

# PANDEMIC POLICY ESSAY CONTEST

SPONSORED BY: WSU | GODDARD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & ECONOMICS | THE HONORS PROGRAM

The Weber State University Department of Economics, the Goddard School of Business & Economics and the Honors Program are holding an essay contest that will lead to a \$1200 cash prize to the winner. We feel that the current corona virus pandemic offers an opportunity for learning for undergraduate students across Weber State University, and feel that our excellent students can show-off expertise by critically examining pandemic-related policy in essay form. Any essays that broadly relate to pandemic policy are acceptable. The only requirement is that essays make reference to current or historical events related to pandemics.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Open to all Weber State University Undergraduate Students including students that will start in the Fall semester.

## WHAT ARE THE GUIDELINES

The essay should address any policy issue related to pandemics, and response to pandemics. Some potential broad topic areas related to each college at Weber State University are listed here. These are only examples and students should not feel limited to these topics. Creative “out-of-the-box” ideas are strongly encouraged.

## HOW DO I SUBMIT?

Essays should be submitted to Gavin Roberts via email (gavinroberts@weber.edu) by August 21, 2020 at noon. Essays will be judged by a volunteer panel of faculty members at Weber State University. Final decisions will be made and announced by September 7, 2020.

## AWARDS:

The first place essay will receive \$1,200, second place \$750, and third place \$500, all cash prizes. The top papers will also be featured in a special section of ERGO! Additionally, faculty members will work with the authors to try to get them published in popular media such as in newspapers or magazines, or might help authors turn promising essays into research projects.

# WIN \$1,200

## SAMPLE IDEAS FROM AROUND THE UNIVERSITY

### Telitha E. Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities

Essay on literature related to pandemics  
Communications related to pandemics  
Importance of Arts in relation to pandemics, or social distancing

### John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics

Economic policy surrounding pandemic responses  
Supply chain management implications  
Employment implications

### Jerry and Vickie Moyes College of Education

Impact of pandemics on education and policy responses  
Social distancing and nutrition  
Social distancing and domestic violence

### College of Engineering, Applied Science and Education

Interior design for social distancing  
Computer models of pandemics  
Manufacturing medical supplies during pandemics

### Dr. Ezekiel R. Dumke College of Health Professions

Health administration and nursing in pandemics  
Policies to improve respiratory health during pandemics  
Athletic training under social distancing policies

### College of Science

Models of pandemics under different policy scenarios  
Environmental implications of pandemics and policy responses  
The chemistry of pandemics and related policy implications

### College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

The psychological or cultural implications of social distancing  
Criminal justice policy during pandemics  
Different political institutions during pandemics  
Epistemological questions related to pandemic policy

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