



Last updated: January 20th, 2026

Medical Law and Ethics

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DIFFERENCES IN HOW THIS EVENT WILL BE RUN AT HOSA CANADA'S FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (FLC):

1. **Written test time kept at 60 minutes for 100 questions at FLC only.** This test includes a tiebreaker portion, the details of which are specified in the guidelines below.
2. Written test will take place online and be open book at FLC only.

PLEASE NOTE HOSA CANADA'S SPRING LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SLC) WILL BE IN-PERSON AND THIS EVENT WILL BE RUN ACCORDING TO THE GUIDELINES IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES, EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING DIFFERENCE:

1. There will be a verbal announcement when there are 30 minutes and 5 minutes remaining to complete the written test at SLC.
**Please note that NO verbal announcements will be made at the International Leadership Conference (ILC).*

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DIFFERENCES IN HOW THIS EVENT WILL BE RUN AT HOSA CANADA'S SECONDARY/POST-SECONDARY VIRTUAL CONFERENCE:

1. Written test time shortened to 40 minutes (still 50 questions). This test includes a tiebreaker portion, the details of which are specified in the guidelines below.
2. Written test will take place online and be open book.

*****DISCLAIMER: virtual secondary competitor participation in any Competitive Event through the virtual membership is not ranked and not eligible to advance to the International Leadership Conference (ILC)*****

Medical Law & Ethics

Health Science Event

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|
| Eligible Divisions: Secondary & Postsecondary / Collegiate | Round 1: 50 Q test in 60 minutes | Digital Upload: NO |
| Solo Event: 1 competitor | | |



New for 2025 – 2026

Total number of test questions and test timing have been reduced. Editorial updates have been made.

Event Summary

Medical Law & Ethics allows members to gain knowledge and skills regarding U.S. medical law, ethics, and bioethics. This competitive event consists of a written test. In the event of a tie, the essay will be judged to break the tie. It aims to inspire members to learn about ethical and legal terms and how to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information related to this field.

Dress Code

Proper business attire or official HOSA uniform. Bonus points will be awarded for [proper dress](#).

Competitor Must Provide:

- [Photo ID](#)
- Two #2 lead pencils (not mechanical) with eraser

HOSA Conference Staff will provide equipment and supplies as listed in [Appendix I](#)

General Rules

1. Competitors must be familiar with and adhere to the [General Rules and Regulations](#).

Official References

2. The below references are used in the development of the test questions.
 - a. [Tamparo, Carol D. Medical Law, Ethics, & Bioethics for the Health Professions. F.A. Davis, Latest edition.](#)
 - b. [Fremgen, Bonnie. Healthcare Law and Ethics. Pearson, Latest edition.](#)
 - c. [Ritter, Lois and Donald Graham. Medical Law & Professional Ethics. Goodheart-Willcox, Latest edition.](#)

Written Test

3. [Test Instructions](#): The written test will consist of 50 multiple-choice items in a maximum of 60 minutes.
4. One essay question will be administered with the test.
5. **Time Remaining Announcements:** There will be NO verbal announcements for time remaining during ILC testing. All ILC testing will be completed in the Testing Center and competitors are responsible for monitoring their own time.
6. **Test Plan**
The test plan for the Medical Law & Ethics Test is:
 - The Basics: Medical Law, Ethics and Bioethics - 5%
 - The Legal Environment - 35%

- State and Federal Regulations; Consent
- The Legal System; Professional Liability
- Law for Health Professionals; Public Duty
- The Health Care Environment - 35%
 - Physician-Patient Relationships
 - Medical Malpractice
 - Medical Records
 - Workplace Law and Ethics
 - Cultural Perspective
 - Patient Confidentiality
 - Employment Practices
- Bioethical Issues - 25%
 - Ethical and Bioethical Issues in Medicine
 - Allocation of Scarce Resources
 - Genetic Engineering
 - Reproductive Issues
 - End-of-Life Issues

7. Sample Test Questions

1. Which of the following describes the concept of implied contracts in health care? (Ritter pp 95)
 - A. An agreement contracted through an independent agent
 - B. An enforceable agreement written in distinct, clear language
 - C. An agreement explained to the patient by the physician
 - D. An enforceable agreement without a specific written or spoken agreement**

2. Which entities would *not* be involved in making macro allocation decisions concerning how much can be expended for medical resources and how the resources are to be distributed? (Tamparo pp 200)
 - A. Local hospitals**
 - B. State legislatures
 - C. Health insurance carriers
 - D. Congress

3. Before human research can be conducted, all institutions that receive federal research funds must establish which of the following entities? (Fremgen pp 270)
 - A. Institutional Department Chair
 - B. Institutional Ethics Committee
 - C. Institutional Review Board**
 - D. Department of Human Services

Final Scoring

8. In the event of a tie, the essay will be judged to break the tie.

Future Opportunities:

Graduating from high school or completing your postsecondary/collegiate program does not mean your HOSA journey has to end. As a HOSA member, you are eligible to become a HOSA Lifetime Alumni Member - a free and valuable opportunity to remain connected, give back, and help to shape the future of the organization. Learn more and sign up at hosa.org/alumni.