

# ACCI

## 2017 Undergraduate Student Poster Competition

*Presented by:*

**American Council on Consumer Interests**



*Researching Consumer Economic and Financial Issues*

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The American Council on Consumer Interests (ACCI) is pleased to host the ***Undergraduate Student Poster Competition*** for 2017. The competition is open to all colleges and universities worldwide. Students do not need to be current members of ACCI; however, the faculty advisor of each student or team of students must be a current member of ACCI.

**The winning team will receive a grand prize of \$500.**

**The runner-up team will receive \$250.**

### Poster Topics

Topics should align with ACCI's mission devoted to consumer well-being. Posters may focus on, but are not limited to, topics such as health, housing, financial literacy, food, retirement, consumer protection, consumer economics, finance, savings, and investing.

All Undergraduate Student Poster Competition submissions will be reviewed by a committee of ACCI members. Students submitting the top two submissions will be invited to present their posters at the 2017 ACCI Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 21-23, 2017.

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### Competition Rules

#### I. Entry Submission

- There is no limit to the number of students per university or college who wish to submit a poster to the ACCI Undergraduate Student Poster Competition.
- Each team may consist of 1 - 4 members. These members must be undergraduate students at your university or college taking at least 9 credit hours in spring 2017, as per the registrar's records. Teams may be comprised of any composition of majors.
- Students/Teams must have a faculty advisor who is a current member of ACCI. Students do not have to be current members of ACCI to participate in the student competition – however, students whose teams are selected to

participate and who do actually participate will be given a free one-year membership.

- Teams should follow the directions for submitting a poster proposal on the “Call for Entries” found on ACCI’s website at:
  - <http://www.consumerinterests.org/undergraduate-student-competition-2017>
- **Students must submit their proposed poster topic November 15, 2016**
- The top 5 student posters will be identified by the Judging Committee. Students and advisors will be asked to submit the completed poster in PDF to the committee by January 31, 2017 for final judging. The top two posters will be announced February 15, 2017.

II. The following information must be included in the proposal:

- Objective: the background and purpose of the study.
  - Use complete, grammatical sentences.
  - Acquaint the reader with the background of the study and contain a clear statement of the goals of the investigation or the hypothesis that the study was designed to test.
  - 40-60 words
- Significance: the gap in the literature/need for the study.
  - Provide a theoretical and/or empirical rationale of the need for the study.
  - 50-70 words.
- Method: the description of the study and/or intervention.
  - Empirical studies: Describe the study design, participants (include manner of sample selection, number and gender of participants). The methods should be described in sufficient detail to allow the reader to judge their accuracy, reproducibility, and reliability. If this is an evaluation study, describe the intervention.
  - Non-empirical studies (including policy reviews, recommendations for education standards and/or program direction), focus on the relevance of the topic for an ACCI audience.
  - 50-75 words.
- Results: key findings or preliminary results.
  - Empirical studies: identify the major findings or preliminary results. Provide sufficient information to allow reviewers to evaluate the validity and reliability of the results.
  - Non-empirical studies (including policy reviews, recommendations for education standards and/or program direction), focus on the implications of the topic for an ACCI audience.
  - 100-150 words.
- Conclusion/Relevance: main inferences drawn from results, potential application of findings, and relevance to the consumer interest.
  - A brief and focused statement of the main inferences drawn from results, potential application of finding and relevance to the consumer interest.

- 150-200 words.

### **III. Poster Evaluation Procedure**

- The Review Committee will read and score all posters according to the criteria established. All entries will be blind reviewed; no personal identification information should be included.
  - The Review Committee will report final evaluations to the Competition Committee Chair.
  - Two students/teams will be selected as finalists, based on poster evaluation scores. Finalist teams will be invited to participate at the 2017 ACCI Annual Conference, in Albuquerque, New Mexico April 21-23, 2017.
  - Finalists will be notified no later than February 15, 2017, by the Competition Committee Chair, of their selection to participate in the 2017 ACCI Annual Conference. All teams will be notified of their final status.
  - Teams will have until March 1, 2017 to accept the opportunity to present their poster at the ACCI Annual Conference. ACCI maintains the right to replace finalist teams who decline with alternate teams at its discretion.
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## **Information for Finalist Teams**

### **Responsibilities of Finalist Teams Prior to Conference**

After accepting the invitation from ACCI to present at the 2017 ACCI Annual Conference, finalist teams will be asked to perform the following additional tasks:

- Students/teams must prepare a poster following the criteria established by ACCI for the Featured Research Presentations (poster sessions). Directions can be found on the ACCI website at <http://www.consumerinterests.org/undergraduate-student-competition-2017>
- Students/teams will be expected to be present with their posters during the Featured Research Presentation to meet with attendees and be able to explain their research as illustrated on their poster.
- Students/teams must be present for the awards presentation during the 2017 Annual Conference.

**Finalist posters should include the following information regarding their research:**

- Title
- Names of author(s) and affiliated school
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Methodology
- Results (tables, graphs, charts)
- Conclusions
- Future research implications

## Accommodations at the 2017 Annual Conference

- Registration for the 2017 ACCI Annual Conference will be waived for all student finalists. This includes Friday and Saturday breakfast and breaks. All other meals will be the responsibility of all students.
  - ACCI cannot promise to provide complimentary lodging at this time, though we are seeking funding support to offset these costs for student teams.
  - Finalist teams are responsible for arranging and paying for their own transportation to the ACCI Annual Conference at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico. ACCI is seeking funding support to help teams offset these costs.
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### Questions?

**Contact Lorna Saboe-Wounded Head, Competition Committee Chair at**  
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Or please contact the ACCI Office  
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