



## GUIDELINES FOR ENTRANTS OF SCIENTIFIC ESSAYS

### I. ELIGIBILITY

- A. Registered technologists and student technologists who are members of the NDSRT for the current conference year are eligible to enter the scientific essay competition. Members of the NDSRT are eligible to enter a scientific essay in the categories listed below:
  - 1. **Registered Technologist:** This includes technologists registered and /or certified by a nationally recognized professional radiation science certification agency.
    - a) First place, Second place and Third place awards will be presented
  - 2. **Student Technologist:** This includes students currently enrolled full time in professional radiation science programs recognized by an appropriate national accreditation agency.
    - a) First place, Second place and Third place awards will be presented
- B. NDSRT elected officers, convention chairpersons, and essay judges are not eligible to enter the competition.

### II. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A. All submissions shall clearly demonstrate a relationship of the topic to the field of radiation sciences or the role of radiation science professionals.
- B. All submissions must be original, in so far as; they have never been entered into any competition or read at a State or National meeting prior to the annual conference. **Plagiarism will be grounds for disqualification.**
- C. Submissions **may not** contain any marks of identification such as pictures, references to doctors, film or x-ray companies, or hospitals that can in any way present a clue as to the origin of the author or the author's department or training program.
- D. The submission of the essay must be done online via the "Online Scientific ESSAY Registration Form found on the NDSRT website page. This must be completed by February 15<sup>th</sup> of the convention year. If the file cannot be uploaded for any reason, the current NDSRT president must be notified.
- E. If the entrant is a student, a letter from the director of the program or other identified faculty is needed to attest that the presentation has been evaluated for accuracy and quality and that the speaking skills of the student technologist demonstrate professionalism.

### III. FORMAT

- A. All research essays should be formatted using AMA style.



- B. Essays shall be at least 1500 words at a minimum.
- C. Required format and order of the research essay submission:
  - 1. Cover page to include the title, author, email, and place of employment or training as well as the date completed.
  - 2. Title page. Please only include the title of your essay.
  - 3. An outline of the topic.
  - 4. A minimum of **four** learning objectives listed on a separate page.
  - 5. References page
  - 6. The entrant is responsible for preparing PowerPoint presentation if the essay is selected for the annual meeting. Presentation time is to be 30 minutes in length.

#### IV. JUDGING

- A. Initial judging of the scientific essays will be performed by a three-member committee, appointment by the Convention Advisor according to “Guidelines Established for the Selection of Judges for North Dakota Society of Radiologic Technologists Scientific Display and Essay Competition.” Their names shall be known only to the Convention Chairperson and Convention Advisor. The judges shall be responsible to the Convention Advisor.
- B. The evaluation committee will have no prior knowledge of the author or place of employment and/or training.
- C. Scientific essays not achieving 75 points will not be considered for an award
- D. Refer to the Scientific Essay Rubric for further guidelines on judging criteria
- E. The four highest scoring student essays will be selected to present their PowerPoint at the annual educational meeting. If there is a tie for one of the presentation spots, a 4th non-affiliated judge will be chosen to break the tie and choose which essay is to be selected. This is ultimately up to the discretion of the NDSRT Board.
- F. The judges’ decisions will be final.

#### V. NOTIFICATION

- A. All entrants will be sent a letter of congratulations or regrets via email by the Convention Advisor. Entrants will be notified as soon as the judging has been completed and winners selected.

#### VI. AWARDS

- A. Awards shall be presented during the annual meeting at the President’s Luncheon.