



2020 James Buchanan Essay Contest

The Economics Department is sponsoring the James Buchanan Essay Contest with a first-place award of \$500 and a second-place award of \$250. This contest is open to all undergraduate economics students (major and minor). Prior award winners are ineligible for this contest. To enter this contest, students must write an economics essay discussing the topic:

James Buchanan, the 1986 Nobel Prize winner in Economic Science, began his career specializing in public finance. He was from the very beginning concerned with permanent deficit financing and accumulated public debt. US National Debt accumulates daily <https://www.usdebtclock.org/>

Write an essay on Buchanan's position on public debt and the implications of his arguments in light of our current situation with respect to deficits and debt.

Please include the following in your essay:

- Name, G Number, and email address on the top right of the first page, include your name on each subsequent page
- Times New Roman 12-point font
- 2,500 words
- Submit 1 copy of the essay. Essays will be evaluated for their cogency, economic reasoning, and persuasiveness.

UPDATE TO DUE DATE AND SUBMISSION METHOD: In consideration of the extended spring break, submit essays **by email** (attached essay to email, in PDF or MS Word format) to mbernier@gmu.edu no later than **March 20th, 2020 before 5:00 PM, EST.**

Note: No late submissions will be accepted.

The Award Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, April 29th, at 4:30 P.M., in George's, in the Johnson Center.