



ALPHA KAPPA DELTA

2027 GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Each year Alpha Kappa Delta sponsors a graduate student paper competition. Alpha Kappa Delta welcomes submissions from graduate students who are members of the Society, whether or not they are involved in AKD chapter activities. **All submissions must be received April 15, 2027 via a submission form.**

1st Prize **\$500.00** and up to **\$1,000.00 in travel expenses to attend the 2027 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association.** The first-place winner will have the chance to be published in the *Sociological Inquiry* journal if the author chooses to do so. If submitted for publication, the decision to publish remains with the Editor. Members of the Editorial Board of *Sociological Inquiry* may also assist with editing. If published in *Sociological Inquiry* the paper will list the institution the author attended when the paper was written.

2nd Prize **\$250.00** and up to **\$1,000.00 in travel expenses to attend the 2027 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association.**

3rd Prize **\$100.00** and up to **\$1,000.00 in travel expenses to attend the 2027 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association.**

Authors of all prizewinning papers will receive one-year extensions of their subscriptions to *Sociological Inquiry*.

The authors and faculty sponsors of prizewinning papers will be notified of their selection around **May 15, 2027 by email**. All others will be notified in a timely manner.

In order to receive the travel support portion of the award, paper winners must attend the AKD Awards Ceremony and Distinguished Lecture at the 2027 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA).

See requirements on the next page

REQUIREMENTS

To be considered, each entry must conform to the following requirements:

1. Eligibility. The author must be a **current member of AKD** and the paper must have been written while the author was enrolled as a **graduate student** at an institution with an active AKD chapter during at least one term of the **2026 calendar year** (January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026). Papers must be single authored. No student may author more than one paper entered in the 2027 competition. If you previously won the Graduate Student Paper Competition, you may not submit to the competition again. If you previously won the Undergraduate Paper Competition, you may submit a graduate paper to the Graduate Paper Competition. The paper cannot have been previously published or currently under consideration by a professional journal.

2. A cover letter from the Chapter Representative must be submitted and affirm the author's name, the author's current membership status in Alpha Kappa Delta, the year the paper was completed, and the institution the author attended at the time the paper was completed.

3. An **abstract** of 100-150 words must summarize the major points of the paper. Please include this on the same document as the paper.

4. The paper must have **sociological content and focus**, but may be empirical, theoretical, or a critical review of the literature.

5. The paper may not exceed 35 double-spaced pages using MS-Word, Calibri 11-point OR Times New Roman 12-point font/type, with standard 1-inch margins, including tables, appendices, and references. For a detailed statement on format and requirements consult the inside cover of the Official Journal of Alpha Kappa Delta, *Sociological Inquiry*.

6. The author's name and institution should not appear anywhere on the title page, abstract, or paper.

SUBMISSION

To be entered into the Graduate Paper Competition, fill out the submission form here: <https://forms.gle/y1tDqbHu4dYTNpPN7>

- Be sure to upload the correct paper and that no identifying information is located anywhere on it
- The Chapter Representative cover letter may be uploaded using this form – or – it may be sent by email to akd@alphakappadelta.org directly from the Chapter Representative or author

To be eligible for consideration, all completed entries must be received by April 15, 2027.