

# MIDWESTERN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSOCIATION STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

## ELIGIBILITY & ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Any fulltime student enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program, at the time of the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association annual conference, is eligible for the competition. Students submitting a paper to the competition are **required to attend the conference and present the paper**, during the same year the paper is submitted for consideration. Students interested in entering the Outstanding Student Paper Competition must submit an electronic word version of the paper by email to the Dr. Victoria Beck, Past President of MCJA, at [beckv@uwosh.edu](mailto:beckv@uwosh.edu) between **July 15<sup>th</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup>**, along with an email from the student's dean, department chair, or program director, confirming the student's fulltime enrollment status and stating preferred presentation format: panel or poster.

## PAPER & SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Papers directly related to any area of criminal justice or criminology will be considered for this award. The author of the paper must be a student. Entries for this competition are limited to a single submission. It is preferred that the J CJ format be used for the organization and preparation of text, citations, and references. Papers may not exceed 7,500 words. The author's name, department, and university should only appear on the title page. The next page of the manuscript must include the title of the paper and a **100 word abstract**. Please do NOT submit a PDF document, as we need to remove identifying information prior to forwarding the documents to the committee.

## PROCEDURE FOR JUDGING ENTRIES

The MCJA Student Paper Competition Award Committee will judge entries based on the following criteria: the significance of the topic; contribution to the area of study; command of the relevant work in the field of study; appropriate use of methodology; and the quality of the writing.

## AWARDS & DISTRIBUTION

Awards will be announced and distributed during the MCJA business meeting at the annual conference and **students participating in the competition must be present at that meeting to receive an award**. The best paper from each of two divisions (graduate and undergraduate) will receive \$150.00. Other notable papers may receive an honorable mention. Outstanding submissions will also receive consideration for publication in the Journal of Crime and Justice (JCJ), a publication of the Midwestern

Criminal Justice Association. At the discretion of the Association Officers, if no paper is deemed worthy of recognition, during any given year, no award will be made.

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