

2016 Election Research Preacceptance Competition¹
Eligibility Criteria, Version 1.0.2, adopted on August 4, 2016

The following govern the administration, participation, and execution of the 2016 Election Research Preacceptance Competition (also referred to as the “Competition”) sponsored by the Center for Political Studies at the University of Michigan. By entering and participating in the Competition, you agree to be bound by and comply with these Official Rules, the decisions of the Sponsor and any Affiliated Third Parties (including the Center for Open Science and the Competition’s “Participating Journals”) and any additional terms and conditions established by the Sponsor or the Affiliated Third Parties (collectively the “Rules”), all of which are final and binding on you. You further agree to be contacted by the Sponsor in regards to the Competition.

The Competition Organizers have tried to make the Competition as fair, transparent, and open as possible. We are available to answer your questions and welcome feedback in order to improve our processes at the Center for Political Studies, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, 426 Thompson Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48104-1248, United States, cps-center@umich.edu.

The Sponsor reserves the right to modify, change and/or update the Official Rules at any time. Any updated Official Rules will be posted at <http://osf.io/erpc> and your continued participation in the Competition shall be deemed your acceptance thereof. The Official Rules shall control and serve to clarify any confusion, discrepancy, ambiguity, error, or mistake communicated (at any time before, during, or after the Competition) in any and all medium or media made at any time by any person or entity. If you do not agree to be bound to these Official Rules and the decisions of the Sponsor, you are not eligible to participate in the Competition or receive an award herein.

Table of Contents

- [Definition of Terms](#)
- [Overview](#)
- [Step 1: Entrant Eligibility](#)
- [Step 2: Study Eligibility](#)
- [Step 3: Preregistration Eligibility](#)
- [Step 4: Completed Study Eligibility](#)
- [Step 5: Journal Eligibility](#)
- [Step 6: Article Eligibility](#)
- [Step 7: Reporting Publication of Eligible Article](#)
- [Step 8: Awarding Awards](#)
- [General Terms and Conditions](#)

Definition of Terms

The following definitions are specific to the Competition. More details respecting any definition may also be found in the applicable Steps provided below. These definitions do not necessarily apply to any other activity conducted by the Sponsor or the Affiliated Third Parties. Any and all interpretation, resolution, and application of these definitions to the Competition or any element thereof are the sole and final decisions of the Sponsor and the Affiliated Third Parties.

¹ These terms and conditions use the Center for Open Science’s Preregistration Challenge Terms and Conditions as a starting point. This content is used with their explicit permission. The Center for Open Science bears no responsibility for the implications of these terms as they pertain to the Preacceptance Contest. We thank them for their permission to use these materials in this way.

Sponsor: The Center for Political Studies at the University of Michigan is the “Sponsor.”

Competition Administrators: A paid employee or consultant of the Center for Political Studies who has been appointed solely at the Sponsor’s discretion to administer any aspect of the Competition.

Participating Journal: A scholarly publication that has been solicited by Competition Administrators and designated as eligible for publishing Articles for the purposes of entering the Competition. Neither Sponsor nor its designees have any influence or control over whether or when an Article will be published in a Participating Journal, which is in the sole and absolute discretion of each Journal. A list of the Participating Journals is available at <http://osf.io/erpc>.

Promotion Partners: The Promotion Partners are organizations involved in the preparation and distribution of materials that provide information about the Competition. The Promotion Partners include the Center for Political Studies, the Center for Open Science, the Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences, and DA-RT (Data Access and Research Transparency).

American National Election Studies (ANES): The ANES is a National Science Foundation-funded election survey. Its data is freely available at <http://www.electionstudies.org/>

Affiliated Third Parties: Collectively, the Participating Journals, the American National Election Studies, the Promotion Partners are known as the Affiliated Third Parties.

Open Science Framework (OSF): The OSF is a free, open source web application created and maintained by the Center for Open Science. The Center for Open Science has created an application specifically for the Competition that is accessible at <http://osf.io/erpc>.

Competition Period and Award Dates: The Competition shall begin on or about 8:00 am Eastern Time (“ET”) on or about July 1, 2016, and end at 11:59 pm ET on December 31, 2018 (“Competition Period”). Any times and dates relating to the Competition may be shortened or extended as necessary due to exigencies of the circumstances as deemed necessary by Sponsor. All times relating to the Competition are Eastern Time. The Sponsor’s clock shall be the official time keeping device for the Challenge.

Entrant: An OSF user that meets all criteria of an eligible individual herein and has initiated participation in the Competition.

Research Plan: The specific steps that the Entrant expects to perform in order to conduct the Study and analyze the generated data. The Research Plan is submitted through the Preregistration Form on at <http://osf.io/erpc>. A complete Research Plan includes, but is not limited to, research questions, hypotheses, data inclusion and exclusion rules, variables, and statistical models.

