

ESSAY/SCIENTIFIC PAPER  
Competition Rules

I. AWARDS

First, second, third place, and honorable mention awards will be offered in both graduate and student technologists categories. Awards will be made at the discretion of the judges.

II. ELIGIBILITY

- A. Graduate technologist category: Only members of the Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists (MSRT) are eligible to compete. Student members may be designated as co-authors if they have made a significant but secondary contribution to the work.
- B. Student technologist category: Only student members of the MSRT are eligible to compete. The paper must be the sole work of the student member(s).
- C. Papers submitted for competition at any other state and/or national radiological or technologist meeting or which have been accepted for publication prior to the MSRT conference are not eligible.
- D. Entries must be original manuscripts by the author(s).
- E. The president of the MSRT, the essay/scientific paper chairman, and the judges are not eligible to compete.
- F. Author(s) may only submit one paper per annual competition.

III. RULES FOR PRESENTATION OF AN ESSAY

- A. Subject Matter
  - 1. Subject matter will be chosen by the author(s).
  - 2. The subject matter must be pertinent to the science and/or practice of radiologic technology. For this purpose the term radiologic technology shall include all those modalities employed in the field of radiology for the diagnosis and/or treatment of disease.
  - 3. Subject matter should be of educational and/or practical value to other technologists.
- B. Mechanics
  - 1. All manuscripts must be sent by CERTIFIED MAIL and shall be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 14. IF THIS DATE FALLS ON A SUNDAY THE DATE WILL EXTEND TO THE FOLLOWING MONDAY. PROOF OF CURRENT MSRT MEMBERSHIP or membership application and fees MUST accompany the essay application.

2. Four (4) copies of the manuscript must be submitted: one (1) with the author's name, technologist/student classification, and school/place of employment, and three (3) with no identification, only the title of the paper on the title page. No identification includes student/technologist classification and school/place of employment.
3. Manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced on one side of good quality white bond paper, eight and one-half inches by eleven inches (8-1/2 x 11") in size, with wide margins and numbered pages securely fastened on the left side.
4. Manuscripts should be at least one thousand five hundred (1,500) words in length. Reading time should be ten to fifteen (10-15) minutes.
5. Manuscripts must include a reference page. References and quotes must be cited. Failure to cite references and/or to include a reference page will be construed as plagiarism, and will immediately disqualify the paper.
6. When used, illustrations must be incorporated into the text or may be fastened to the paper in a group at the end of the manuscript. They must be properly numbered and labeled to correspond with information in the text. Illustrations must be no larger than eight by ten (8x10) inches. The illustrations used must not show any images or marking which could identify the author(s), patients, or institution in any way.

#### IV. JUDGING AND AWARDING OF PRIZES

- A. Three judges will be selected by the essay/scientific paper chairman with the approval of the president of the MSRT.
- B. Any manuscript that does not meet the stated criteria will be ineligible and will be disqualified. The essay chair will notify the author, in writing, of the reason for the disqualification. Any protests regarding eligibility and/or rule violations must be lodged with the essay/scientific chairman, in writing, prior to the conference. The essay chair will consult with the MSRT President in determining a resolution. No protests will be heard after the conference begins.
- C. Awards shall be made only to those essays receiving a minimum score of seventy (70) on a scale of one hundred (100) points from the average of the judges' scores.
- D. Any contestant who challenges the results of the competition must do so, in writing, to the essay chairman within one week of the announcement of the winners. The essay chair will make all judging score sheets available to the MSRT President to review. The President and the Executive Committee will decide what, if any, action needs to be taken. Essay contestants will NOT have access to the judge's scoring sheets. The Committee's decision will be final.
- E. First place winners may be asked to provide their paper for further MSRT use (e.g. publication in the Radiographer, use on the website, or as an ECE reading for MSRT membership)

F. Awards shall be announced to the membership during the Annual Conference, and prizes awarded at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

G. Prize amounts will be decided on a yearly basis by the MSRT Board of Directors.

H. Judging shall use the following scale:

CRITERIA	POINT VALUE
1. EDUCATIONAL VALUE	0 - 40
a. Contribution to higher standards.	
b. Illustration of new or unusual technology or practice.	
c. Treatment of current technology or practice so as to be better understood.	
d. Treatment of current technology or practice from a historical perspective.	
e. Value to technologist with little experience or limited facilities.	
2. ORIGINALITY	0 - 20
a. Development of a new technique or idea.	
b. Improvement of existing methods or practices.	
c. Evidence of original investigative effort.	
d. Originality of essay concept.	
3. PRACTICAL VALUE	0 - 20
a. How well can the information illustrated by used by most technologists to which the paper applies.	
b. Ease of application under current state-of-the-art.	
c. Will the paper improve practice or standards as it is applied?	
4. TECHNICAL QUALITY AND PRESENTATION	0 - 20
a. Organization: Is material orderly and place in logical sequence?	
b. Visual Material: Do visual materials effectively promote understanding of the paper?	
c. Text: Is the text neat, clear, easy to read and free from error?	
d. References: If applicable, are quotes, research results and all references properly acknowledged?	
e. Style: Is the writing style used appropriate to the content of the paper and consistent throughout?	

#### V. DEADLINE

Only applications sent CERTIFIED mail and postmarked by **Monday, February 15, 2010** will be accepted. Applications postmarked after this date will be returned to the sender. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE!

Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists  
Application for Essay Competition

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employment or School: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Essay: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Student

\_\_\_\_\_ Technologist

Proof of MSRT membership required - copy of current membership card or application with enclosed fees for all contestants.

Mail application and proof of membership by **certified mail, postmarked on or before February 15, 2010** to:

MSRT Essay Chairman  
Kristi Littleton  
3525 N River Blvd  
Sugar Creek MO 64050

All applications postmarked after **February 15, 2010** will be disqualified. The sender will be notified and the essay either returned to the author or destroyed.