

SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

Graduate Student Research Paper Award

Deadline: July 31st of each calendar year

The Society for Public Health Education is accepting nominations for its annual award for graduate research in health education and health promotion. The purpose of this award is to foster quality graduate student research and provide a mechanism by which to recognize outstanding graduate students for creative and innovative research. The recipient of this award is encouraged to submit the paper for review to SOPHE two journals, Health Education and Behavior and Health Promotion Practice. The winning paper will be recognized as follows:

- \$200 cash award;
- Award certificate ;
- Complimentary registration at the SOPHE Annual Meeting, November 4-6, 2010 in Denver, CO
- Presentation at the SOPHE Annual Meeting of the research upon which the award is based; and
- Recognition of the award in SOPHE's newsletter, News & Views and website.

Eligibility and Requirements

- Students enrolled in a graduate degree program in health education within two years of the submission deadline are eligible to compete. **Students are required to be a local or national SOPHE member.**
- The research must be submitted in the form of a manuscript suitable for publication in either Health Education and Behavior or Health Promotion Practice (publication guidelines are included in each journal issue) and must not exceed 35 pages, including references, tables, and figures. *(Note that winners are not automatically published. Award recipients must follow the standard process of submitting their manuscript to the Editorial Boards of the journals for review.)* The paper must include empirical findings (submission of the conceptual framework and study design alone is not sufficient) and be organized using appropriate headings: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion.
- An abstract of no more than 150 words summarizing the research.
- A letter from the student's major faculty advisor, who must be a SOPHE member in good standing, must be included to certify that the student is following a course of study in health education, that the submitted paper represents the student's original work, and to attest that the research was conducted in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Health Education Profession, Article V Responsibility in Research and Evaluation. [Link to Code of Ethics](#)
- A Statement of Ethical Conduct of Research form signed by the student and their faculty advisor. [Link to Form](#)
- Applicants must indicate their willingness to present the paper at the SOPHE Annual Meeting or the SOPHE Midyear Meeting.

Review Criteria

Papers will be reviewed by the SOPHE Awards Committee for their scientific rigor and contribution to health education research and practice. Specific criteria include:

- **Problem:** Importance of the research question
- **Ideas:** Theoretical base and conceptual contribution

- **Approach:** Adequacy and sensitivity of research design and methods, and adherence to ethical standards including demonstration of Institutional Review Board approval
- Findings: Contribution to existing knowledge
- **Presentation of data :** Clear presentation of quantitative or qualitative data linked to the research objectives and research problem
- **Organization:** Logical organization of the manuscript
- **Contribution** to health education **research**
- **Contribution** to health education **practice**

Send a copy of the nominated paper and abstract without author identification, plus a letter of certification from the faculty advisor, and a signed Statement of Ethical Conduct of Research form to:

Society for Public Health Education
 Awards Committee
 10 G Street NE Suite 605
 Washington, DC 20002

****Materials for nomination are due in the SOPHE National Office by July 31st of each calendar year****

SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION
Graduate Student Research Paper Award

Statement of Ethical Conduct of Research

“Health Educators contribute to the health of the population and to the profession through research and evaluation activities. When planning and conducting research or evaluation, health educators do so in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations, organizational and institutional policies, and professional standards.” [Code of Ethics for the Health Education Profession, Article V]

In nominating the enclosed manuscript for the SOPHE Graduate Student Research Paper Award, I am declaring that the research described within it was conducted and is being presented in the ethical manner expected of a Health Educator. By signing this statement, I attest that:

- no intentional harm to individuals, groups, society, or the environment was caused by this research and any unintentional harm that may have been caused was dutifully reported;
- informed consent was obtained from all participants and their participation in this research was voluntary;
- the privacy, rights, and dignity of all research participants were respected throughout the course of this research;
- all information obtained from participants was treated confidentially unless otherwise required by law;
- this manuscript represents my original work and contributions by others have been credited appropriately; and
- this manuscript is an objective, accurate, and timely report of the results of this research.

Student's Name (Please print)

Date

Student's Signature

Date

Faculty Advisor's Signature

Date