The title for this year’s essay competition is “Singapore’s Growing Income Disparities: Causes, Consequences and Policy Options”. The aim is to encourage debate on issues related to income gaps and social safety nets which have captured the attention of not just policy-makers but also analysts, commentators, academics and the general public. Essays should provide in-depth analysis of the factors underlying the trends in income distribution in Singapore, with particular attention given to widening gaps between different groups. Essays should discuss at some length the consequences of these widening gaps – consequences that are already being felt and consequences that could be expected in future if gaps persist or widen. There should be both breadth and depth in discussing policy options to meet present and future challenges.

The competition is open to all students studying in Singapore and all Singaporeans studying abroad. There are two categories of entries. The Pre-University category admits submissions from Polytechnic, Centralised Institute, International School and Junior College students, as well as from National Servicemen (NSF). The University category admits submissions from students pursuing higher education full-time, including Bachelor’s, Master’s and PhD students. All entrants must comply with the Terms and Conditions of the competition. Entries must be in English, and should be between 2,000 - 3,000 words for the Pre-University category and 3,000 - 4,000 words for the University category. A completed entry form and a 300-word summary must accompany all essays.

Please submit entries to:

MAS-ESS Essay Competition Coordinator
Macroeconomic Surveillance Department
Monetary Authority of Singapore
10 Shenton Way
MAS Building 28th floor
Singapore 079117

Or online at:

Receipt of all essays submitted online will be acknowledged. All entries must be received by 31 May 2008 (Date Extended from 31 March 2008)

Full details available from: