The Elie Wiesel Foundation Prize in Ethics Essay Contest, now in its 32nd year, challenges college students to analyze the urgent ethical issues confronting them in today’s complex world. Students are encouraged to write thought-provoking personal essays that raise questions, single out issues, and are rational arguments for ethical action.

ELIGIBILITY
Registered undergraduate, full-time Juniors and Seniors at accredited four-year colleges or universities in the United States during the fall 2020 semester.

SUBMISSION
Students must apply and submit essays online, and receive online verification from their Faculty Sponsor. Any professor may act as a Faculty Sponsor and endorse the quality and authenticity of the student’s essay. Also, students must upload a letter from the Registrar or National Student Clearinghouse verifying enrollment.

2021 ESSAY TOPIC
Articulate with clarity an ethical issue that you have encountered and analyze what it has taught you about ethics and yourself. Note that the most engaging essays often reflect deeply on a particularly meaningful experience or episode in one’s life. That approach could focus ethical reflection on:

• A personal issue, family matter, travel incident, academic inquiry, dilemma in literature or film, recent article or editorial in a major newspaper, current conflict in American life, or international crisis
• Write about any specific topic you wish, provided it explores an ethical problem, question, issue, or concern

ESSAYS WILL BE JUDGED ON:
• The quality of the writing
• The clarity of the ethical problem or issue
• The depth of the essay’s ethical analysis – including, for example, reflections on matters of right and wrong, justice and injustice, and the implications of those reflections for society

CONTACT US:
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New York, NY 10022
Telephone: 212.490.7788

ONLINE ENTRY & GUIDELINES: WWW.ETHICSPRIZE.ORG
OPEN TO FULL-TIME JUNIORS & SENIORS

DEADLINE ONLINE BY:
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021 AT 5PM PST

FIRST PRIZE $5,000
SECOND PRIZE $2,500
THIRD PRIZE $1,500
TWO HONORABLE MENTIONS $500 EACH

WINNING STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR AN INTERNSHIP, AND A CHANCE FOR THEIR ESSAY TO BE PUBLISHED IN A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PUBLICATION.

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For winning essay examples, read An Ethical Compass, published by Yale University Press.