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SUBJ/US NAVAL INSTITUTE 2025 GENERAL PRIZE ESSAY CONTEST//

RMKS/1. This NAVADMIN announces the 2025 U.S. Naval Institute's (USNI) General Prize Essay Contest. Great power competition requires the Sea Services to think creatively to address national, strategic, and operational challenges. The 2025 USNI General Prize Essay Contest enables all Sailors to share their insights on the pressing issues of our time. Winners will receive a cash prize and have their articles published in Proceedings.

2. Contest Information:

a. Prizes:

First Place: \$6,000  
Second Place: \$3,000  
Third Place: \$2,000

b. Deadline: 31 October 2025

c. Eligibility: The contest is open to all active duty military, reservists, veterans, and civilians. Essays must be original and not published or being considered for publication elsewhere.

d. Essay criteria:

- (1) Word count: 3,000 words maximum (excluding endnotes)
- (2) Essays must be unclassified.
- (3) Essays may address any topic. Suggested topics include, but are not limited to:

- How can the Sea Services quickly and more affordably develop, procure, and field needed capabilities?
- What new or nascent technology do the Sea Services need, and how would it affect tactics or strategy?
- How can the United States and its allies deter China from coercive action in East Asia or the western Pacific?
- What should the U.S. nuclear posture and strategy be to deter competitors along the continuum of conflict?
- What reforms in education and training will or should advance the services?

- (4) Submit essay as a word document at <https://www.usni.org/genessay>

3. Additional information on the contest may be found at the USNI website: <https://www.usni.org/essay-contests/2025/2025-general-prize-essay-contest>

4. Released by VADM Michael E. Boyle, Director, Navy Staff.//

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