



## **TECHNICAL PAPER AND PRESENTATION COMPETITION RULES**

The Annual Student Technical Paper and Presentation Competition is intended to encourage members of the ASCE Student Chapters/Clubs to prepare and present meaningful papers and presentations on subjects relating to Civil Engineering. The presentations will be judged on the basis of quality of both the material presented and the quality of the presentation. The competition, which is sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers, is held once a year at the ASCE Rocky Mountain Regional Conference. Each contestant must submit a technical paper and a separate one-page abstract. In addition, a separate title page must be included that provides the title of the paper, the author's name, and the sponsoring ASCE student chapter.

### **A. RULES/ELEGIBILITY**

The rules governing the competition are as follows:

1. The paper competition is open only to Civil Engineering undergraduate students who are members in good standing with their ASCE Student Chapter
2. Each school is allowed to submit a maximum of one paper in the technical paper competition. The subject of the paper must concern original research in an area of interest to Civil Engineering.
3. The paper must be written by one student only, and the same student must make the oral presentation.
4. The length of the paper, not including the abstract, figures or tables, should be between 1000 and 3000 words. The paper should be formatted based on the ASCE Author's Guide to Journals, Books, and Reference Publications with the following exceptions:
  - a. Figures and tables should be integrated into the paper.
  - b. The author's name and school identification must be included on a title page separate from the abstract and main body of the paper. The abstract and paper must not include references that would identify the student or institution.
5. In accordance with ASCE publication policies, all data are to be presented in SI units.
6. The oral presentation must be no more than ten minutes in length. Upon conclusion of each presentation, two additional minutes will be allowed for questions, for a total of twelve minutes.
7. A .pdf version of the title page, abstract, and paper must be submitted electronically no later than **5:00pm MST on Friday, March 1** to **[ascermrc@gmail.com](mailto:ascermrc@gmail.com)**. The abstract and paper should be contained in a separate document from the title page.
8. If you have any questions, please contact Kristi Selden at [kselden@mines.edu](mailto:kselden@mines.edu).



## **TECHNICAL PAPER AND PRESENTATION COMPETITION RULES (cont.)**

### **B. SCORING**

The paper and presentation have a maximum combined score of 125 points. A maximum of 80 points may be awarded for the paper, and a maximum of 45 points may be awarded for the presentation.

#### **1. Paper Scoring**

Judges will evaluate and score the papers using the following maximum point values attribute to the specific criteria.

a. Abstract	5
b. Organization (introduction, body, conclusion)	8
c. Background information / literature review	7
d. Technical content and accuracy of information	20
e. References	5
f. Use of figures and tables	5
g. Formatting	5
h. Grammar	8
i. Written expression and style	7
j. Overall clarity and quality of paper	<u>10</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>

#### **2. Presentation Scoring**

Judges will evaluate and scored the presentations using the following maximum point values attributed to the specific criteria

a. Organization of the material	5
b. Technical command of the subject matter	10
c. Presentation Style (e.g. personal appearance, poise, eye contact)	7
d. Correct use of technical language and grammar	10
e. Time (10 minute maximum)	5
f. Overall clarity and quality of presentation	<u>8</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>45</b>

### **C. JUDGING**

Prior to the conference, papers will be judged on their own merit, separate from the presentations. Presentations will be judged by a minimum of two judges selected in advance of the competition. The judges will evaluate the papers and presentations independently and will not compare their ratings until all presentations have been completed.



## **TECHNICAL PAPER AND PRESENTATION COMPETITION RULES (cont.)**

### **D. PRIZES**

The following prizes will be awarded for the technical categories:

1. First prize -- \$50 in cash and a plaque
2. Second prize -- \$35 in cash and a plaque
3. Third prize -- \$20 in cash and a plaque

### **E. POINT DISTRIBUTION**

Points will be awarded to each participating school based on the overall score of the paper and presentation. First, second, and third place finishers will receive 100%, 75%, and 50% of the overall combined score of their paper and presentation, respectively. Schools entering papers meeting the requirements of the competition but not placing in the top three will receive 20 participation points.