

# ACCI

## 2018 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 2018. The competition is open to all colleges and universities worldwide.

**The winning team will receive a grand prize of \$250 for each member up to \$750 total.**

**The runner-up team will receive \$125 for each member up to \$375 total.**

### Poster Topics

Topics should align with ACCI's mission devoted to consumer well-being. Posters must focus on one of the following areas: health, housing, financial literacy, food, retirement, consumer protection, consumer economics, finance, savings, or investing.

A committee of ACCI members will review submissions. The top two submissions will be invited to present their posters at the 2018 ACCI Annual Conference in Clearwater, FL, May 17-19, 2018.

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### Competition Rules

#### I. Entry Submission

- There is no limit to the number of teams per university or college who wish to submit a poster.
- Each team may consist of one (1) to three (3) members. These members must be undergraduate students at your university or college taking at least nine (9) credit hours in spring 2018, 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.

- Students must submit their proposal by email to the Project Chair, Dr. Axton Betz-Hamilton at [axton.betzhamilton@sdstate.edu](mailto:axton.betzhamilton@sdstate.edu) **no later than Wednesday, January 31, 2018.**
- Teams are encouraged to visit the ACCI Website, [www.ConsumerInterests.org](http://www.ConsumerInterests.org) to learn more about the mission, vision, and goals of ACCI.

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

- Title page
  - Title
  - Name of author(s) and affiliated schools or departments
  - Name of advisor, his/her email address and telephone number.
- Abstract: 250 words
- Proposal: up to two (2) pages, single-spaced (no school names, names of advisors or students should appear on this part).
  - Introduction/purpose of the study
    - Empirical studies should provide a clear statement of the goals of the research or the hypothesis the study tested. Explain the need for the study.
    - Non-empirical studies should focus on the reason for the study.
  - Methodology
    - Empirical studies: Describe the study design and study participants (include the manner of sample selection, number, and gender of participants). Describe methods 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 may be policy reviews, recommendations for education standards and/or program directions and should focus on the relevance of the topic for an ACCI audience.
  - Results
    - Empirical studies should identify the major findings or preliminary results.
    - Non-empirical studies should focus on implications and possible outlets for dissemination of findings.
  - Conclusion/Future research implications
    - A brief and focused statement of the main inferences drawn from results, the potential application of findings and relevance to the consumers' interest.

## III. Evaluation Procedure

- **Deliver your proposal by email attachment to [axton.betzhamilton@sdstate.edu](mailto:axton.betzhamilton@sdstate.edu) no later than Wednesday, January 31, 2018.**
- The Review Committee will review submitted proposals according to the criteria

established.

- All entries will be blind reviewed; no personal identification information should be included in the abstract and proposal sections.
  - The top two finalists will be contacted by February 15, 2018 and will be invited to participate at the 2018 ACCI Annual Conference, in Clearwater, FL, May 17-19, 2018. Please use the poster format listed on the ACCI Conference Webpage <http://www.consumerinterests.org/conference-2018>. If there are questions about this format, please contact the ACCI office at 727-940-2658 x 2002.
  - Finalists will have until March 1, 2018, to notify ACCI of their intent to present their poster at the ACCI Annual Conference. Attendance and presentation of their poster at the conference are required to receive the award.
  - Registration fees will be waived for up to two student attendees (assuming one student representing each of the finalist posters) and one hotel night will be provided for each of two student attendees (assuming one student representing each of the finalist posters).
  - At this time, ACCI is seeking a sponsor so that more registration, travel and hotel nights can be supported.
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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 2018 ACCI Annual Conference, finalist teams will be asked to perform the following additional tasks:

- At least one students from each team will be expected to attend the full conference and 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 2018 Annual Conference.
  - Student attendees should work with the ACCI office for registration, travel and accommodation planning. The ACCI contact is Dr. Ginger Phillips, Executive Director. Please email [gphillips@ConsumerInterests.org](mailto:gphillips@ConsumerInterests.org) or call 727-940-2658 x 2002.
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### Questions about content? Where to submit your proposal:

*Contact Axton Betz-Hamilton, Competition Committee Chair*

[axton.betzhamilton@sdstate.edu](mailto:axton.betzhamilton@sdstate.edu)

**Deliver your proposal by email attachment to [axton.betzhamilton@sdstate.edu](mailto:axton.betzhamilton@sdstate.edu) no later than Wednesday, January 31, 2018.**

Attachment: Sample Judging Form

# Sample Judging Form

| Category     | Review Criteria  | Rating (5 = high, 1 = low) |   |   |   |   | Weight      | Score<br>(rating x weight) |
|--------------|--|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|-------------|----------------------------|
|              |  | 5                          | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |             |                            |
| Abstract     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Briefly summarizes the purpose of the research/study.</li> </ul>  | 5                          | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | X 2         |                            |
| Introduction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the introduction explain clearly and precisely the purpose of the study?</li> <li>Is significance of the study supported by previous research?</li> </ul>  | 5                          | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | X 3         |                            |
| Methodology  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Empirical study – Is the study design and participants described in sufficient detail to demonstrate accuracy, reproducibility, and reliability?</li> <li>Non-empirical study – Is the relevance of the study to an ACCI audience clearly described?</li> </ul> | 5                          | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | X 5         |                            |
| Results      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Empirical study – Were major findings clearly identified?</li> <li>Non-empirical study – Are implications of the study relevant to an ACCI audience?</li> </ul>   | 5                          | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | X 5         |                            |
| Conclusion   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are main inferences drawn from the results clearly articulated?</li> <li>Is the application of findings logical?</li> <li>Is the conclusion relevant to the consumer interest?</li> </ul>   | 5                          | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | X 3         |                            |
| Implications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are implications justified based on results of the study?</li> </ul>  | 5                          | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | X 2         |                            |
| Comments:    |  |                            |   |   |   |   | Total score |                            |