33rd annual BEACON CONFERENCE
BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Conference for student scholars at two-year colleges in the Mid-Atlantic region hosted by Bergen Community College on June 6th, 2025.

2025 Call for Submissions

Submission Categories

Paper can be submitted in the following subject area categories:

1. Allied Health & Nursing
2. Anthropology
3. Arts
4. Biology
5. Business and Economics
6. Chemistry and Physical Sciences
7. Communications / Media Studies
8. Computer Science / Engineering
9. Education
10. Empirical and Field Research
11. Environmental Sciences
12. History
13. Interdisciplinary Studies
14. International Studies / Globalization
15. Literature
16. Mathematics
17. Multicultural Studies
18. Philosophy & Religion
19. Political Science
20. Psychology
21. Social Justice
22. Sociology
23. Women's / Gender / LGBTQ Studies

The above categories may be modified based on submissions received. Accepted papers will be grouped into panels thematically and by discipline.

Students should discuss the choice of the applicable categories with their faculty mentors and select them in the online Submission Portal.

Selection Process

A panel of three scholars will select three papers from each category to be presented at the conference. Additional papers will be selected for a poster session.

Approach

The methods and tools of research/analysis should be appropriate to the specific discipline.

All submissions must show the results of research, reflection, and an original perspective.

Length

Maximum length of 5,000 words (excluding biography) for papers and 20 minutes for presentations. After the last panel presentation, 30 minutes will be reserved for questions from the panel judge and the audience

Format

1. The paper must be typed in Arial font size 12, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins.
2. Pages must be numbered with Arabic numerals in the upper-right hand corner.
3. Name of the student and college must **NOT** appear anywhere in the paper. Include the title of the paper at the top of the first page of the essay.
4. Please DO NOT include a title page. The title page will be generated separately in the Submissions Portal on the conference website.
5. The Beacon Conference values student's authentic voices, and all work submitted must be completed by the student. Using generative artificial (AI) to produce text is **prohibited**. By submitting a paper, the student agrees that it will be checked for originality by the conference organizers using standard software.
6. Sources must be documented according to the guidelines of the discipline (MLA, APA, etc).

Submission Process

Eligibility is determined by the student's home institution. Papers must be submitted through the Submission Portal at The Beacon Conference.

Deadline: March 1, 2025.
Receipt confirmation will be sent to the student and mentor.

Award Criteria

Outstanding paper and presentations for each category will be selected based on and originality of research, written work, and oral presentation.

Awards

$100 will be awarded to the author of the outstanding paper in each category.

The student's faculty mentor will also receive an award.

Conference Co-Directors

Professor Seamus Gibbons Dr. Kelly Keane

Questions

Email all questions to:
co-directors@beaconconference.org

Conference Website

For more information, visit https://www.beaconconference.org/.