

AAAS Student E-Poster Competition Guidelines

The AAAS Student E-Poster Competition recognizes the individual efforts of students who are actively working toward an undergraduate, graduate or doctoral-level degree. Multidisciplinary research projects are encouraged. At the time of judging, the individual presenter must give a 3-4 minute oral synopsis of their work and be able to answer judges follow up questions in a clear and succinct manner. Posters are judged at the meeting. Accepted poster abstracts will be available in the 2019 AAAS Annual Meeting online program and the meeting app. Winners in each category receive a cash award and certificate and a one-year AAAS membership that includes a digital subscription to the journal *Science*. In addition, winners' names are published in *Science*. We encourage presenters to record and post their oral presentations on social media.

Submission Deadline:

Abstracts must be successfully submitted by **October 18, 2018 at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time**. "Incomplete" and "pending" status abstracts will not be accepted.

Eligibility Criteria

The competition is open only to full-time students, at the time of submission, for work recently performed while enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate or doctoral degree program. Cash awards and certificates are presented only to student presenters. ***In order to participate in the poster session, confirmed presenters must pay the meeting registration fee for students OR register as a session aide no later than Friday, November 19, 2018.***

Students are not eligible if they won a competition that included, as an award, presenting at the AAAS Annual Meeting. However, they are invited to submit their posters for the General Poster Session.

Advisers must certify that the research presented on the poster involves only the work of students enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate or doctoral degree program at the time the work was performed. **Posters that do not meet these criteria will be disqualified.**

Each applicant can only submit one abstract. Co-authors can appear on the e-poster, but cannot be listed in the abstract submission nor can they participate in the presentation.

Location

Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
Washington, DC

Dates and Times

February 16, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
February 17, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

E-posters will be grouped by category, schedule will be determined by the number of approved submissions. Presenters will be notified of the exact time and location of their oral presentation ahead of the meeting.

Categories

Please review all categories to carefully select the one that is most relevant to your research.

- **Brain and Behavior**
The study of the brain and nervous system as well as the behavior and mental processes of humans and animals; includes the fields of neuroscience and psychology.
- **Cellular and Molecular Biology**
The study of the activities, functions, properties, and structures of cells and how genes govern the activity of cells, tissues, and organisms. Includes biotechnology, bioengineering, and biomaterials; cell biology, genetics, and signaling; genomics, proteomics, and computational biology, as well as microbiology, structural biology, and biophysics.
- **Developmental Biology, Physiology, and Immunology**
The study of all changes associated with an organism as it progresses through the life cycle, the functions of living organisms and their parts, and all aspects of the immune system including its structure and function, disorders of the immune system, immunization, and organ transplantation.
- **Education**
Includes basic, applied, and developmental research conducted to advance knowledge in the field of education or bearing on educational issues.
- **Environment and Ecology**
The relationships between organisms and their environments as well as the biotic and abiotic factors that act on an organism, population, or ecological community and influence its survival and development; includes the fields of agriculture, food science, and renewable resources; geology and geography, as well as atmospheric and hydrospheric sciences.
- **Medicine and Public Health**
The prevention, cure, or alleviation of disease as well as the science and practice of protecting and improving the health of a community; includes dentistry and oral health sciences, medical and pharmaceutical sciences.
- **Physical Sciences**
The study of non-living systems such as the nature and properties of energy and non-living matter; includes the fields of astronomy, chemistry, geology, mineralogy, meteorology, and physics.
- **Science in Society**
The study of the societal impacts of science, technology, and engineering as well as the development of the underlying methodology and foundations of the scientific process; includes the history and philosophy of science, general interest in sciences and engineering, science communication, and public engagement.

- **Social Sciences**

The study of the institutions and functioning of human society, the interpersonal relationships of individuals as members of society, or a particular aspect of society; includes the fields of anthropology, economics, education, language and culture, political science, and sociology.

- **Technology, Engineering, and Math**

The study of the measurement, properties, and relationships of quantities and sets in addition to the collection, organization, analysis, and interpretation of numerical data; the characteristics and uses of materials used in science and technology; the scientific method and material used to achieve a commercial or industrial objective, and the practical application of scientific and mathematical principles. Includes fields of computer science, information technology, industrial science, and statistics.

