Ethics Essay Competition Judging Criteria
✓ Essay Writer Checks

1. **Issue Identification:** Are all the relevant ethical problem(s) or dilemma(s) named?
   ✓ Are you addressing complexities of the issue and encompassing the full range of ethical considerations?
   ✓ Have you described the most important ethical issues or considerations?

2. **Principle-Based Ethical Decision:** Did the writer show an understanding of principle-based ethics integrating the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative (DFEI) Principles?
   ✓ Are the DFEI Principles used for describing the ethical problems?
   ✓ Is an ethical framework described using the DFEI Principles as part of the criteria?

3. **Clear Recommendation:** Was the recommendation clear and precise?
   ✓ Do others fully understand your meaning?
   ✓ Is your meaning detailed and specific enough to avoid confusion?
   ✓ Can you elaborate through examples and illustrations?

4. **Practical Recommendation:** Is the recommendation practical and actional?
   ✓ Are legitimate viewpoints and interests of all key stakeholders addressed in the recommendation?
   ✓ Is the recommendation ethically sound, legal and make sense financially?
   ✓ Is the recommendation realistic? Did you verify the accuracy and logic of the recommendation with examples?

5. **Depth of Analysis:** Were alternatives named and their respective practical implications discussed?
   ✓ Are you considering all perspectives in your thinking?
   ✓ Are you treating perspectives and alternatives fairly?
   ✓ Why put emphasis on one alternative more than others?
   ✓ Do you offer a persuasive argument that your recommendation is better than the alternatives?

6. **Organization:** Is essay well organized and flows in a logical way with transitions?
   ✓ Does the essay progress in an organized, logical way?
   ✓ Will your reader be able to find quickly the context and purpose of the essay?
   ✓ Do the paragraphs flow logically with transitions to help the paragraphs flow one into the next?
   ✓ Does each sentence add value and connects from the one before and after it?

7. **Writing:** Are any grammatical, mechanical or formatting errors distract or prevent understanding the content and purpose?
   ✓ Watch out for homonyms like your/you're, to/too/two, and there/their/they're, as spell check will not recognize these as errors.
   ✓ Avoid common sentence errors such as run-on sentences, comma splices, or sentence fragments.