

## **SAS Student Symposium Team Competition 2016 Terms and Conditions of Participation**

**OBJECTIVE:** SAS Institute Inc. (“SAS”) and the SAS Global Forum Executive Board (“EB”) (collectively “Sponsors”) are conducting an analytics competition for interested post-secondary education teams of two to four (2-4) students to compete for an opportunity to obtain a grant to attend SAS Global Forum 2016, April 18-21, 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada where they will present their work in a 20 minute breakout session. The Sponsors wish to inspire students to submit their analysis for this Competition, and the Sponsors wish to award outstanding student innovators with the opportunity to attend SAS Global Forum where they will have an opportunity to learn, network, and exchange ideas and experiences. The top eight teams chosen to attend SAS Global Forum 2016 will give a 20 minute oral presentation to compete to win 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prizes.

**HOW TO PARTICIPATE:** PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE SET OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS CAREFULLY AND THOROUGHLY. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT ANY ASPECT OF THE COMPETITION OR THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS, PLEASE CONTACT [symposium@sas.com](mailto:symposium@sas.com). To register for the Competition, please visit the competition webpage at [www.sas.com/sasgf-student-symposium](http://www.sas.com/sasgf-student-symposium). Upon team registration and confirmation of eligibility, teams will receive an email with instructions on how to access the data and SAS software. Instructions will also be provided on how to submit your final entry via the SAS Global Forum Content Management System. On the competition webpage, you must read and follow the instructions to your entry and transmit via the Internet. Teams may register between August 24, 2015 and October 31, 2015. Competition entries will be accepted between November 1, 2015 and January 15, 2016 by 11:59:00 PM Eastern Time. Entries must be submitted via the SAS Global Forum Content Management System.

In the event of a dispute over the identity of the individual making a particular Competition submission, the submission will be deemed to have been made by the registered user of the email/Internet account through which the submission was transmitted or with which the submission is associated. Sponsors (i) assume no responsibility for any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, submissions; (ii) are not responsible for any problems or technical malfunction of or relating to any communications equipment, telephone or cellular network, operations, or lines, computer, online systems, servers, or provider, computer equipment, hardware, software, failure of any entry information to be received by Sponsors on account of technical problems, human error or traffic congestion on the Internet or at any website or email server or address, and (iii) assume no responsibility for any combination of the aforementioned events, including any injury or damage to any participant's or any other person's computer related to or resulting from participation in, or downloading or uploading any materials relating to, the Competition.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION AND GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS:** To participate in the SAS Global Forum Student Symposium, each team must be composed of between two to four (2-4) students who are at least 18 years of age at the time the entry is submitted, currently enrolled as a full time student at an accredited post-secondary academic institution (college or university or its equivalent) and who still have their full-time student status at the time of the conference. In addition each team must have one (1) named Faculty Advisor. Your participation must be, in all respects, legal and lawful in the jurisdiction from which you make your submission. Sponsors are not responsible for submissions made in contravention of any law or regulation in any jurisdiction or location. Void in the Province of Quebec and where prohibited by law. Employees (including immediate family members and/or those living in the same household of each) of Sponsors and their subsidiaries and affiliated companies, and the immediate family members of each are not eligible to participate. GRANT RECIPIENTS ARE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION FOR TRAVEL, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PASSPORT, UNITED STATES VISA, HEALTH RECORDS, PHOTO IDENTIFICATION, AND ANY OTHER REQUIRED RECORDS OR DOCUMENTS. SPONSORS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INABILITY OF ANY GRANT RECIPIENT TO GAIN LAWFUL AND/OR TIMELY ENTRANCE INTO THE UNITED STATES. GRANT RECIPIENTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO PLAN SUFFICIENTLY AHEAD TO ENSURE THEIR OWN ABILITY TO OBTAIN LAWFUL, TIMELY ENTRY TO THE UNITED STATES, IF APPLICABLE.

Competition submissions must be the original work of the entrant; must be suitable for publication; and must not infringe third-party rights. In addition, all entries must include the following:

Students are expected to write a paper that defines the problem, describes the analysis performed, and presents the results in such a manner as to be of use in business, science, government, education, health care, etc. Students will be judged on the broad accessibility of results so papers should be appropriately technical, but still understandable to non-analytics audiences. The paper must be four to six (4-6) pages in length with an appendix. There is no page limit on the appendix. The written paper must contain the following components:

- Introduction
- Data
- Problem
- Data Cleaning/Validation
- Analysis
- Visualization (graphs, charts, etc.) – can be included in the appendix.
- Generalization
- Suggestions for Future Studies

- Conclusion

### **JUDGING OF ENTRIES: Paper Submissions**

Entries will be judged according to the following criteria and considerations:

Components of paper submissions to be judged:

- Introduction – Is the introduction appropriate and provide a concise lead-in to the report given?
- Data – Is the source of the data adequately documented?
- Problem – Is the problem(s) clearly defined and objectives of the study precisely given?
- Data cleaning/validation – Is the data cleaning process adequately explained?
- Analysis – Were appropriate analytical methods used and adequately explained?
- Visualization – Are appropriate graphics and visuals provided?
- Generalization – Are results provided for a general, non-technical audience?
- Suggestions for future studies – Are issues for future studies/different problem approaches given?
- Conclusions – Are conclusions concisely given?

*Evaluation Rubric:*

- 1 – Vague, not given, poorly explained
- 2 – Emerging, shows some possibilities
- 3 – Beginning, additional details needed
- 4 – Potential exists, more development needed
- 5 – Developing, shows promise
- 6 – Adequate, ok, needs more polish
- 7 – Accomplished, acceptable
- 8 – Proficient, of high quality
- 9 – Exemplarily, excellent quality
- 10 – Outstanding, one of the best

Each of these criteria will be applied by judges employed or designated by SPONSORS who have qualifications sufficient to apply the criteria to the submissions.

### **GRANT AWARDS FOR EIGHT FINALIST TEAMS:**

Based on the judging of the paper submissions, the top eight teams will be selected as finalists and notified on or about February 15, 2016. Each of the eight teams will receive the following:

(a) One (1) complimentary registration to SAS Global Forum 2016 and one (1) half-day pre- or post-conference tutorial PER team member and faculty adviser.

(b) Reimbursement of up to three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) in travel and hotel expenses for SAS Global Forum 2016. The faculty advisor is responsible for submitting receipts for reimbursement.

(c) One (1) 60% off coupon for each team member and faculty advisor to purchase a SAS book at SAS Global Forum or online.

The grant winners shall confirm to the Sponsors their ability to accept the award and attend the conference no later than February 19, 2016. Failure to respond may result in disqualification and an alternate grant recipient may be selected. Decisions of the judges are final. By participating, entrants agree to be bound by these Terms and Conditions and the judges' decisions.

### **JUDGING OF ENTRIES: Oral Presentations**

Oral presentations by the eight finalist teams will be judged according to the following criteria and considerations:

Components of the presentation to be judged:

- Problem definition and explanation
- Data source, explanation and verification
- Use of appropriate statistics and analytics methodology
- Presentation of results for a general non-technical audience
- Conclusions and recommendations

*Evaluation Rubric:*

- 1 – Vague, not given, poorly explained
- 2 – Emerging, shows some possibilities
- 3 – Beginning, additional details needed

- 4 – Potential exists, more development needed
- 5 – Developing, shows promise
- 6 – Adequate, ok, needs more polish
- 7 – Accomplished, acceptable
- 8 – Proficient, of high quality
- 9 – Exemplarily, excellent quality
- 10 – Outstanding, one of the best

Based on judging of the oral presentations at SAS Global Forum, the top three teams will be selected and notified on or about Tuesday, April 19, 2016.

Decisions of the judges are final. By participating, entrants agree to be bound by these Terms and Conditions and the judges' decisions.

#### **AWARDS FOR FIRST, SECOND, THIRD PLACE TEAMS:**

Each of the top three teams competing in the oral presentations will receive the following:

- One (1) complimentary exam voucher for any SAS certification exam, per team member and faculty advisor.
- One (1) complimentary SAS prep guide book, per team member and faculty advisor (Note: Not all certification exams have an accompanying prep guide.)
- One (1) complimentary seat in a SAS certification online prep course per team member and faculty advisor. (Note: Not all certification exams have an accompanying prep course.)

In addition, the following awards will be granted:

**First Place:** The university program in first place will receive a grant of \$2,000 worth of SAS Academic Training Points (4,000 points).

**Second Place:** The university program in second place will receive a grant of \$1,500 of SAS Academic Training Points (3,000 points).

**Third Place:** The university program in third place will receive a grant of \$1,000 of SAS Training Points (3,000 points).

SAS Training Points can be used to purchase public SAS training courses, Live Web courses, e-Learning, SAS certification exam vouchers, SAS books and more. More information and details about SAS Training Academic Points can be found here. <http://support.sas.com/training/discou/pts.html#s1=2>

More information and detail about the mechanics of the grant awards will be provided to the grant recipients after selection, including relevant deadlines and additional requirements for Conference attendance. Grant recipients must comply with all requirements and limitations communicated by Sponsors or imposed by law or regulation, and Sponsors are not responsible for the failure of any grant recipient to do so.

ALL TAXES ON THE GRANT ARE SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GRANT RECIPIENT. If required by applicable law, Sponsors will issue an IRS 1099 form to each grant recipient to identify the value of the grant. For information and planning purposes, and without being obligated to award any grant at any particular value, Sponsors estimate that the value of each grant may range from US\$4,180 to US\$10,070. However, the actual value may be less or may be greater. Grant recipients are not permitted to make any substitutions nor to claim any portion of the grant in cash.

**CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION (IMPORTANT INFORMATION THAT AFFECTS YOUR RIGHTS):** IN THE EVENT AN ENTRY IS DETERMINED BY SPONSORS NOT TO BE THE ORIGINAL WORK OF THE ENTRANT OR TO INFRINGE OR POTENTIALLY INFRINGE ANY THIRD PARTY'S RIGHTS, SPONSORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO DISQUALIFY THE ENTRY, IN THEIR SOLE DISCRETION, FROM THE COMPETITION AND, IF A GRANT AWARD HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE BASED ON SUCH A NON-CONFORMING SUBMISSION, SPONSORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW OR CANCEL THE GRANT OR RECOUP THE VALUE OF THE GRANT FROM THE RECIPIENT.

Submission of any entry constitutes the entrant's irrevocable, non-exclusive license to Sponsors and its agents to publish, use, adapt, edit and/or modify such entry, including, without limitation, screenshots and selected portions of the entry, in any way, in any and all media, without limitation, worldwide, throughout the universe, and in perpetuity, for use in association with Sponsors' advertising, promotion, archiving and review, or any other purpose whatsoever, all without acknowledgement, additional compensation, or opportunity for review by the entrant. By entering, entrants acknowledge compliance with these Terms and Conditions, including all eligibility requirements, and each entrant warrants and represents that his or her entry is legal and lawful and meets all restrictions and requirements of these Terms and Conditions and all applicable law. Sponsors reserve the right to suspend, cancel, or modify this Competition as determined by Sponsors in their sole discretion. Sponsors further reserve the right to award less than one (1) grant or more than one (1) grant, as circumstances may warrant, in the sole discretion of Sponsors.

**LIABILITY AND PUBLICITY RELEASE (ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION THAT AFFECTS YOUR RIGHTS):** By accepting a grant, the recipient consents to Sponsors' use of their name, image, biographical details, and likeness without additional compensation, unless prohibited by law. **GRANT RECIPIENTS AND PARTICIPANTS AGREE, EXCEPT WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW, TO RELEASE AND DISCHARGE, HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY SPONSORS, THEIR PARENT, SUBSIDIARY, AND AFFILIATED ENTITIES, THEIR SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, AND ALL OTHERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXECUTION OF THIS COMPETITION AND THE INFORMS CONFERENCE ON BUSINESS ANALYTICS AND OPERATIONS RESEARCH, FROM ANY AND ALL TAX LIABILITY THAT MAY BE IMPOSED OR ASSOCIATED WITH RECEIPT OR USE OF THE GRANT, AND FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, ACTIONS, PROCEEDINGS, AND LIABILITY FOR ANY DAMAGES, EXPENSES, FEES, INJURY OR LOSSES (INCLUDING PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH) SUSTAINED IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECEIPT, OWNERSHIP, OR USE OF THE GRANT OR WHILE TRAVELING TO, PREPARING FOR, OR PARTICIPATING IN ANY COMPETITION-RELATED OR CONFERENCE-RELATED ACTIVITY.** Sponsors are not responsible for any printing, typographical, mechanical or other error in the printing of the Competition materials, including the webpage, administration or execution of the Competition, or in the announcement of the grant recipients. Sponsors retain the discretion to make all decisions regarding the interpretation and application of these Terms and Conditions, including any ambiguities. All decisions of Sponsors are final and discretionary. In the event the selected grant recipient is ineligible or refuses the grant, the grant will be forfeited and Sponsors, in their sole discretion, may select an alternate grant recipient from the remaining entries, time permitting as judged by Sponsors in their sole discretion.

**COMPETITION SPONSORS:** This Competition is being sponsored by SAS Institute Inc., SAS Campus Drive, Cary, North Carolina 27513, USA and SAS Global Forum Executive Board. The names of the grant recipients are available upon request by sending a written request and a self-addressed, stamped envelope for receipt at SAS by April 21, 2016 to Michele Reister, SAS Institute Inc., SAS Campus Drive, Cary, NC 27513.

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