

Robert C. Erwin Literary Awards

American College of Osteopathic Surgeons

1680 Duke St. Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22314

Tel: (800) 888-1312 • Fax: (703) 684-3280 • www.facos.org

Deadline June 1st

Through a generous grant from the ACOS Trust Fund, up to five award recipients will be presented for both the Resident Category and Student Category with a *plaque* and *award* for 1st(\$1,500), 2nd(\$1,000), 3rd(\$750), 4th(\$500) and 5th place (\$250). Plaques will be presented at the Annual Clinical Assembly of Osteopathic Surgeons.

Manuscript Guidelines - Paper submissions must comply with the following guidelines and requirements in order to qualify for an award.

1. Papers must be original. If a paper is deemed to be plagiarized or that there is any breach of scholarly integrity, the paper will be disqualified. If a paper has been previously published or submitted for publication, a release from the publisher must be provided.
2. Authors must obtain Institutional Review Board (IRB) and/or Animal Care And Use Committee (ACAUC) approval for their projects when carrying out research on either human subjects or animals. Retrospective chart reviews require IRB approval.
3. The author's name, institution information or any identifying information must **only** be included on the title page. All remaining pages of the manuscript must be void of identifying information.
4. The subject of the thesis should be one pertaining or related to the following specialties in surgery: ENT; general; neurological; ob/gyn; orthopedic; plastic reconstructive; thoracic cardiovascular; urological; and vascular.
5. Manuscripts should be a minimum of 1500 words, exclusive of headings, legends, tables, references, etc. Manuscripts should be typed, double-spaced, on one side only of 8 ½ by 11 inch paper. Each page should be numbered.
6. Current editions of *Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary* and *Webster's New International Dictionary* are the standard references that should be used.
7. Scientific names of drugs should be used if possible. Brand names that carry a trademark or copyright should be capitalized.
8. The metric system is to be used for units of measure such as dosages and any other linear measurements.
9. References are required for any material derived from the work of others. Apply the following rules:
 - a. Every author mentioned, every direct quotation, and any specific information taken from source material should be assigned a reference number in the body of the text that corresponds to the numbered item in the reference section.
 - b. References to books should include the surname and initials of author(s), full title of the book, edition number, publisher's name and address, date of publication, and page number(s) if specific information has been used.
 - c. References to periodicals should include the surname and initials of author(s), full title of the article, and name, volume, number, inclusive paging, and complete date of the periodical.
 - d. References used as general source material (the authors of which are not mentioned and from which no specific information is taken) should be listed, without number, in alphabetical order following the numbered references.
10. Applicants submitting papers must be ACOS resident or student members and must be the primary author on the scientific manuscript submitted.
11. Eligibility for award category corresponds to the designation of the author at the time the manuscript was written. For example, if the author was a medical student when the paper was written but has since graduated, the submission will still be considered under the student award category.
12. Visit the ACOS website to view submission instructions. Deadline to Submit is **June 1st**.

Judging Criteria - Papers will be judged on a scale of 1 (unsatisfactory) to 5 (superior) on the following criteria:

- Abstract
- Background
- Aims
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Graphs/Photos/Tables
- References
- Statistical Analysis