



2026 KEA Call for Undergraduate Papers-Rubric

Description	Point Value
Follow Structure of Empirical Paper • Abstract • Introduction and Motivation • Literature Review • Data and Empirical Methods • Results/Discussion • Conclusion • References • Tables and Figures • Appendix (if necessary)	5
Introduction and Motivation • Motivate the contribution to the literature	10
Literature Review and Theory • Summarize and integrate results of prior literature • Motivate inclusion of variables in paper • Discuss how current paper fits into literature or builds on current literature • Correct citation use and style	10
Data and Summary Statistics • Discuss data source and sample selection • Describe variables and present summary statistics in an easy-to-read table • Do summary statistics make sense? Discuss unexpected signs or irregularities/problems with data	20
Empirical Results/Discussion • Present model to be estimated, including estimation method (regression, panel data method, probit/logit, etc...) • Present model results in an easy-to-read table • Address important econometric problems (e.g. heteroskedasticity, serial correlation, endogeneity, omitted variables, irrelevant variables, etc...) • Discuss and interpret key variable(s) of interest including hypothesis test and economic importance • Compare results to previous work discussed in literature review • Answer the research question	20
Conclusion • Summary of paper • Any limitations? • Extensions for future work • Policy Implications or applications of results	10



References • Use in-text citations • Include a References List	5
Overall Aspects of the Paper • Content (interesting or creative topic) • Writing (text easy to read and follow, concisely written) • Style (figures, tables, does it feel like an empirical paper?) • Coherent story from beginning to end • Any creativity or interesting application of results?	10
Presentation at KEA Conference • Organization and flow • Visuals • Writing (text easy to read and follow, free of grammatical errors) • Delivery (clarity)	10
Total	100