



230 Washington Avenue Extension • Albany, NY

12203 (518) 456-8819 • Fax: (518) 456-9319

**Guidelines for Submission and Selection of  
the NYSCHP REF Joe Pinto Leadership Essay  
Award**

**Essay Topic**

**Artificial Intelligence**

As a pharmacy leader in training, describe how you envision artificial intelligence shaping the future of health system pharmacy over the next 5–10 years.

**Submission Process:**

- Individuals currently enrolled in a **NYS PGY1 or PGY2 residency program and New Practitioners (less than 5 years from college graduation) who are current members** are eligible to submit.
- NY State Residency Program Directors and NYSCHP membership will be emailed this document outlining the essay description and guidelines for submission the week of January 6<sup>th</sup> 2025 and repeated twice over the course of the following 3 weeks.
- **Submission Deadline:**
  - PDF copies of the essays must be submitted by email to REF Awards Committee Heide Christensen ([heide.christensen@chsls.org](mailto:heide.christensen@chsls.org)) by **Friday, February 13th @ 11:59pm**
- **2 copies of the PDF** of the essay/references must be submitted
  - One to include the following author information:
    - Name
    - Email address
    - NYS Residency Program (if applicable)
    - NYS Residency Program Director (if applicable)
    - Graduation date and college (if applicable)
    - Mailing address
    - Telephone contact number
  - One to include the essay/references **without the author information (i.e. blinded)**

**Winning Essay will receive:**

- \$1000 award
- Recognition at the NYSCHP Annual Assembly Awards ceremony and NYSCHP REF reception
- Published in NYSCHP News Flash (upon submitting consent paperwork to [office@nyschp.org](mailto:office@nyschp.org))

**Selection Process:**

- The winning essay will be selected by **Friday, February 27, 2025**
- Essays will be judged on your ability to address the topic as outlined, as well as the overall content, writing style, justification and conclusions
- Interviews of finalists will be conducted by the awards committee as part of the final selection process
- Winner will be contacted by the awards committee chair

**Essay Description / Instructions:**

- Review topic and any associated questions. Incorporate these concepts into an essay format.
- Essay to be 1000 word maximum
  - References are not required, but if included, will not be included in the 1000 word maximum
- The winning essay award will be presented at the NYSCHP 2026 Annual Assembly
- Essays are the property of NYSCHP

**Topic Details:**

**This original essay** should include:

- How AI could enhance patient safety, clinical outcomes, operational efficiency, and the pharmacy workforce.
- Leadership responsibilities required to ensure ethical use, data governance, equity, and successful change management as AI is integrated into health system pharmacy practice.

This question is designed to assess strategic thinking, leadership mindset, and writer's ability to connect innovation with real-world health system pharmacy practice.

*The Joe Pinto Pharmacy Leadership Essay Award is supported by a grant from S/T Health Group*