General Guidelines for Abstract Submission

Presenters can log in and edit their abstract up to the submission deadline. Please carefully follow the instructions, as approved abstracts will be used in the online program and the meeting app.

- **Abstract Sections:** All abstracts should be informative and contain the following sections:
 - **Background:** A brief statement of study's objectives;
 - **Methods:** A concise statement of methods;
 - **Results:** A clear presentation of results, which should be "data rich";
 - **Conclusions:** A closing statement of study's conclusions (do not state "Results will be discussed.")
- Abstract title is limited to 85 characters (including spaces).
- Abstracts are limited to 2600 characters (including spaces). Please type or paste the abstract in as a single text block (indents and line breaks will be removed).
- Poster title, co-authors, citations, footnotes, graphics, and funding acknowledgements are not allowed within the abstract text.
- Abstracts that show lack of care or quality control as evidenced by grammatical, punctuation, spelling, and typographical errors are reviewed less favorably. Work must be proofread carefully before submission.
- AAAS staff will not edit abstracts for clarity however, we will reformat if necessary to conform to standards required for the online program and the meeting app.
- Research proposals are not acceptable.
- Abstracts must be successfully submitted, by **October 18, 2018 at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time.** "Incomplete" and "pending" status abstracts will not be accepted.

- Use all capital letters for the title of the poster.

Meeting Registration

All poster presenters are required to register for the Annual Meeting, either in a paid registration category or as a session aide, by **Monday, November 19, 2018**. **Fees are waived for certified session aides.**

Student Session Aides

The AAAS Annual Meeting is an exciting opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to be immersed in the world of science at national and international levels. Applicants must be enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student to apply as a session aide. AAAS reserves the right to rescind registration for anyone found not to meet these criteria. Visit: <http://meetings.aaas.org/student-session-aides/> for details.

Travel Assistance

Helen Froelich Holt Scholarship for Early-Career Women in Science

The Helen Froelich Holt Scholarship for Early-Career Women in Science provides one grant each year to a female graduate student or recent graduate who has been accepted to present a poster at the AAAS Annual Meeting. The winner will receive up to \$1,500 for travel (not to exceed actual expenses). In addition, the scholarships will underwrite meeting registration and a one-year AAAS membership. Application information will be sent to eligible individuals when posters are accepted for presentation.

Joshua E. Neimark Memorial Travel Assistance Endowment

The Joshua E. Neimark Memorial Travel Assistance Endowment provides a limited number of grants to support travel for graduate students and post-doctoral scholars who present their posters at the AAAS Annual Meeting. Application information will be sent to eligible individuals when posters are accepted for presentation.

E-Poster Submission

Accepted poster presenters will receive instructions on how to prepare and submit the PDF of their e-poster on **December 11, 2018**. The portal to upload the PDF will open **January 8, 2019** and will remain open through the meeting if you wish to make any changes (however, note that we will be sending a copy of the pdf to the poster judges on February 1, 2019).

Oral Presentation

Presenters will be assigned a date, time and e-poster presentation pod in the Exhibit Hall ahead of the meeting, where they will give a three-to-four-minute oral presentation of their poster in front of a small panel of judges and meeting attendees. The submitted poster will be projected on an LCD television behind the presenter. An AAAS staff member will be available to give a signal for when to conclude. Presenters are not allowed to distribute handouts during the presentation.

Presentations should include:

- A clear statement of the problem and its importance.
- A summary of key elements of your research and key findings.

Competition and Evaluation

Competition is between members of the poster category and includes undergraduate and graduate students. Each judge will be allowed to ask questions following the presentation.

Poster evaluation will include:

- Methodology: Methods are appropriate and properly applied.
- Results: Logical, clearly presented and properly summarized.
- Conclusion: Based on results presented; emphasizes significance and implications of study.
- Presentation: Poster is well-prepared, well-organized, balanced in content and logically sequenced.
- Importance/originality of research.
- Understanding of subject: Clearly states objectives of the study and relationship to earlier work, demonstrates understanding of the subject and responds effectively.

Judges will receive the abstract and pdf of the poster ahead of the competition. After listening to oral presentations, they will assess each poster using an evaluation form rating the above on a scale of 1-5 (1= below average; 2= average; 3= good; 4= excellent; 5= outstanding). After all posters from that category have been reviewed, judges will deliberate to select a winner and a runner-up. Winners will be announced on **March 5, 2019**.