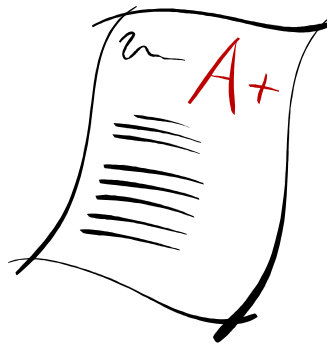




ECONOMICS SCHOLARS ESSAY COMPETITION



- *Winning essay awarded up to \$2000*
- *Open to all current university students*
 - *Entries close August 10, 2012*

Important Information

Prize Money and Recognition

The winning essay will be awarded with a cheque donated by the **Mannkal Economic Education Foundation** up to \$2000 and will be considered for publication in the Mannkal half yearly magazine *Musings*. Other selected, exceptional essays will be awarded up to \$1000.

Communicating Research Findings and Economic Thought

The aim of this essay competition is to encourage students to improve communication of complex economic issues and research to a broader public. In line with Mannkal's objectives, the essay topics relate to challenges associated with converting free market and libertarian ideas into practice. We would like to see concise, well reasoned, easy to read (and, if you can, humorous!) essays. Essays will be judged on their ability to convey free market and libertarian ideas to a non-expert audience and the extent to which they can convince a neutral reader of the soundness of your argument.

Essay Topics

Essay competition entrants are to select one of the following topics:

- *Should the federal government regulate gambling?*
- *If you could pass one law to improve the productivity of the Australian economy, what would it be and why?*
- *Should governments be able to access personal information from social media websites such as Twitter and Facebook? Is it ever appropriate for governments to close the Internet and mobile phone networks?*
- *To reduce smoking rates, on 1 December 2012, all tobacco products in Australia must be sold in plain packaging. Do you think this is a sensible policy? Should the government be trying to protect people from themselves? Should plain packaging be expanded to alcohol?*
- *Should the government be underwriting the building of the National Broadband Network?*
- *Australia is ranked as the world's third most economically free country according to the Heritage Foundation's 2012 Index of Economic Freedom. Do you think Australia will continue to occupy such a high position over the coming years? What do you see as the greatest threats to economic freedom in Australia?*
- *After the Anzac's in Gallipoli, possibly Australia's second most significant nation-building event was the Eureka Stockade in 1854. So why do you think our educators exclude this from being taught in schools?*

Administration

- The competition is open until 5pm on Friday August 10, 2012.
- Entrants should write 1,000 to 1,500 words, with all essays to be in a Microsoft Word Document format and submitted by email to the ECOMS Education Vice President (educationvp@ecoms.org.au)
- Essays do not require footnotes.
- All submissions should include a cover page with the student's full name and contact details including email address and telephone number. The cover page is not included in the word count.