Call for Submissions: Pediatrics SOPT Monthly Feature
Third Annual Essay Competition

Advocacy, simply put, means speaking out on your patients’ behalf. Advocacy assumes that there is a problem that needs to be changed, and it is a way to drive or effect that change. Advocacy allows you to move from treating one patient at a time to being part of a broader network of advocates that works systematically. As a pediatrician, you are in a unique and powerful position to advocate for children’s health issues.”

- AAP Advocacy Guide

Physician-advocates may focus on many types of advocacy for pediatric patients. Advocacy can be undertaken on behalf of a single individual, a large group, accomplished at the local level, through federal or state legislative action, or even internationally! This year, the 2018/2019 SOPT Advocacy Campaign - Advocacy Adventure - inspires trainees to find their areas of passion, acquire and polish new skills, and organize advocacy efforts collaboratively.

This year’s competition will feature essays that highlight trainee advocacy efforts. As a physician-advocate, what issue have you taken on in the pediatric community? Which individuals or groups did you partner with? What challenges did you face, and how did you overcome these barriers? Tell us about your successes, and the impact that you’ve had.

Submission Details:
All pediatric trainees including medical students, residents, and fellows are eligible to apply. The deadline for submissions is Friday, May 24, 2019, 11:59 PM. Applicants may direct questions or email submissions to SOPTpediatrics@aap.org. Please limit articles to 1200 words and 15 references.

Each essay will be reviewed by the Editorial Board for the section. One edited revision will be offered to the top 5 finalists with the option to resubmit for final review. From this group two finalists will be identified, and the winning article will be selected by Lewis First and Alex Kemper, the Editor-in-Chief and Deputy Editor of Pediatrics, respectively.

The winning article will be published in the SOPT Monthly Feature in Pediatrics and the author will be invited to present his/her article at the SOPT Assembly at the AAP National Conference & Exhibition (NCE) in October 2019 in New Orleans, LA. Winners will receive a $300 grant to assist with travel expenses.