

THE 2019 RICHARD KOCH BREAKTHROUGH PRIZE RULES

1. The Question

What single policy would give everyone in society, whatever their background, a real opportunity to succeed on their own merit?

Please note: That policy must be both politically possible – and compatible with a free market society.

The proposed policy should be intended to have a major impact on these criteria:

- i. Reducing the dependency of low-income Britons on the state and encouraging an entrepreneurial and ambitious mindset across the whole of society.
- ii. Improving the economic condition and opportunity for low-income Britons.
- iii. Increasing the economic freedom of the population as a whole.

There may be a trade-off to be made between short-term and medium- to long-term impact; but there should be a logical expectation of a material improvement over the longer term.

2. First Round Process

- i. The first round of the competition requires the submission of a précis of your idea in no more than 1,000 words.

The first round will be judged predominantly on the quality of the idea rather than the prose, and the stylistic guidelines in 4.4 below do not apply to the first round.

- ii. However, the idea must be submitted in prose format (not simply a list of bullet points), and any specific claims (for example, if you offer a specific number as a justification for your policy) or quotes must have citations (footnotes do not count towards your word count).

- iii. This précis must be uploaded to the competition website by **12:00 UTC (midday) on Thursday 27th June 2019**.

This is the only method of submission that will be accepted - any essays submitted after the closing date will be rejected. For more specifics on submission requirements, see below.

- iv. Ideas must be submitted according to the submission criteria in section 4 below. **Ideas failing to abide by these criteria will be disqualified unread.**

3. Second Round Process

- i. All entries will be submitted to the first-round judging panel, who will select the 10-15 most innovative or interesting ideas (entrants will be advised as to whether their idea has been shortlisted around Friday July 12th 2019).

- ii. The authors of these shortlisted précis will then be expected to submit a 3,000-4,000 word essay expanding on their idea and laying out, with evidence, how it might work and what the benefits would be as regards the three criteria listed in section 1.
- iii. These essays must abide by the stylistic guidelines in 4.4 below in full, and the submission requirements remain the same.
- iv. These second-round essays must be submitted via the Breakthrough Prize website no later than **12:00 UTC (midday) Monday 2nd September 2019**.
- v. Alongside the essay, finalists must also submit a 700-word piece written in the style of a newspaper article explaining their idea for a mass audience. This can be submitted separately to the essay, but must be submitted prior to the deadline for second-round essays.
- vi. Essays and articles must be submitted according to the rules and guidelines in this document. **The judges reserve the right to disqualify unread any entry failing to abide by these rules and guidelines.**

4. Competition Rules

4.1. General rules

- i. Entrants must register through the competition website (www.breakthroughprize.org.uk) by no later than **12:00 UTC (midday) on Thursday 27th June 2019**. You can register at any time, and we recommend registering as soon as you decide you want to participate in the competition, as the website gets increasingly busy as the deadline approaches. When you register, you will be issued with a Unique Entry Number which will enable us to identify you whilst also retaining your anonymity through the judging process.
- ii. When ready to submit an entry, entrants must use the online submission form on the website and enter using their Unique Entry Number.
- iii. Submissions are welcomed from individuals, groups of individuals, academia, the not-for-profit sector and all corporate bodies. Submissions are welcome from people from all countries.
- iv. Entries will only be considered for the university student or school student prize if the entrant ticks the relevant box on the online registration form and provides the requested information.
- v. An entrant is considered a 'student' if they have been enrolled in full time education (at any tertiary level) at any point during 2019. So, if you are either commencing or have completed a degree in 2019 you are still eligible for entry as a student.
- vi. An entrant is considered a 'school student' if they have been enrolled in full-time schooling at any point during 2019, including those leaving school in 2019.
- vii. Entrants may only enter in a single category, so those who both finish school and commence university in 2019 may choose which category they wish to be entered in, but can only enter one.
- viii. The prizes are:
 - 1 x Grand Prize - £50,000
 - 2 x Highly Commended Prizes - £2,500 each

- 1 x Student Prize - £2,000
- 1 x School Student Prize - £1,500

ix. Those entering the Student and School Student categories are eligible for the Grand Prize, but entrants will only be eligible to win one prize. If a student or school student entry is chosen as winner of the grand prize, or winner of one of the highly commended prizes, they will receive that prize but will forfeit the student cash prize.

x. All prizes will be paid gross and recipients will be liable to pay any and all applicable taxes.

xi. If a winning entry is co-authored, the prize will be split equally amongst the co-authors.

xii. All essays will be submitted to the judging panel anonymously. There must be nothing in the body of the essay that could allow competitors to be identified by the judges.

xiii. Entrants should create two pdfs of the précis, one of which should have only the entry number as an identifier. The other document should include the entry number, name and contact details of the entrant. All essays must have this information on a cover page separate from the body of the précis.

xiv. Any and all questions or requests for information must go to the Breakthrough Prize team via breakthroughprize@iea.org.uk.

xv. By entering the competition, entrants are affirming their ability and willingness to attend the prizегiving event to be held in central London on the evening of 10th October 2019.

4.2. Judging

i. The initial judging panel will select 10-15 entries that will be submitted to the final judging panel for consideration. All entrants will be informed whether or not they have been shortlisted for the final round around Friday 12th July 2019.

ii. All decisions by either judging panel are final and no feedback shall be given to unsuccessful entrants, or correspondence entered into (with the exception of those shortlisted for the second round, who will receive some feedback from the first round judging panel to help them develop their final essay).

iii. The judges may, at their discretion, extend the deadlines at any stage.

iv. The judges may, at their discretion, alter the prizes awarded within the overall prize pool at any stage.

4.3. Authorship and Copyright

i. While we welcome submissions from organisations, the individual authors of the essay must be personally identified, and any winnings will be paid personally to the authors.

ii. Winning author(s) must be willing to make themselves available for publicity purposes.

iii. Copyright of any publication of submissions will belong to the IEA, but the IEA will not unnecessarily obstruct publication by the author or their company after the prizes have been

announced. By entering, authors confirm there are no legal obstacles to the publication of entries by the IEA.

iv. By entering the competition, the author(s) affirm that their entry is their own work, that the work of others is properly attributed and referenced, that they are the sole beneficial owners of the work and that nothing defamatory or indecent appears in the work.

4.4. Stylistic rules

i. All entries should be written in Arial 12 point, with 1.5 line spacing.

ii. All pages must be numbered.

iii. Use of headings and sub-headings is strongly recommended, and the use of inset boxes and other devices which make the essay easier to read are encouraged.

iv. The essay must be highly readable and accessible to a wide audience, written in plain and simple English and without using technical terms, mathematical formulae, or jargon.

v. Chicago referencing must be used, and any referencing must be through footnotes, not endnotes or appendices. Web sources must include the date of last access. Footnotes may also be used to amplify points that would clog the flow of a paragraph. There is, however, no requirement to use footnotes, and any footnotes are not included in the word count. [More information about Chicago referencing can be found online here.](#)

vi. Graphics including photographs or cartoons may be used but are not mandatory and must be germane to the point of the essay (and permission for reproduction of graphics must be obtained before submitting the essay).

vii. The essay can be written in any format consistent with the above. In terms of content, the essay should:

a. Outline the policy initiative recommended clearly and unambiguously.

b. Give the policy initiative a snappy title (if one does not already exist).

c. Show how the initiative promotes the three criteria above.

d. Give evidence to support the contention. Data and analysis are fine, but substantial weight will also be given to logic and hypotheses, bearing in mind that some initiatives may be totally novel and not already subjected to rigorous examination. This is acceptable, provided the idea is plausible, supported by existing free-market principles for which there is already substantial evidence, and highly attractive.

viii. The policy initiative may be old or new, or a combination of both, but if it is an old initiative it must be either off the current political agenda or given a powerful new twist.