University of East Anglia Norwich

School of Economics

Entrant briefing
2027 competition

East Anglian Young Economist Prize

An essay competition hosted by UEA's School of Economics

Deadline: 4pm, Monday 22 February 2027

About the competition

East Anglian Young Economist Prize is a new competition, hosted by the School of Economics at the University of East Anglia. It invites sixth form students to apply economic thinking to the choices we make in everyday life. The competition is open to students studying any subject, and no prior study of economics is needed.

Shortlisted entrants will be invited to a celebration event at UEA, where the winning entrant will be awarded £100. The best essay from each county, including the overall winner, will be published in Norwich Economic Publications.

The question

Why do we put off revising even when we know exams are coming?

Explain the tension between present and future self, for the decision to revise, or another choice facing teenagers.

Word limit

A maximum of **500 words**, excluding footnotes, references, tables and figures.

Who can enter

Sixth form students at schools and colleges in Cambridgeshire, Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk. Home-schooled students resident in these counties are also warmly invited to enter.

What we are looking for

- **Economic understanding:** clear and accurate use of economic ideas.
- **Application:** how well the ideas explain a real decision facing teenagers.
- **Analysis and evaluation:** a reasoned argument that considers different viewpoints.
- **Originality and clarity:** fresh thinking, well written and well organised.

Guidance for entrants

Build an argument rather than list ideas, and explain any technical terms simply. Entries must be your own work. AI-generated text is not permitted, and any sources should be acknowledged.

How to submit

Submit your essay as a PDF, using your email address as the filename, via the East Anglian Young Economists Prize form (https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/ez2ha9hKsP). You must both save your answers to the form and upload your essay using the separate link provided in the form.

In Word, choose **File → Save As**, then select **PDF** from the available file formats.

Your essay must be completely anonymous. Do not include any identifying information within the document.

Open the entry form

Scan the code or use the linked form title. Remember to save your form answers and upload your essay.

Contact email: young-economist-competition@uea.ac.uk