Introduction: Understanding historical context is an important aspect of medical education. In 2007, the Massachusetts Medical Society established the Medical Student Essay Award Contest to honor a student for the best research essay related to the history of medicine or public health since the initiation of the MMS in 1781. The Committee believes that an annual essay contest for medical students is an inspiring way to engage historical interest and create an avenue for members to learn about the rich and diverse legacy of medicine and public health.

Eligibility: The award is available to a medical student (“You” or “Your”) who is a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society (the “Society”), provided that You are not a member of the Committee on History.

Entry Requirements: The essay must be a maximum of 3,000 words (not including citations or footnotes) and may be submitted by e-mail or printed copy. A one-paragraph abstract is due by November 19, 2019, and the final essay is due by January 21, 2020 to: Josh Rosenfeld, Massachusetts Medical Society, 860 Winter Street, Waltham, MA 02451, email: jrosenfeld@mms.org.

Photographs and illustrations may be included with the essay. Articles relating to Massachusetts are encouraged. Suggested topics include initiatives that have improved the public's health or access to medical care or a close analysis of particular movements in medical discovery, diagnostics, therapeutics, education, research, or institutional (e.g., hospitals, journals, medical societies) evolution. The essay should be tightly argued and well-referenced, and must be Your original work and be independently researched by You. A member of the Committee on History will be available to consult with You if requested. A copy of this form must be signed by You and provided to the Society by the submission deadline.

The Award: The Society will select the best essay on the basis of factors including scholarship, originality, and clarity of expression. If Your essay is selected, You will receive an award of $1,000. The Society reserves the right, in its sole discretion, not to issue any award.

Other Conditions: If You receive the award, (1) You agree that the Society may edit Your essay and reproduce, distribute and/or display it at the Society’s website or elsewhere in electronic or other media, and (2) you must submit Your photograph and You agree that the Society may identify You by photograph, name, medical school, and city in connection with Your essay and the award program.

Agreed to:

______________________________  ______________________________
Your Signature                Date

Your name (printed or typed):
Address:
Telephone:
E-mail: