

The Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation

The Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation invites students to submit essays to the

2024 Jack Boan Student Essay Competition

- Essays must be no more than 4,000 words in length (inclusive of references and appendices) and address any topic in health services or health policy with relevance to Canada.
- The Hall Foundation will award three prizes annually for the best submissions:
 - Best doctoral submission: \$2,000
 - Best masters submission: \$1,500
 - Best undergraduate submission: \$1,000
- Winning essays will be selected by a panel appointed by the President of the Hall Foundation.
- Authors, titles, and abstracts of the winning essays will be posted on the Hall Foundation website: <http://www.hallfoundation.ca/jack-boan-student-essay>
- Submissions should be sent to Rebecca Correia at correirh@mcmaster.ca no later than **Friday, February 23, 2024, at 11:59 PM EST.**
- Winners will be notified by email in advance of the annual Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research conference (<https://cahspr.ca/events/cahspr-2024/>). Prizes will be awarded during the conference.
- Essays may be submitted in English or in French and may be based on course or thesis work. For more information, please contact Rebecca Correia at correirh@mcmaster.ca.

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Jack Boan Student Essay Competition

Terms of Reference

Purpose and overview:

In 2008, the Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation launched its annual student essay competition. In 2015, the annual Justice Emmett Hall student essay competition was renamed to celebrate Dr. John (Jack) Boan's significant contributions to the field of health economics and policy.

The intent is to foster Canadian health economics and health policy research among undergraduate and graduate students. The competition is publicized in French and English through undergraduate and graduate programs in economics, health policy, health administration, health law, community and public health and applied health research programs across Canada, the Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR) network, and other local applied health research networks.

Over 400 essays have been submitted since the launch of this competition. Essays are reviewed and scored independently by two members of the panel of judges to avoid potential conflicts of interest. Double blind protocols are maintained as much as possible.

Eligibility:

- Students must be registered at a Canadian University at the time of submission in an undergraduate or graduate (masters or doctoral) studies related to any of the following fields:
 - Health services research;
 - Health policy;
 - Health law;
 - Health administration;
 - Health economics;
 - Health informatics;
 - Public health;
 - Epidemiology and biostatistics; or
 - Medicine, nursing, or other clinical health science programs.
- Students with a Canadian citizenship registered at a university outside the country are also eligible to participate.
- Essay submissions are limited to one per student/group.
- If an essay submission has more than one co-author, all co-authors must be students.
- Open to both full-time and part-time students.
- Essays must arise from course or thesis work in the previous 18 months and must not have been previously published.

Themes:

Essays must address at least one of the five criteria for a national health service advocated by Justice Emmett Hall in the 1964 Royal Commission on Health Services Report that later formed the principles for the Canada Health Act:

- 1) Public administration;
- 2) Comprehensiveness;
- 3) Universality;
- 4) Portability; and/or
- 5) Accessibility.

Essays must include one paragraph (approximately 200 words) explaining the relevance of the issue being examined to the above principle(s).

Format:

Candidates must submit 2 documents as part of their submission:

File #1: Cover sheet with identifiable information

- The **cover sheet** must contain the essay title along with the student's contact information (name, email, phone number, and mailing address), university, department, program of enrolment, and program coordinator and contact information.
- Required file name: **Cover Sheet_LastName_FirstName**

File #2: Anonymous cover sheet and essay (*Should NOT contain ANY identifiable information*)

- A **cover sheet** must include only the essay **title** and an **abstract** or executive summary (250 words max) of the paper that includes a statement about its relevance to the Canada Health Act principles.
- The essay must NOT exceed **4,000 words** (inclusive of references and appendices) in length and may be submitted in English or French.
- The **American Psychological Association** style is acceptable for referencing source material.
- The student's name or other identifying information must **NOT** appear anywhere in this file!
- Required file name: **Essay_LastName_FirstName**

Note: Both files must be submitted as Word documents.

Evaluation:

Each essay will be judged on the five criteria below:

- 1) **Quality of analyses:** arguments must be convincing, substantiated, and understandable;
- 2) **Thoroughness of research:** types and varieties of source material;
- 3) **Originality:** author demonstrated new and innovative approaches and essay will add to Canadian health services or health policy research;
- 4) **Relevance to the Canadian health care system:** relevance to at least one of the competition's themes;
- 5) **Quality of writing:** style, clarity, and organization.

Deadline:

- Submissions must be submitted as two files (described previously under “**Format**”) to correirh@mcmaster.ca no later than **Friday, February 23, 2024, at 11:59 PM.**
- Winners will be notified prior to the 2024 CAHSPR conference.
- The winning essays will be selected by a panel appointed by the President of the Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation.

Prizes:

- The Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation will award three prizes for the best submission:
 - Best doctoral submission: \$2,000
 - Best masters submission: \$1,500
 - Best undergraduate submission: \$1,000
- Prizes will be awarded at the annual CAHSPR conference.
- Students unable to attend the conference will receive their award by mail.

Publication:

- The title, author(s), and abstract of the winning essays will be posted on the Hall Foundation website (<http://www.hallfoundation.ca/jack-boan-student-essay>).
- The overall best submission (across the three award categories) will be invited to publish in Healthcare Policy Journal. (Note: The submission will need to be adapted to align with the author guidelines specified by the journal and will undergo peer review. The publication costs will be waived.)