Eligible Entrant: An Eligible Entrant is an Entrant that has met all eligibility criteria in these Rules including having submitted a complete Research Plan for the Competition at <http://osf.io/erpc>, published the Article in a Participating Journal and is listed as an author on the Published Article, written the article in a way that satisfies the Competition’s Data Requirement, and has, after an official offer of publication is received, lifted any existing Embargo on the Preregistered Research Plan such that the Plan is fully accessible to Competition Administrators and all Internet users. The Eligible Entrant may qualify for the Award, subject to their compliance with any and all additional requirements in the Rules. Eligible Entrants may still be subject to immediate disqualification and forfeiture (or return, if applicable) of any (potential) Award due to non-compliance, ineligibility, and/or if they are found to be/have been ineligible at any time. There is no limit on the number of Research Plans or Articles that an Entrant can submit.

Article: The written document, accepted for publication in a Participating Journal, that describes both the Preregistration and the results of the Study. In order to be eligible for the Competition, the Entrant or the Editor of a Participating Journal must notify Sponsor that their Article has been published in a Participating Journal so that the Article can then be reviewed and accepted through the Article Review process. **To be eligible for the Competition, the article must include the phrase “ERPC2016” in the title at the time that the article is submitted.** This requirement serves to notify Editors of Participating Journals that the Entrant wishes to be considered for an award.

End Times. There are two relevant End Times. The first End Time is midnight on the day prior to the date that the ANES releases its 2016 general election survey data. After this date, no further Research Plans may be started and no existing Research Plans may be edited. Papers based on preregistrations completed before the first End Time may be submitted or resubmitted to Participating Journals after this time. The Competition Administrators have no influence over the exact date on which the relevant ANES data are released. The American National Election Studies, in turn, bears no responsibility for any aspect of the Competition including any and all implications of its decisions to set a release date for its data. The second End Time is December 31, 2018 or the date at which twenty awards have been awarded, whichever occurs first. After this date, no Articles may be submitted for an award.

Preregistration Form: An online tool accessible through at <http://osf.io/erpc> through which the Research Plan is created by an Entrant.

Data Requirement: To enter the competition, an entrant must preregister at <http://osf.io/erpc>, a research design that involves the use of data from a 2016 American National Election Studies (ANES) general election survey. *Data from pilot studies run prior to the 2016 ANES general election survey do not count towards this requirement.* This preregistration must occur prior to the date on which the ANES data used in the Article is released to the public. The design can also include data from other studies, such as previous ANES studies or studies conducted by other organizations.

Preregistration: An un-editable, time-stamped Research Plan submitted for Registration by an Entrant through the Preregistration Form on at <http://osf.io/erpc>. Preregistration is integral to participate in the Competition and the potential for eligibility for the Award. One time-stamp will be provided in connection with a Preregistration, and such time-stamp may be used in certain circumstances to determine eligibility for the Award, as applicable. The time-stamp is final and will not be altered. An Entrant may register multiple designs, including multiple designs of a similar topic.

Registration: The process of turning an editable Research Plan in an un-editable, time-stamped Preregistration.

Embargoes: When submitting a Preregistration at <http://osf.io/erpc>, [Entrant can choose](#) to temporarily embargo the Research Plan. An embargo can prevent public viewing of the plan until December 31, 2018 or until an Article's date of Publication, whichever occurs first. Thereafter, the embargo will be lifted. Entrant agrees to allow Competition Administrators to view the Research Plan for the purpose of administering the Competition at any time. Entrant also agrees to allow Competition Administrators to share the Research Plan with Editors and staff Participating Journals as part of a review process. Competition Administrators will not access or view the plans for any other reason.

Study: The implementation of the Research Plan after it has been Registered and it becomes a Preregistration. The Study must not commence until the Research Plan has become a Preregistration, or else it will be ineligible for the Competition. A Study consists of: data collection, data analysis, and reporting the research design and results in an Article.

Allowable Deviations from a Preregistered Research Plan: An Article may contain the results of additional studies that are not Preregistered or made part of the Competition, subject to the limitations herein. Deviations from the Preregistration must be clearly documented and justified in the Article and must avoid compromising the confirmatory nature of the Preregistration. Editors of Participating Journals are the final arbiters of any questions about whether deviations are Allowable. Editors may consult with the Competition Organizers on this matter at their discretion.

Research Plan Review: The process of checking a Research Plan submitted by an Entrant through the Preregistration Form for completeness, clarity, and consistency with Competition eligibility requirements. This review can be conducted at the request of an Editor of a Participating Journal at any time. When an Editor of a Participating Journal notifies the Competition Administrators that it will accept an article submitted by an Eligible Entrant, Competition Administrators will ensure that the Data Requirement is satisfied, that research based on the registered Research Plan is included in the article accepted for publication, and that supplementary or exploratory analyses are clearly marked as such.

The Research Plan Review does not assess the validity of the research question, the quality of the research methodology, or the publishability of the proposed research. The Research Plan Review is not “peer review” of academic research; it is an assessment of eligibility for the Competition.

Spotlight Panel: Competition Administrators will convene a number of Spotlight Panels at major academic conferences in 2017 and 2018. The Spotlight Panels will feature presentations about Articles that win Awards. Participation in the Spotlight Panels is at the discretion of the Competition Administrators.

Award: Entrants will be awarded \$1,000 (USD) at the time that their article is published and Competition Administrators verify that the Article satisfies the criteria of the Research Plan Review. Entrants will be awarded an additional \$1,000 upon presentation of receipts associated with attending a Spotlight Panel. Scholars will receive the second \$1,000 regardless of whether their expenses are more or less than this amount. Awards are awarded to winning papers. If a paper is co-authored, all co-authors will receive an equal share of a single award unless all authors formally request a deviation. Funding is available to support up to twenty award packages for published articles.

Journal Subsidies: Participating Journals will also be offered a subsidy for each accepted article upon official notice of publication to compensate them for any additional work required to participate in the program and/or to cover additional page charges incurred for publishing competition entries. If a journal chooses not to accept the subsidy, we will offer to use the funds to pay up to \$3,000 per article for open access charges to increase the number of people who can read the winning papers.

Transfer of Awards across Participating Journals. Each Participating Journal has been allocated two awards. There are also two Unallocated Awards. Up to two awards will be allocated in the order that they are accepted in principle for publication by a Participating Journal. In the event that a Participating Journal wishes to publish an article that is eligible for an award but has already had two awards given to articles it has accepted in principle, the Competition Administrators will first offer an Unallocated Award to that Journal. If an Editor of a Participating Journal proposes an Article for an award after the Unallocated Awards are used, the Competition Administrators will issue a call to other Participating Journals to determine if any of them will voluntarily release one of their unused allocated awards. If more than one Participating Journal offers a release, the Competition Administrators will transfer the Award for which they first received notification. If no Participating Journals release their Awards, then an award will not be offered.

Transfer of Reviews Across Participating Journals: Each Participating Journal has an option to send an Article labeled ERPC2016 and all reviews solicited for the Article to another Participating Journal. This choice is at the discretion of the Editor to which the Article was initially submitted. Participating Journals that receive such an inquiry may consider the Article for publication or may decline the request. This choice is at the discretion of the solicited Editor.

Additional Award: Any Entrant in this Competition who preregisters their design with the Center for Open Science and publishes their study in a Participating Journal may be eligible for an additional \$1,000 award from the Center for Open Science’s Preregistration Challenges. To be eligible for both Awards a Participating Journal in this Competition must also be an Eligible Journal in the Preregistration Challenge. Not all Participating Journals in this Competition are Eligible Journals for the Preregistration Challenge. Entry into the Preregistration Challenge requires separate registration. Please consult [its website](#) for more details on rules and procedures.

Overview

The Election Research Preacceptance Competition is a skill competition conducted by the Center for Political Studies to promote preregistration of analysis plans in advance of conducting a study and to incentivize journals to consider results-blind peer review of research Articles.

In order to receive the Award, an Entrant must submit a Research Plan at <http://osf.io/erpc>. Once a design is preregistered, the Entrant can then begin the Study. The Entrant then writes an Article that describes the conduct and results of the Study. Any deviations from the Preregistration must be documented in the Article. To be eligible for an award, the Article must be accepted for publication and actually published by a Participating Journal and the Entrant must be listed as an author. Editors of Participating Journals and Competition Administrators jointly determine whether deviations from the Preregistration are documented and justified, and that the results of the Preregistration are sufficiently distinct from the results of any other research or study reported in the Article. Upon acceptance, the Entrant is now considered an Eligible Entrant and may be eligible to be awarded an award subject to their compliance with all additional requirements in the Rules.

Step 1: Entrant Eligibility

- A. An Eligible Entrant is one that has met all eligibility criteria listed in the Rules, including having submitted a Research Plan at <http://osf.io/erpc>, publishing the Article in a Participating Journal, and, upon notice of publication, lifting any embargoes of the Research Plan.
- B. The Award is given to the Eligible Entrant who submits the Research Plan to <http://osf.io/erpc>. If a paper is co-authored, all co-authors will receive an equal share of a single award unless all authors formally request a deviation.
- C. Residents of nations on the State Department of the United States' list of "embargoed countries" (http://www.pmddtc.state.gov/embargoed_countries/) may not enter the Competition and are not eligible receive the Award. The Competition is void wherever restricted by, without limitation, filing or registration requirements, or is otherwise prohibited or restricted by law.
- D. Entrants must be 18 years of age or older, human, alive, and identify themselves with government issued valid legal identification of their legal identity to claim the Award.
- E. It is the responsibility of each Entrant to ensure that they are permitted to enter the Competition and is under no conflicting contractual, legal or any other restriction to enter. Entrants have the responsibility to review and understand their employer's policies, applicable jurisdiction's laws, rules and/or regulations, tax implications, and any other limitations (collectively "policies and laws") regarding eligibility to participate in promotions and/or receive awards in connection therewith. Furthermore, if an Entrant participates without obtaining the appropriate approvals, or if an individual is participating in violation of any such policies and laws, the Sponsor may, in its sole discretion, disqualify the participant and forfeit their award, if applicable. Policies or laws that govern the work or products of an individual's work may prevent them from submitting their Research Plan onto <http://osf.io/erpc> or receiving the Award for that work. The Sponsor and all Affiliated Third Parties do not and cannot verify the regulations or laws that govern any Entrant's behavior, which is the sole responsibility of each Entrant. The Sponsor and all Affiliated Third Parties disclaim all responsibility and liability relating to the above; by participating Entrants agree to release, indemnify, defend and hold them harmless in all respects thereto.
- F. Any participant, Entrant, or Eligible Entrant that is reasonably suspected at any time of attempting, engaging in, or benefitting directly or indirectly from fraudulent activity, cheating, deception, manipulation, misconduct, artifice, harassment, undue influence, deception or any other suspect activity in connection with the Competition will be immediately and not eligible for the Award.
- G. Employees, officers and directors of: (i) Center for Political Studies; (ii) Affiliated Third Parties, and any individuals and entities involved in the preparation of materials for, administration and/or execution of the Competition; and (iii) the immediate family members (defined as parents, children, siblings and spouse, including step and foster relations) regardless of where they reside, and/or individuals living in the same household (whether or not related) of the Competition Administrators or any of the Affiliated Third Parties are not eligible to participate in the Competition.

Step 2: Study Eligibility

- A. Research Plans for Studies must be submitted through <http://osf.io/erpc>. The Study must not begin prior to its Research Plan being accepted through Research Plan Review.
- B. Both confirmatory (hypothesis testing) and exploratory (hypothesis generating) analysis contribute to scientific progress, but they do so most effectively when they are clearly identified as such. The Competition seeks to promote the use of preregistration of analysis plans for hypothesis testing as well as transparency about the distinction between confirmatory and exploratory analysis. Research Plans using existing data present unique challenges for hypothesis testing because observation of data can influence subsequent analysis plans for the same data. An Article must include confirmatory analyses of 2016 ANES general election survey data but can also include exploratory analyses of ANES data as well as exploratory or confirmatory (pre-registered) analyses of other data. Entrants must clearly and consistently distinguish between confirmatory and exploratory analyses in the Article.
- C. Studies specify the analysis that will be applied to the data in order to arrive at the statistical and inferential conclusions that are reported in the Article.
- D. Entrants can enter the Competition multiple times.

Step 3: Preregistration Eligibility

- A. By default, projects on the OSF are created as “Private” projects, as described in OSF’s Privacy Policy (available at <https://centerforopenscience.org>). Entrants who enter the Competition specifically designate the following persons as having access to view the contents of all materials that they submit to <http://osf.io/erpc>: the Entrants’ co-authors, COS, Competition Administrators, and Editors from Participating Journals. COS, Competition Administrators, and Editors from Participating Journals have access to the private Research Plans only for the purposes of administering the Competition.
- B. Upon submission of the Research Plan, the Entrant may request an embargo until December 31, 2018 or the date of publication of the Article, whichever is less. During the Embargo, the Preregistration will remain private except for basic information (e.g., title, entrants, date of submission, eligibility certification). After conducting the Study and publishing the Article, Preregistrations must be made public to be eligible for the Award. Projects designated by the Entrant as “Public” and Preregistrations that are not embargoed will be accessible by any person on the Internet.
- C. A complete Research Plan includes: A single study, Entrant (as Author) and co-authors being listed as contributors on the Preregistered study, and responses in English to all queries in the Preregistration form.
- D. Competition Administrators retain authority to determine and certify eligibility of submitted Research Plans for the Competition.
- E. Once completed, the Preregistration and the Study it describes may be Eligible for the Competition. However, the Award is subject to satisfying all requirements in these Rules.

Step 4: Completed study eligibility

- A. To retain eligibility, the Study procedures must be conducted as described in the Preregistration. Data analysis and reporting of those analyses in the Article must occur as specified in the Preregistration.
- B. When deviations from the Preregistration occur, the Entrant must document the deviations with justification in the Article as described these Rules, including those described in Step 6.

Step 5: Journal Eligibility

- A. The Article must be in a [Participating Journal](#)

- B. The list of Participating Journals is decided solely by the Competition Administrators, which reserves the absolute right to modify the list of Participating Journals at any time during the Competition.

Step 6: Article Eligibility

- A. At least one (1) Study reported in the main text of the Article must have been Preregistered on the Competition Part of <http://osf.io/erpc> and the Article must include ERPC2016 in the title when the article is submitted to the Participating Journal to be eligible for the Award. Articles in which the only reference to a Preregistered Study is in “supplemental material” are ineligible for the Award.
- B. The study must include a URL link to the public Preregistration on <http://osf.io/erpc> in the Article. For example, “Study 1’s design and analysis plan was preregistered at the Open Science Framework and is available at: [http://osf.io/erpc/\[...\]](http://osf.io/erpc/[...]).”
- C. Any deviations from the Preregistration in the Study procedure, analysis, or result reporting must be documented and justified in the Article to the satisfaction of the Editors of Participating Journals and the Competition Administrators.
- D. The results of the Preregistration must be distinguished clearly from the results of other analyses conducted and reported in the Article. For example, the results section could have subsections titled “Confirmatory analyses” and “Additional analyses.” However, other distinctions may be acceptable as long as they are clear and accessible to the reader.
- E. Examples of deviations from the Preregistration in which the results of the Preregistration are reported, that could render an Article ineligible for the Award include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Failing to report some of the preregistered analyses.
 - b. Reporting analyses as having been preregistered when they were not.
 - c. Using different covariates for an analysis without also reporting the analysis outcomes with the preregistered covariates.
 - d. Using different rules for excluding observations without also reporting the analysis outcomes with the preregistered exclusion rules.
 - e. Changing the outcome or predictor variables without also reporting the analysis outcomes with the preregistered outcome or predictor variables.
 - f. Transforming variables, or changing the method of constructing or calculating variables, without also reporting the analysis outcomes using the preregistered transformation plans.
 - g. Changing the statistical model without also reporting the analysis outcomes using the preregistered statistical model, or providing explicit evidence for violation of statistical assumptions that invalidate the original statistical model.
 - h. Conducting a different procedure than had been described in the Preregistration.

Step 7: Reporting Publication of Eligible Article

- A. During the Competition Period, Entrants must notify Competition Administrators in writing as soon as possible in writing that their Article has been accepted for publication by a Participating Journal. This notification, which should be sent via email to the Competition Administrators at their respective university accounts, must include:
 - a. The publisher’s pre-print, copy-edited, or formatted version of the complete text of the final Article as it appears, or will appear, “in print.”
 - b. A link to the Article at the Participating Journal’s website.
 - c. The relevant publication date is the date on which the Article first appears in its final version in any paper or electronic format.
- B. Submitted Articles will be reviewed to determine if the Article and the Entrant meet the requirements stated in these Rules, and as more specifically described in in Steps 4, 5, 6, and 7.

- C. The associated Preregistration must be publicly available on the OSF and the URL reported in the article for the Preregistration must correspond to the public URL for the Preregistration. In other words, any embargoes on the Research Plan must be lifted on the date of the notification in Step 7A.

Step 8: Awards

- A. All awards are contingent upon final verification of Eligible Entrant as a potential winner and, their submitted entry, confirmation of eligibility to receive the Award, and compliance with the Rules. Award winners must be able to accept the award in its entirety or not at all, or else Award may be forfeited (in Sponsor's sole and absolute discretion). Only one (1) award will be awarded per entry regardless of the number of individuals/authors involved in connection with the entry.
- B. The Competition Administrators will coordinate delivery of the Spotlight Panel portion of the Award with the Article's first listed author. Any attending authors or co-authors agree to deliver copies of receipts for expenses incurred for travel to or from the conference site or expenses occurred at the conference site. Upon confirmation of these receipts by Competition Administrators equal shares of the second \$1,000 of the Award will be sent to authors that attend the conference unless all co-authors formally request a different arrangement.
- C. If more Eligible Entrants exist than the number of available Awards on given date, the first tiebreaker will be the terms specified in the Transfer of Awards Across Participating Journals stated above. If this rule is insufficient to break the tie, then Entrants will be ranked by date of initial submission to a Participating Journal.
- D. The Sponsor will contact Eligible Entrants selected to receive a potential Award by email using the contact address provided by the Entrant. Eligible Entrants have forty-five (45) calendar days to reply by email confirming acceptance of the Award, providing any required documentation, and to provide a postal address to receive the Award. If no reply is received by the Sponsor on/within 45 calendar days, the Eligible Entrant will forfeit the Award. If a potential winner fails to respond within the time specified, or cannot be reached on/within two separate attempts, that Award will be forfeited.
- E. Potential Award winners will be required to sign and return a Declaration of Eligibility, Release of Liability, and where legal, Publicity Release for receipt by Sponsor within the time/date specified, or else potential winner will be disqualified and the Award will be forfeited in its entirety. The selection of any alternate potential winners will be done following the Rules stated above. Authors are not permitted to assign or transfer Awards to non-co-authors in whole or in part. Sponsor shall have the right, where necessary, to undertake all action and/or require further information as is reasonable to protect itself, or any of the other Affiliated Third Parties against fraudulent or invalid claims, potential public scandal, ridicule, or disrepute in awarding the Award to any potential winner.
- F. Money will be distributed by check in U.S. Dollars mailed to an address provided by an Eligible Entrant.
- G. All winners of Awards are solely responsible for any local, provincial, state, federal/country or any other applicable taxes, compliance with (governmental) reporting, filing and documentation requirements, and for any other costs, expenses and fees connected with their acceptance and use of the Award in their respective jurisdictions. Potential Award winners are solely responsible for any transaction or currency exchange fees and fluctuations. Winners are solely responsible for delivery, acceptance, use/misuse, and disbursement of the Award once awarded.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: To be eligible for a potential Award you must be deemed an Eligible Entrant and timely satisfy in full all requirements of the Competition during the Competition Period. Entrant must enter and participate in the Competition as an individual and must be listed as an Author on the Research Plan and the Article. Entrants may not participate on behalf of a corporate or other sponsored team, an employer, or any non-profit, commercial or government entity and agree to release and hold harmless all Affiliated Third Parties from any and all claims, actions, and liability relating thereto. For purposes of the Competition and pursuant to these Rules, unless otherwise specified, any and all content, data, information and materials submitted by Entrant in connection with the Competition at any time in any and all media and medium will collectively constitute their "entry." Entries must be submitted in English.

In whole or in part unsuccessful, untimely, invalid, undelivered, returned, rejected, non-compliant, incomplete entries, or those deemed not to be submitted in good faith or in the spirit of the Competition will not be eligible. Proof that an entry is submitted at any stage is not proof or evidence that the entry and/or Entrant is eligible for the Competition, eligible to continue in the Competition, or eligible for any Award.

By participating, entrants hereby represent, warrant and covenant (as applicable), and agree to produce written evidence of such if requested, that:

- (i) The entry, in whole and in part, is original to the Entrant and does not violate or infringe upon any laws, rules, regulations, proprietary or intellectual property rights (including copyrights, trademarks, patents, trade secrets, industrial property rights, personal or moral rights), or any other laws, regulations, or rights whatsoever of any country, person and/or entity;
- (ii) The entry, in whole and in part, is submitted to the Competition by or with the permission of all persons (living or deceased), venues and/or entities who worked on, were engaged to work on, or contributed in any respect to the entry or any part thereof, who are depicted (directly or indirectly) in the entry by name, likeness, voice, image or any other information or indicia of persona, or who otherwise have any right, title and interest in and to the entry or any part thereof (including but not limited to rights arising from a work for hire relationship), and all such persons, venues, and/or entities have provided their written consent to submission of the entry and its use pursuant to the Rules;
- (iii) Entrant has all other rights, licenses, permissions and consents necessary to submit the entry and to grant all of the rights granted to the Sponsor and all Affiliated Third Parties in these Rules, and the exercise thereof by the Sponsor or Affiliated Third Parties and/or the use by them of the rights granted by entrant, in whole or in part, does not and will not give rise to any alleged or actual claims, disputes, actions or liabilities, including but not limited to those for disputes or payment of any kind, including without limitation royalties, residuals, attribution, credit, dues, approval or consultation rights, or any rights of participation, attribution, or any other fees, costs, or expenses, arising out of the submission, use, exhibition and/or any other use or exploitation of the entry, in whole and in part, or the use and the exercise by Affiliated Third Parties of any of the rights granted in these Rules;

(iv) The entry in whole or in part contains no malware, including viruses, trojans, worms, spyware or any other harmful software, code or other devices;

(v) The entry, in whole or in part, uses safeguards and other data masking measures to ensure that the Sponsor or Affiliate Third Parties will not be exposed to any Protected Health Information (as defined under the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) as amended), Sensitive Personal Information (personal data, the loss of which would trigger a data breach notification requirement, and includes, but is not limited to financial information, country identification number (e.g. Social Insurance Number, Social Security Number or other governmentally-issued identification number such as driver's license or passport number, bank account number, credit card or debit card number; and data relating to racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or political opinions or religious, ideological or philosophical beliefs or activities or trade union membership), or other types of sensitive, proprietary or regulated information; and

(vi) Entrants acknowledge that entries may be subject to United States export laws, regardless of location or nationality. Entrants are responsible for compliance with all applicable export controls, including, but not limited to, the United States Department of Commerce's Export Administration Regulations, sanctions programs administered by the United States Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control, and any export laws applicable in Participant's country of residence. Participant further warrants that their entries are authorized for export from the United States under these laws.

By submitting an entry, Entrants agree the Sponsor and Affiliated Third Parties are not responsible for, and shall be indemnified, defended, released and held harmless for/from any claims, actions, disputes or liabilities between an Entrant and any other Entrant, and/or third party or entity relating to the entry, in whole or in part, whether or not they are involved in the Competition.

GENERAL ENTRY CONDITIONS: Once submitted an entry may not be cancelled or deleted, and will not be returned, if applicable. The entry may be displayed, viewed and used by the Competition Administrators and Affiliated Third Parties in whole or in part, as provided herein and by others interested in, involved with, or administering the Competition. Entrants assume all risk of ineligible, damaged, lost, late, incomplete, invalid, incorrect, incompatible, non-functioning, returned, undelivered or misdirected entries, in whole or in part, and such will not be eligible for the Competition. SPONSOR MAKES NO WARRANTY, REPRESENTATION OR GUARANTEE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, IN CONNECTION WITH ITS ABILITY TO IN ANY WAY ENABLE, DEVELOP, MARKET OR PROMOTE THE ENTRANT, THE ENTRY, NOR THE RESEARCH, IDEAS OR DATA EMBODIED OR SET FORTH IN THE ENTRY, IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

Entrants understand, recognize and accept that, without fault of the Sponsor or the Affiliated Third Parties, other persons may have provided one or more of the Sponsor or Affiliated Third Parties, or others, or made public, or may in the future submit, or make public, materials that are the same or similar to Entrant's entry. Further, Entrants and others may have independent access to, may create or have created research plans, data, methodologies, concepts, materials and ideas which may be similar or identical in whole or in part to another entry. Entrants will not now or in the future be entitled to any approval, rights of compensation, or any other payment; unless adjudged and verified a winner pursuant to these Rules, and in such event, subject to the extent of the Award, if any. Eligible Entrants are subject

to final verification of compliance and eligibility by Promotion Entities before being adjudged a potential winner in the Challenge.

Further, Entrants, Eligible Entrants, and winners agree that by participating, submitting an entry and/or receiving the Award in the Challenge does NOT give rise to or in any way create, either express or implied, any employer/employee, joint or co-venture, principle/agent, or any other employment, fiduciary, or other relationship, between them and any one or more of the Sponsor of Affiliated Third Parties, or any other person or entity. The Sponsor and Affiliated Third Parties disclaim all responsibility and liability relating to all of the above; by entering Participants agree to release, indemnify, defend and hold them harmless in all respects thereto.

DISQUALIFICATION: Without limitation, Sponsor reserves the right to immediately disqualify and/or remove at any time (before, during or after the Competition) any entry, Entrant and/or Eligible Entrant for any reason in its reasonable absolute discretion. Without limiting the foregoing, if at any time an entry, Entrant, Eligible Entrant and/or winner is disqualified, rejected, found to be or becomes ineligible at any time during or after the Competition, is non-compliant or in any other respect fails to satisfy any requirement in the Rules (or any subsequent Agreement), in whole or in part, at any stage of the Competition they will be immediately disqualified and not eligible to receive an award and, if applicable, agree to immediately return in full the Award to Sponsor.

Further and without limitation, an Entrant may be disqualified from the Competition immediately if, in Sponsor's (or its authorized representative's) absolute discretion, it reasonably believes the Entrant has, is suspected of, appears to, or has attempted to undermine the legitimate operation of the Competition, is suspected at any time of engaging in artifice, cheating, deception, fraud, using multiple or false identities, engaging in illegal, harmful, dangerous, unsportsmanlike activities, obnoxious behaviour, illegal trade practices, attempts to infringe or violate the intellectual property or any other rights of any other country, person or entity or any other unfair practices, or attempts to annoy, abuse, threaten, harass, or intimidate or cause harm to any other Entrant, the Sponsor or any of the Affiliated Third Parties, or any other person, or cause damage, destruction or loss of property.

GENERAL DATA CONDITIONS: EU Residents Only: For the purposes of this Competition, Participants' personal information and entrant information may be stored and processed on servers outside of the European Economic Area. Entrants and entrants explicitly consent to the transfer of their data collected in connection with participation in the Competition to countries outside the European Economic Area, including the U.S. Entrants acknowledge that these countries may not provide for the same level of data protection as applicable in the EU. However, wherever the Sponsor or its agents process information, they will use their reasonable endeavours to ensure that the information is protected at all times in accordance with strict data protection standards in accordance with the Sponsor's established privacy policy. Entrants have the right to request a copy of the personal information that the Sponsor holds on them and to have any errors in that information corrected.

APPLICATION OF RULES: THESE OFFICIAL RULES SHALL GOVERN THE COMPETITION, AND ANY ELEMENT THEREOF INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ENTRY, PARTICIPATION, COMPLIANCE, VERIFICATION OF ENTRIES/ENTRANTS AND ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE AN AWARD, AND OUR RESPECTIVE OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT THERETO. ANY AND ALL

DETERMINATIONS, INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF THESE RULES IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMPETITION OR ANY ELEMENT THEREOF ARE THE FINAL AND BINDING DECISION OF THE SPONSOR. USE OF ANY WEBSITE, INFORMATION PRACTICES, AND ALL OTHER GENERAL TERMS ARE GOVERNED BY SPONSOR'S TERMS OF USE FOR THE WEBSITE AND/OR PRIVACY POLICY AS APPLICABLE. If any item or provision contained in these Rules or any part thereof is adjudged unenforceable, invalid or illegal for any reason, all other terms and provisions of these Rules shall remain in full force and effect as if these Rules had been executed without the offending provision appearing therein.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: As between the Sponsor and the Entrant, Entrant has and retains all intellectual and proprietary rights in and to the entry that Entrant had at time of initial submission of the entry in the Competition. As a condition of entry, Entrant grants the Sponsor and the Affiliated Third Parties a perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, and non-exclusive license to use, reproduce, publicly perform, publicly display and create a derivative work from, any entry in whole or in part that Entrant submits to this Competition for the purpose of allowing the Sponsor and Affiliated Third Parties to evaluate the entry, and to administer the technical and other requirements of the Competition, as applicable.

