall clearly demonstrate a relationship of the topic to the field of radiation sciences or the role of radiation science professionals.
- C. To be current with publication guidelines, all essays shall be prepared in either AMA or APA manuscript style on a good grade of bond paper, 8 1/2 X 11 inches, typewritten, double-spaced, font style of Times New Roman with a font size of 12, 1½" left margin, 1" top, right & bottom margins, using one side of the paper only. Page number to be placed flush right in a 0.5 header.

(AMA reference styles can be found at <http://www.docstyles.com/amaguide.htm>)

(APA reference styles can be found at http://library.nmu.edu/guides/userguides/style_apa.htm)

****Note that any publication submitted to the American Society of Radiologic Technologists for competition or journal use must utilize the AMA citation style.**

- D. The essay style utilized by the author should be noted on the Reference Page.
- E. **The body of the essay (text, tables, images, etc) must be a minimum of 8 COMPLETE pages.** Illustrations may be included in the body; however, there must be a minimum of 7 complete pages of text. There shall be no limit to the length of the essays.
- F. Pages are to be numbered flush right in a 0.5 header.
- G. All images must be cited.
- H. Each essay shall contain an abstract or thesis paragraph. This paragraph shall give a brief summary, approximately 150 words, to inform the judge of the paper's content. This is not to be considered part of the body of the essay and shall be a separate page placed prior to the body of the essay. The abstract or thesis paragraph is to be double-spaced and utilize the same margins as the body of the text.
(See Section 7 for manuscript order)
- I. Each contestant shall prepare his manuscript in five (5) copies & 1 CD. The original, CD and three copies will be sent to the individual designated on the application, the fifth copy retained by the contestant. The original & CD will become property of the NSRT. **ONLY the original manuscript shall have a cover sheet giving the title and name of the author. All other manuscripts shall have a cover sheet that contains the TITLE ONLY. The CD will be labeled with the Title and Author Name.** Copies of the manuscripts shall contain no identifying marks.

NSRT ESSAY CONTEST RULES (cont)

- J. Each copy of the manuscript shall be securely fastened together in the left hand margin with a cover sheet and fastened in a suitable binder.
- K. **Essays not following the guidelines of these rules will be disqualified.** All essays will be evaluated for adherence to the rules, by the NSRT, prior to judging. Those not following the guidelines will not be forwarded to the judges.
- L. If awarded first place, the author may be requested to condense it to a ten (10) minute summary to be read at the time designated by the President, at Annual Conference. If a presentation is requested by the President, the applicant will be contacted prior to Annual Conference.

7. FORMAT

Required format and order for manuscripts:

- Cover page or Title page (separate page)
- Abstract / Thesis (separate page)
- Body to include introduction and conclusions (minimum of 8 complete pages – see Rule 6 D)
- References (separate pages)
 - Manuscript and reference citing style is to be noted on the Reference Page.

Each manuscript is to be securely fastened at the left margin and placed in a suitable binder.

8. ILLUSTRATIONS

- A. Illustrations may accompany the manuscripts, if deemed necessary.
- B. If used, all illustrations must be marked with figure indications that correspond to the information contained in the body of the manuscript and they must be accompanied with a suitable explanation. They should be incorporated into the manuscript in proper sequence or on a sheet following the manuscript proper, but within the same folder.
- C. Preferably, all copies should have accompanying illustrations. If impossible, the original must include the illustration.

(NOTE: For manuscripts which require videos as illustrations, only one copy of the video need be submitted. If manuscripts require CD or DVD formats, four (4) copies are to be submitted.)



NSRT Essay Competition Judging Sheet



Classification _____

Essay # _____

Title: _____

Does this essay adhere to the following rules and guidelines as set forth by the current NSRT Essay Competition Rules?

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Proper Length (minimum of eight (8) full pages in the body) | | |
| Securely fastened at left margin & placed in a suitable binder | | |
| Appropriate Title / Cover page | | |
| Abstract/Thesis paragraph (Approximately 150 words) | | |
| Correct margins (1.5" left margin; 1" top, bottom & right margins) | | |
| Double spaced | | |
| Typewritten using appropriate size font (Times Roman 12) | | |
| Pages numbered (right flush in 0.5 header) | | |
| No designation of author or school attending in document | | |
| Use of AMA or APA style noted on Reference Page | | |
| All images referenced | | |

If any of the rules & guidelines for Essay Competition are not adhered to, the essay is disqualified

CONTENT & ORGANIZATION

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Clearly demonstrates relationship of topic to principles of Radiologic discipline or to the role of the radiation science professional | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |
| The abstract/thesis accurately defines the content of the paper | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |
| Paper is presented in a logical sequence | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |
| Depth of Content / Coverage of topic | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |
| Information supported by evidence of quality research | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |

MECHANICS

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Readability (sentence, paragraph, logical sequence) | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |
| Grammar, spelling, punctuation, neatness, spacing, etc. | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |

GENERAL EFFECTIVENESS

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Educational / Technical / Practical Value | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |
| Information is conveyed in a clear interesting manner | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |
| Overall quality of essay | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10] |

Total Score _____
Maximum score possible = 100

Judge's comments: