

STUDENT COMPETITION INSTRUCTIONS

The Louisiana Academy of Science hosts **Best Student Paper** competition in a variety of disciplines for both *undergraduate* and *graduate* students presenting their research by either *podium* or *poster* at the annual meeting.

Students seeking to compete for these awards with an oral or poster presentation *must*:

- (1) select “Yes, I wish to participate in the student competition” on the abstract submission page.
- (2) upload a regular abstract of 150 words or less, as requested for all contributors, to complete the current submission step.
- (3) **submit a second Competition Abstract.** The Competition Abstract:
 - (a) must be an extended summary of the student’s research that does not exceed one (1) single-spaced printed page with 1-inch margins and typed in 12-point typeface.
 - (b) must include a heading with a title, as well as ALL authors and their institutional affiliations. The name of the student competitor must be **underlined** and labelled **(GRAD)** for graduate student or **(UNDE)** for undergraduate student.
 - (c) must include a problem statement, methods, results, conclusions, and a bibliography of cited references.
 - (d) may include photos, tables, charts, diagrams, and other figures, all within the 1-page limit.
 - (e) must be sent as an email attachment (pdf strongly preferred) directly to the Section Chair of the discipline to which the research belongs with copy to the corresponding division director (see below). Extended abstracts are due **one week from the deadline for regular abstracts.**

Competition Procedures

- **Competition Groups.** Different disciplines will be combined into the 7 award groups listed in the next page, however students will submit their abstract to the individual discipline to which the work belongs.
- **Podium (“Oral”) Competition.** Competition Abstracts will be judged following the submission deadline and finalists will be selected for competition. Finalists will be notified by email in advance of the annual meeting. Presentations in this category are typically 15 min long including questions.
- **Poster Competition.** Each competing student is *required to orally describe his or her research in a special session* and to be present at the poster during the set time for judging. The competitor will have 2 minutes to present and may show 1-2 slides. The 2-minute limit will be strictly enforced. All competitors must load their slides **before** the section starts.

Awards

A certificate and cash award is given to the *Best graduate and undergraduate oral presentation and the best graduate and undergraduate poster* in each of the award groups, provided one has been selected. Winners will be announced during the closing ceremony of the annual meeting. **The winner must be present during the award ceremony to receive a cash award.**

Section Chairs and Division Directors to whom Competition Abstracts should be emailed:

Division/Section	Chair	E-mail
Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Wildlife	Kamran Abdollahi	Kamran_Abdollah@subr.edu
Division of Biological Sciences	Jameel Al-Dujaili	jdujaili@lsue.edu
Botany	Jonathan Willis	jonathan.willis@nicholls.edu
Environmental Sciences	Ramaraj Boopathy	ramaraj.boopathy@nicholls.edu
Microbiology	Jameel Al-Dujaili	jdujaili@lsue.edu
Molecular and Biomedical Biology	Jamie Newman	jjnewman@latech.edu
Zoology	Gary LaFleur	gary.lafleur@nicholls.edu
Division of Physical Sciences	Pedro Derosa	pderosa@latech.edu
Chemistry	August Gallo	gallo@louisiana.edu
Computer Science	Yenumula Reddy	ybreddy@gram.edu
Earth Sciences	Todd Murphy	murphy@ulm.edu
Materials Science and Engineering	Naidu Seetala	naidusv@gram.edu
Mathematics & Statistics	Jennifer Berken	jberken@mcneese.edu
Physics	David Norwood	david.norwood@selu.edu
Topical Section: Cyber Security and information Assurance	Yenumula Reddy	ybreddy@gram.edu
Division of Science Education	Esperanza Zenon	ezenon@rpcc.edu
Higher Education	Christie Landry	christie.landry@nicholls.edu
K-12 Education	Chris Campbell	ctc@latech.edu
Division of Science and Humanities	John Doucet	john.doucet@nicholls.edu
Division of Social Sciences	Riad Yehya	riad_yehya@subr.edu

Award Groups:

AWARD GROUP 1: Agriculture Forestry, Environmental Science, and Wildlife

AWARD GROUP 2: Botany and Zoology

AWARD GROUP 3: Chemistry, Physics, and Earth Sciences

AWARD GROUP 4: Computer Science, Mathematics and Statistics, Cyber Security and Information Assurance

AWARD GROUP 5: Materials Science and Engineering

AWARD GROUP 6: Molecular and Biomedical Biology and Microbiology

AWARD GROUP 7: Education, Social Science, Science and Humanities