PRIVACY AND PUBLICITY: Entrants agree that personal data entered in connection with the Competition may be processed, stored, and otherwise used for the purposes and within the context of the Competition. By participating in the Competition, Entrants agree and consent to the Sponsor and Affiliated Third Parties (and their authorized representatives') use of their name, image, likeness, voice as well as any statements made by Entrants at any time in connection with or regarding the Competition (provided they are true), and general information, in any and all media now known or hereinafter developed (including but not limited to the world wide web, wireless and digital platforms, and the Internet) without additional approval or compensation, unless prohibited by U.S. law. Entrants also understand and agree this data may be used by Sponsor for Award verification, as applicable.

RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION: To the maximum extent permitted by law, Entrants agree to release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless ("release") Sponsor, and all other Affiliated Third Parties, their parents, affiliates, subsidiaries and divisions, and their respective directors, officers, employees and agents ("Released Parties") from and against any and all threatened or actual actions, liabilities, claims, demands, losses, settlements, fines, damages, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorney fees) whether or not litigation is commenced ("dispute") arising at any time from participation in the Competition, the entry (in whole or in part), Competition and/or Award-related activity or inability to participate in or parts thereof, the delivery, acceptance, use, mis-use and/or disbursement of an award or any failure with respect thereto, any personal injuries, death, damage to or destruction of property, breach or infringement of intellectual property or any other rights, breach of publicity or privacy, defamation or portrayal in a false light (whether intentional or unintentional), whether under a theory of contract, tort (including negligence), warranty or other theory, any act, default, omission, non-compliance, and/or a violation or breach of any agreement, representation, warranty or covenant made herein, or any other agreements by/with Entrant, the Sponsor, the Affiliated Third Parties, and/or any other country, party or entity. Further, to the maximum extent permitted by law, and without limiting the foregoing, Entrants agree to release the Released Parties from and against any and all threatened or actual disputes arising at any time directly or indirectly from any dispute brought by any persons or entities (who may be other than a

party to the Rules) arising from or related to any entry (or element thereof), participation and/or involvement in any other respect in the Competition. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, Entrants and winners covenant not to sue any Released Party or cause them to be sued regarding any matter released above; and further covenant not to disaffirm, limit or rescind this release. A waiver by one or more of the Sponsor or Affiliated Third Parties of any term in these Official Rules does not constitute a waiver of any other provision. Headings are provided for convenience only.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY: IN NO EVENT WILL THE RELEASED PARTIES BE RESPONSIBLE OR LIABLE FOR INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, OR PUNITIVE DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF THIS COMPETITION, PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION, ANY COMPETITION RELATED OR AWARD ACTIVITIES OR ELEMENTS THEREOF, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE ENTRY, PARTICIPANT'S ACCESS TO AND USE OF THE PROMOTIONAL WEBSITES OR THE UPLOADING OF MATERIALS IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMPETITION, AND/OR THE AWARD AND ANY ELEMENTS THEREOF.

NETWORKS AND CANCELLATION: The Sponsor and Affiliated Third Parties are not responsible for typographical error; technical, network, computer, digital, telephone, cable, electronic, or hardware or software malfunctions, failures, connections, problems; incompatibility; unavailable, garbled, corrupt, or jumbled transmissions; service provider, Internet, web site, blog site, (in)accessibility, (un)availability, congestion; unauthorized human intervention or security breach; the unauthorized access to, alteration of entries in whole or in part, the incorrect or inaccurate capture or processing of entries, or other information, or the failure to process, collect or communicate any information of whatever nature; electronic errors, omissions, interruptions, deletions, defects, and/or delays; or loss, theft or destruction of any entry, or other Competition related materials or information, in whole or in part. If for any reason the Competition, or any element thereof, is not capable of running as planned, including infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, artifice, fraud, cheating, technical failures, a force majeure event, or any other causes similar or dissimilar which corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of the Competition, or any element thereof, Sponsor reserves the right at its sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Competition in its discretion. Sponsor reserves the right to select only potential winners from eligible, non-suspect Eligible Entrants and their entries received (prior to the force majeure event or otherwise), but only if doing so is deemed reasonably practicable/feasible, fair and equitable in Sponsor's sole determination under the circumstances. Any attempt by any Entrant, directly or indirectly, to deliberately damage any web site or undermine the legitimate operation of the Competition is a violation of U.S. laws and should such an attempt be made, Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify Entrant and seek damages from any such Entrant to the fullest extent of the law.

APPLICATION OF LAW, FORUM AND ARBITRATION: By participating, Entrants agree to the application of the laws of the state of Michigan, without regard to conflict of law principles. To the extent permitted by law, the rights to litigate, seek injunctive relief, or make any other recourse to judicial proceedings in case of any dispute resulting from or in connection with this Competition are hereby excluded, and all Entrants expressly waive any and all such rights. All disputes will be brought before and subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of a neutral one-person ARBITRATION PANEL located in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Entrants agree that Arbitration shall be pursuant to the Michigan Uniform Arbitration Act.