

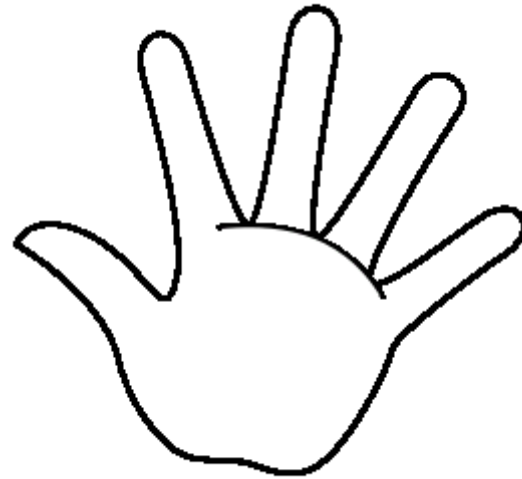
Raising Awareness of the SAS[®] Global Forum International Professional Award

Michael Chu
TD Bank Group

About Me

- I have been using SAS for roughly 4 years
- I went to SGF 2017 thanks to the International Professional Award
 - https://www.sas.com/en_us/events/sas-global-forum/sas-global-forum-2017/program/scholarships-academic-programs.html

Who's been to SGF/SUGI before?



- Yes → not eligible for this award
 - But you can still spread the word to your colleagues, friends & family!

What is the International Professional Award?

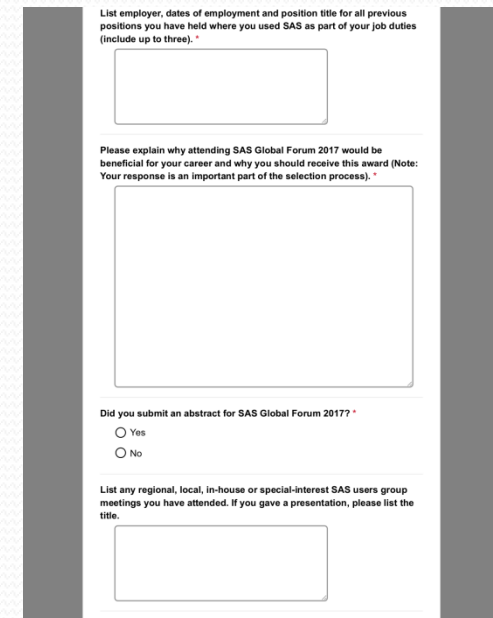
- Related to the "Junior Professional" award
- A chance to attend SAS Global Forum with your conference fees waived
- Additionally, you also get:
 - Meals
 - One free pre-conference tutorial
 - Recognition luncheon
 - *Opportunity to volunteer at SGF

Eligibility

- Be a full-time SAS professional who resides outside the 48 contiguous states within the United States.
- Have never attended a SAS Global Forum.
- Not otherwise be able to attend the 2018 conference.

How to Apply

- Submit your application by Jan 29, 2018 through the SGF2018 website:
 - https://www.sas.com/en_us/events/sas-global-forum/program/awards-academic-programs.html
- You must provide info such as:
 - Brief bio
 - Current employer
 - Your job duties and how SAS is used
 - Why you should receive this award



List employer, dates of employment and position title for all previous positions you have held where you used SAS as part of your job duties (include up to three).

Please explain why attending SAS Global Forum 2017 would be beneficial for your career and why you should receive this award (Note: Your response is an important part of the selection process). *

Did you submit an abstract for SAS Global Forum 2017? *

Yes

No

List any regional, local, in-house or special-interest SAS users group meetings you have attended. If you gave a presentation, please list the title.

**My experience as a
first-time attendee ...**

Fantastic

- Surrounded by like-minded people
... or SAS users, at least
- Casual environment, bustling with activity
- Met people from all over, Canadians included

Overwhelming

- Massive in scope
- SAS content everywhere you look: tonnes of rooms; booths; vendor displays & swag
- Each ½ hour block is filled with user-led sessions to attend
- Literally took (me) hours to create my list of sessions to attend (I was probably doing it wrong)
 - App didn't work for me – resorted to hardcopies obtained from www.sascommunity.org

Social Events

- Eating felt like an event!
 - Massive pavilion with large tables to encourage sitting with others
- Networking events on site
- After parties
 - Friends of SAS!
- I felt like a kid going to Disney World



Bonus

- Lunch with all the award winners
- Met the 2017 & 2018 chairs, John Amrhein & Goutam Chakraborty
- Volunteered, and it was great

Thanks for listening

- Do apply if you're eligible and interested
 - Don't forget about the Junior Professional Award, aka New SAS Professional Award
- Tell your colleagues, friends & family 😊

