

## UFEF Essay Writing Competition Official Rules and Terms

- **Eligibility**
  - Each dive team or individual (each, an “Entrant”) is permitted to submit **one (1) entry only**. Submission of multiple entries by the same Entrant, whether as an individual or as part of a team, shall result in immediate disqualification of all associated entries.
- **Original Work Requirement**
  - All submissions must constitute the **original, unpublished work** of the Entrant. Any form of plagiarism, misappropriation, or unauthorized use of third-party content shall result in immediate disqualification and potential exclusion from future competitions.
- **Prohibition on Artificial Intelligence Tools**
  - The use of artificial intelligence (“AI”) tools or services in the drafting, editing, or generation of any portion of the submission is strictly prohibited. By submitting an entry, Entrants represent and warrant that the work was created solely by the Entrant(s) without the assistance of AI technologies.
- **Submission Requirements**
  - All entries must comply with any stated word count, formatting, and submission guidelines, if applicable. Entries must be received by the official submission deadline. Late submissions may be disqualified at the sole discretion of the Organizers.
  - All applicable entry fees must be **paid in full and received by the stated deadline**. Failure to submit the required entry fee by the deadline may result in disqualification of the associated entry.
- **Content Standards**
  - Submissions must adhere to the assigned topic and demonstrate clarity, organization, and originality. The Organizers reserve the right to disqualify any entry deemed inappropriate, off-topic, or inconsistent with the purpose of the competition.
- **Judging and Selection of Winners**
  - Entries will be evaluated based on originality, clarity and coherence, relevance to the topic, and overall quality of writing. All judging decisions shall be final and binding, and no correspondence or appeals will be entertained.
- **Winner Eligibility Limitation**
  - Any Entrant selected as a winner shall be ineligible to enter or win another competition administered by the Organizers for a period of **six (6) months** from the date of award.
- **Cancellation, Modification, and Withdrawal Policy**
  - Entrants may withdraw their submission at any time prior to the submission deadline by providing written notice to the Organizers. Once an entry has been

submitted, it may not be edited, replaced, or resubmitted under any circumstances.

- The Organizers reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to cancel, suspend, modify, or terminate the competition at any time, including but not limited to unforeseen circumstances, technical issues, insufficient participation, or events beyond their reasonable control.
  - In the event of cancellation or material modification, the Organizers will make reasonable efforts to notify all Entrants in a timely manner using available contact information.
  - If the competition is canceled prior to the announcement of winners, any entry fees paid shall be refunded in full. No refunds shall be issued once winners have been selected and announced.
  - The Organizers shall not be liable for any indirect, incidental, or consequential damages arising from the cancellation, modification, or termination of the competition.
- **Disqualification**
    - Any violation of these Official Rules, including but not limited to multiple submissions, plagiarism, or use of AI tools, shall result in disqualification. The Organizers reserve the right to disqualify any Entrant who attempts to circumvent these rules or otherwise acts in bad faith.