



TAMEST's Innovating Texas Poster Challenge

Prizes include an exclusive breakfast session with Nobel Laureates

Deadline for Entries: November 29, 2019

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

OPPORTUNITY

TAMEST (The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas) invites academic institutions to conduct a poster contest at their campus or otherwise select up to two posters to advance to our statewide poster challenge at our annual conference in Dallas, Texas, January 7–9, 2020.

THE CHALLENGE

The **Innovating Texas Poster Challenge** is for early career (< 10 years) faculty, post-docs and students who are involved in an innovative project working to create a product or technology that is being pursued commercially and has potential for positive impact. The innovation must be university generated and have IP protection (patent disclosure and/or application) pursued within the last five years.

GUIDELINES

Each academic institution will determine and manage their individual specific selection criteria; however, suggested content for the poster submissions include: product and technology descriptions, significance of the proposed innovation and its future impact; market and sales potential; or if newly-commercialized, funding and affiliation.

SELECTION PROCESS

Interested participants should submit their poster session entries to the Office of Commercialization or designated institutional office at each participating academic institution. Each institution collects and reviews poster contest entries and selects up to **two participants** to move forward in the competition. All confirmed poster challenge participants will be invited to **TAMEST's 2020 Annual Conference** at the Fairmont hotel in Dallas, Texas, and will receive complimentary conference registration (\$750 value), which includes:

- All sessions and meals during the conference
- Invitation to the opening reception on **January 7, 2020**, at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science
- Invitation to the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Awards Dinner on **January 8, 2020** (the marquis event during the TAMEST conference, which recognizes rising stars in medicine, engineering, science and technology innovation)
- Opportunity to showcase their research and innovation to more than 200 research and industry leaders during the poster challenge on **January 8, 2020**

Three finalists will be selected to present their innovation to conference attendees in a three- to five-minute presentation on **January 9, 2020**. Awards will be given after the presentations.

PRIZES

In addition to complimentary conference registration, conference meals and special event invitations, selected finalists will receive:

- Dedicated time during an exclusive breakfast session with Nobel Laureates
- Networking opportunities with successful entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, business development experts and distinguished leaders of the Texas research and business community
- Time allocated for pitch to TAMEST conference audience
- Post-event publicity and a recognition certificate

JUDGING

Each poster displayed will be evaluated by several judges during the TAMEST conference. Posters will be judged on the following criteria (these four primary elements should be included in each participant's poster):

- **Product and/or Technology Description and Value Proposition**
- **Innovativeness**
- **Potential Impact on U.S. Economy**
- **Commercial Impact**
- **Innovator/Team Information Including Timeline/History of Product or Technology Development**

TIMELINE

September 16, 2019	Academic institutions distribute poster session challenge information
November 15, 2019	Deadline for prospective participants to submit poster entries to their academic institution
November 29, 2019	Participating academic institutions notify TAMEST of their selected poster challenge participants and provide their contact information (see instructions below)
December 9, 2019	TAMEST contacts poster challenge participants to confirm their conference attendance
January 8, 2020	Poster challenge at the TAMEST conference for all confirmed participants and selection of three finalists to "pitch" their innovations during the final day of the conference.
January 9, 2020	Finalist presentations and awards

POSTER SIZE, SET-UP & SCHEDULE

Displays can be prepared as a single poster or multiple posters, but must fit within the size of the board including space for the assigned board number to be visible. Additional details regarding the poster set-up will be sent to confirmed participants. Additional support elements (tables, additional easels, etc.) are not allowed. A final schedule and additional instructions will be provided to all confirmed semi-finalists, but the tentative schedule for participants is outlined below:

- **Set-up** (all poster challenge participants): Wednesday, January 8, 2020, 7:00 a.m.–8:30 a.m.
- **Poster Challenge** (all poster challenge participants): Wednesday, January 8, 2020 (Specific time TBD but poster viewing will be scheduled to allow all participants to also attend the conference sessions.)
- **Finalists' Presentations** (three finalists): Thursday, January 9, 2020: 9:30 a.m.–10:15 a.m. (times are subject to change)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING POSTER CHALLENGE PARTICIPANTS' INFORMATION

Participating academic institutions will notify TAMEST **by November 29, 2019**, and provide the information outlined below for each participant (**up to two**) invited to compete in the Innovating Texas Poster Challenge:

- Name, title, institutional affiliation, email address and office and cell phone numbers of the contact submitting the poster challenge participants' information
- Name, title, institutional affiliation, email address and office and cell phone numbers of each (up to two) poster challenge participant
- Title of the innovation (12-word limit) and a brief abstract with a description of the innovation (250-word limit) for each participant

Submit information (**SUBJECT LINE: Poster Challenge Entry**) to tamest@austin.utexas.edu.

ABOUT TAMEST

TAMEST is the state's premier scientific organization, bringing together Texas' best and brightest scientists and researchers. We work with Texas-based members of the three National Academies (National Academy of Medicine, National Academy of Engineering and National Academy of Sciences), the Royal Society and the state's 10 Nobel Laureates. For more information about TAMEST, visit tamest.org.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions, please contact TAMEST at 512-471-3823 or tamest@austin.utexas.edu.