

RIBTC

24th National Rural Public & Intercity Bus Transportation Conference



Undergraduate Student Essay Competition

Deadline: April 15, 2020, 5 p.m. C.D.T.

Guidelines:

The 24th National Conference on Rural and Intercity Bus Transportation is scheduled to take place in October 18-22, 2020 in Charleston, SC. To encourage undergraduate student participation in the conference, students are offered the opportunity to participate in an essay competition. Two essay **winners will receive travel funds to attend the conference.**

Essay Competition Rules:

Students must attend an accredited community college, four-year college, or university as an undergraduate.

1. Students must be able to provide proof of their college or university registration.
2. Participation in the competition is voluntary.
3. Essays or papers must be the work of only *one* student.
4. A student may only submit one entry.
5. Students may come from any discipline: engineering, economics, business, literature, sociology, medicine, science, art, etc.
6. The essay must indicate: Student's name, email address, School name, Level of student (freshman, sophomore, etc.), Student's main course of study or major.
7. Essays must be at least two and no more than three pages long, single-spaced using 12-point Times New Roman font. They can be factual or imaginative. They must be submitted in Microsoft WORD format.
8. The word document files must be saved using the following title format: **2020 RIBTC Essay Competition- Student name -School name.**
9. The entry must be sent to Del Peterson (del.peterson@ndsu.edu).
10. The deadline is final. **Any file sent after 5 p.m. CDT, April 15, 2020, will not be considered.**
11. Essay will be shared with the student's academic advisor, and the author may be asked to revise the essay based on review comments.
12. Students will be notified by May 20, 2020 regarding participating in the conference.
13. Students participating in this competition authorize the conference to use all or part of their work during the Conference in the form of quotes or displays. However, the work will be cited to the author and the college/university they attend. Winners will provide a 30" x 40" poster representing their work.
14. All decisions of the judges are final. Grading will only be communicated to the top two entries.
15. Winners of the competition agree to attend the conference and to possibly participate in sessions by presenting their work. **Funds will be provided for winners to travel to the conference** (maximum air and ground transportation capped at \$600).

Setting the stage

Multi-modal transportation options have changed travel patterns in college towns throughout rural America. Modes such as intercity bus, bike share, rail, and more unique travel systems powered by Uber and others provide students and local citizens with a number of travel options. Within the context of these evolving and expanding mode choices, including others not mentioned, how will travel behavior in rural communities change? What role will these modes play in meeting mobility needs while considering technological, demographic, social, economic, and environmental trends in rural America?

Judging Criteria:

All essays will be judged on originality, innovation, practicality, timeliness, and readability.

**RIBTC 2020: Making Connections to a Better Future
Submit an Undergraduate Student Essay!**

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