The Public Health Association of Australia invites public health students to take part in the National Public Health Student Think Tank Competition. The National Public Health Student Think Tank Competition is a chance for students to showcase their innovation and enthusiasm for the field of public health. The prompt is broad, allowing students to address a need of their choosing, and encouraging them to be innovative in their response. We are looking for creative, original ideas which demonstrate the student’s future mindedness in the field of public health. We encourage all students at a tertiary level with a passion for public health to apply.

The competition comprises two phases:

**Phase 1:** Students are invited to submit a written response of ≤750 words to address the following prompt: *What do you see as a major public health impact as a consequence of bushfire, climate and/or coronavirus, and what public health action do you recommend be taken in response?*

**Phase 2:** Four shortlisted entries are invited to develop their response into a presentation of ≤7 minutes, to be presented in a national live webinar.

The winner is invited to present their response at the Australian Public Health Conference. Several shortlisted entries are further reviewed by the editorial team at Croakey Health Media who may select up to three applicants to work with in further developing their response into an article to be published with Croakey.

**PRIZES**

- The winner is invited to present at the Australian Public Health Conference, providing an opportunity to showcase their innovation, engage with established professionals and learn from the work of others. This includes full registration to attend the conference, which is being delivered as a virtual conference in 2020.

- The winner and three runners up will also receive a one-year student membership to the Public Health Association of Australia. Membership allows the winner to remain engaged with the field, through updates, events, professional development opportunities and more.

- The winner and three runners up will also receive a one-year subscription to Croakey to keep them up-to-date with current health news.
ELIGIBILITY

• You must be studying within an Australian Tertiary institution. This includes undergraduate, postgraduate, part-time, full-time and those studying remotely. It is not a requirement that your current study is in public health, however you will need to demonstrate your understanding of the core principles of public health in your response.

• You must complete all fields of the entry submission form.

• Please email your entry submission form and written response to SYPPH@phaa.net.au by 5:00pm AEST on Friday 31st July 2020. Late submissions will not be accepted.

• You must be available and willing to present your response in a live webinar on Thursday 17 September 2020 if your application is shortlisted.

• You must be available to record/present your response at the virtual Australian Public Health Conference 2020 if you are selected as the winner.

CRITERIA

All Think Tank Submission will be judged using the following criteria:

Demonstrates and applies understanding of public health principles

• All relevant ideas, concepts, or theories are clearly underpinned by principles of public health, which may include social justice and equity, health as a human right, population-wide approach, evidence-based practice, community participation, etc.

Demonstrates quality of critical thinking and innovation

• Demonstrates clear innovation and critical thought processes in developing a sound, effective argument.

• The suggested approach is feasible, practical, timely and clearly relevant to current issues.

Quality of communication

• Message and ideas flow clearly and coherently with appropriate use of paragraphs.

• Expression clear, fluent, professional, precise, focused on the topic with minimal errors.

Referencing

• Uses a diversity of high-quality and credible sources.

• Appropriate, balanced use of paraphrasing, summarising and quoting.

• All source material correctly acknowledged using APA 6th Edition.

If you have any enquiries please contact the Students and Young Professionals in Public Health (SYPPH) Committee: sypph@phaa.net.au
TERMS AND CONDITIONS - Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) National Public Health Student Think Tank Competition

By submitting your entry, you acknowledge that you are entering the PHAA National Public Health Competition and you:

1. Have the rightful power and authority to provide your entry and enter the competition in the name in which it is submitted
2. Warrant that your entry is your unpublished and original work
3. Grant PHAA the right to reproduce, distribute and communicate the essay in printer or electronic medium for judging and promotional purposes of PHAA through all state and territory PHAA branches.
4. Agree that PHAA may contact the institution where you are enrolled to verify your enrolment status.
5. Agree that in no event will PHAA be liable to you or any person in contract or tort (including without limitation and negligence) or otherwise resulting from PHAA’s use of your entry, including if Your Entry is the winning entry of the Competition, during and after the Competition Period.
6. PHAA reserves the right to request the prize winner(s) to provide proof of identity and proof of residency at the nominated prize delivery address, in order to claim their prize. Proof of identification, residency and entry considered suitable for verification is at the discretion of PHAA. In the event that the prize winner cannot provide suitable proof, the prize winner will forfeit the prize in whole and no substitute will be offered.
7. PHAA reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, at any time before the awarding of a prize to cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the Competition or to vary or cancel the award of a prize including, without limitation, circumstances where in PHAA’s opinion (which it shall form in its absolute discretion): a. prize winner does not satisfy the Competition entry requirements; or b. PHAA cannot conduct the Competition or award a prize for any reason beyond its control.
8. A decision of PHAA in relation to the conduct of the Competition is binding and conclusive and no correspondence will be entered into.
9. No responsibility will be taken by PHAA for any changes in dates, times or cancellations or other arrangements that may prevent a prize winner from winning a prize.
10. If you are unable to present your response in the live webinar on Thursday 17th September, you are required to give notice no later than 5.00pm AEST Thursday 3rd September 2020 and you agree that your submission will be forfeited to the next ranking entry.
11. Prizes are non-transferrable. Existing PHAA members will have an additional year added to their membership provided that they will meet student membership eligibility at the time of renewal.
Should the winner not meet the student membership eligibility requirements, they will be reimbursed for membership purchase up to the amount of student membership.

12. Entrants enter the Competition at their sole risk. With the exception of liability which cannot be excluded by law, PHAA shall not be liable for any loss or damage which is suffered (including but not limited to indirect or consequential loss) or for personal injury suffered or sustained as a result of taking a prize or entering the Competition.

13. The PHAA is partially funded by the Department of Health and is subject to reporting requirements. The collection, use and disclosure of entrants’ personal information collected in connection with this Competition is governed by the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). PHAA is committed to protecting the privacy of entrants. By entering this competition, you agree to PHAA, using and disclosing your personal information for the purposes of conducting and promoting this Competition (including, but not limited to, determining and notifying winners), and for the information to be used so the PHAA can comply with its reporting requirements to the Department of Health.