

## Essay Competition

Business Center Corporation (BCC) in conjunction with SME Development Financing Corporation (SDFC) is launching an essay competition for Maldivian undergraduate students (MQA Level 7 or 8) studying at an MQA accredited educational institution (local and overseas) on the occasion of **World Entrepreneurs' Day – 21 August 2019**.

The topic of the essay is **“Opportunities and Challenges to Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Development in Maldives”**.

This competition provides undergraduate students with an opportunity to develop research, analytical and communication skills.

### Entries Close:

1500 hrs on August 19, 2019

### Prizes:

First Prize	MVR 1,500.00
Second Prize	MVR 1,000.00
Third Prize	MVR 500.00

### Submission:

Submissions must be made with a completed entry form (*Appendix A*) to *info@bcn.mv* or *Business Center Corporation, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Sakeena Manzil, Medhuziyaarai Magu 20121, Male*.

### Rules:

1. Eligible entrants *must* be Maldivian undergraduate students and currently enrolled in an MQA accredited educational institution (local and overseas) on 8 August 2019.
2. Submissions must be made in English, typed in 12-pt font with 1 ½ line spacing and *must not* exceed 2000 words. Word limit does not include cover page, table of contents and bibliography.
3. Submissions *must be* original and not have been submitted elsewhere for credit. It *must* also be referenced to academic standards including any statistics or data.

- Failure to properly reference your work to original source can be grounds for plagiarism and may result in disqualification.
4. The student number *must* appear at top right corner of every page. Student name *must not* appear anywhere in the essay. Each student can make only one submission, and submissions cannot be made as a group.
  5. Submissions of the essay gives BCC and SDFC the *right to publish* the essay in-print and on the website(s) with due credit given to the author.
  6. Evaluation and judging will be done via a systematic blind marking method. Any information that reveals the name or identity of the student *will not* be attached to the essay or mark sheet.
  7. Entries will be judged on five key areas: (1) relevance to topic 20%, (2) critical analysis 20%, (3) research, data and statistics 20%, (4) recommendations 20% and (5) writing 20%.
  8. Winners will be announced on **21 August 2019**.

**Enquiries:**

For enquiries about the competition please email *info@bcn.mv*

*Appendix A*

**Entry Form**

BCC and SDFC reserve the right to verify your enrollment at the Maldivian educational institution should you win any award.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Program and Year of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Word Count: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for entering our essay competition. You will receive a confirmation email upon receiving your essay within 24 hours.

Good luck!