



## **WM Symposia Student Guidelines**

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## WM Symposia Student Guidelines

### STUDENT PROGRAM AT WM SYMPOSIA CONFERENCE – OVERVIEW

The WM Symposia (WM) Conference is an excellent opportunity to meet industry professionals and network with other students from around the world with interests and career objectives in waste management.

A few events that encourage student involvement and networking at the conference are:

- Student Scholarship Program
- Student Scholarship Poster Display
- Student Poster Competition
- Next Generation Workforce and Roy G Post Foundation Scholarship Awards & Reception
- Graduating Students and Young Professional Panels
- Women Leaders in Nuclear Panel & Networking Reception
- Technical Session Student Assistant Program
- Intern Poster Sessions
- STEM Zone and STEM Related Sessions
- Career Fair

Business attire is appropriate for all aspects of the conference.

#### Student Registration Category

Full-time students currently enrolled in secondary educational programs pursuing an education in the nuclear life cycle at the time of the conference are eligible to receive the Student Full Technical registration rate.

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

#### Eligibility

- Applicants can be pursuing these types of academic programs: two-year, four-year undergraduate, graduate studies, or accredited alternative education programs, and must still be a full-time student at the time of the upcoming WM conference. Applicants must be in at least their third year of studies (including undergraduate studies), except for applicants in a two-year program or an accredited alternative academic program.
- Applicants must be enrolled or accepted in a program relevant to the nuclear or radwaste industries, such as nuclear engineering, radiation protection, environmental science or engineering, or related fields, as well as business-related fields (i.e. accounting/finance and IT)
- Applicants cannot have previously received a scholarship.
- All eligible applicants will be considered regardless of race, gender, religion, nationality, disability, or any other characteristic.

WM will provide Scholarship winners the following: conference registration, hotel accommodations, stipend and travel reimbursement\*.

**Please note, scholarship recipients are expected to attend the entire conference. Recipients unable to attend the conference, either in whole or in part, must confirm arrangements with WM Symposia. Please do not complete your registration until after you are notified of acceptance.**

*\* Please refer to the Housing and Travel Reimbursement section in this document.*

#### Abstract

If a student is selected as a scholarship recipient, they are required to present a poster describing their



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work/research during the conference's Sunday evening Opening Reception. Students who do not receive a scholarship will have their abstracts considered for the Student Poster Competition held on the Monday afternoon of the conference. Students not receiving a scholarship will be considered for the Student Poster Competition. Please refer to the Student Poster Competition section for details on how to submit your abstract. Please note, student's are responsible for printing expenses for either poster display.

### Scholarship Selection Criteria

The following criteria are used in evaluating scholarship applications: GPA, extracurricular activities, involvement in the industry, financial need, research activities, and letters of reference.

### How to Apply for a Scholarship

1. **Log-in to your WM Symposia account.**

Log-In using your existing User ID and password or create a new WM account by visiting [www.wmsym.org](http://www.wmsym.org) and clicking the "Log-in Here" button on the homepage. Retain your User ID and password once created.

2. **Complete the online application.**

Click the 'WM20XX Post Foundation Scholarship Application' button on your profile homepage. You will be able to return to the application to make updates as frequently as desired until you submit your application.

3. **Ensure two (2) letters of reference are provided by the deadline.**

After completing the online application, please ask your two (2) references to email their letters of reference to Meg Pratt, [mpratt@wmsym.org](mailto:mpratt@wmsym.org) by **the scholarship submission deadline**. The reference form may be downloaded on the scholarship application form.

4. **Submit a student abstract by the deadline.**

Please refer to the Student Poster Competition section below for details on how to submit your abstract.

**All forms and supporting documentation, including two (2) letters of reference and abstract, must be submitted by the deadline. Failure to do so, will automatically disqualify the applicant.**

### STUDENT POSTER COMPETITION

The Student Poster Competition is designed for students of WM to highlight their research in the nuclear life cycle.

#### Eligibility

- Full-time students currently enrolled in secondary educational programs pursuing an education in the nuclear life cycle and under the age of 35 at the time of the conference, are eligible to apply;
- Student submits an abstract summary of their work by **the deadline**; and
- Students that have not presented a poster as an undergraduate student no more than two times at a previous conference or a graduate student no more than two times at a previous conference.

#### Benefits & Awards

There will be **two categories** in the Student Poster Competition; Undergraduate and Graduate.

Qualified students presenting a student poster in the competition will receive complimentary conference registration and hotel accommodations\*.



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\* Please refer to the Housing and Travel Reimbursement section in this document.

### Student Poster Deadline

Abstracts must be received **by the deadline**. Late submissions may not be considered. We will notify you of acceptance once submissions are reviewed. If you applied for a scholarship, you will not be notified until after the scholarships have been awarded. **Please do not complete your registration until after you are notified of acceptance.**

If you choose to submit a paper, please follow Author's deadlines for Draft/Final Papers, Copyrights, Posters listed in the Important Dates on our Website.

**\*PLEASE NOTE: THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF SPACES AVAILABLE FOR THE STUDENT POSTER COMPETITION, NOT ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

### How to Submit an Abstract for Student Poster Competition

- 1. Log-in using your existing User ID and password or create a new WM Log-in** by clicking the "Log-in Here" button on the homepage. Retain your User ID and password, once created.
- 2. Submit your abstract**  
After logging in, click the 'Submit/Manage an Abstract button' to submit your abstract prior to the deadline. Follow the instructions on the Abstract Submission Page to complete your abstract. **(Please choose both Track 10 and Topic 10.04 for the Student Poster Competition). Please select "Yes, I am a full-time student and would like to be considered for the Student Poster Competition" and then choose if you are an undergraduate or a graduate student. Please note, this submission will only be considered for the Poster Competition. If you are interested in presenting in the technical program, you will need to submit a second, separate abstract. Please email [lparenti@wmsym.org](mailto:lparenti@wmsym.org) if you have any questions.**
- 3. Submit your paper (optional) to be included in the post conference proceedings**  
When your Abstract is accepted, you may submit a full-length paper. A full-length paper is required for the paper to be published in the post conference proceedings. The paper needs to follow the WM Paper Preparation Instructions (Form WM48), available on our website under the Presenters tab. Papers will be reviewed by a WM Paper Reviewer and if requested, papers must be revised according to the designated paper reviewer's instructions.
- 4. Complete the copyright release forms**  
*Copyright Release Form for the abstract/poster:* Each author listed on the abstract needs to sign the Copyright Release Form electronically by clicking the "Submit/Manage button on the profile home page. You will then see a Copyright button with your abstract. Posters will not be published without a signed copyright.
- 5. Create your poster**
  - There are no requirements for the software you use to create your poster.
    - One black framed poster board (91" X 44" high) will be provided. (with push pins)
    - The poster title/authors/affiliations must be included at the top of the poster
- 6. Submit your poster presentation file to be displayed in the post conference proceedings (optional) by the final deadline for Posters**  
Submit your poster file through your Profile homepage where you submitted your initial abstract.

### Poster Judging Criteria

Poster presentations must be clear, concise, important, relevant and eye-catching.



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Below are the general presentation criteria used while judging the Student Poster Competition:

Criteria	
Overall visual appearance and legibility	(Max. 25 points)
Purpose of presentation is stated	(Max. 5 points)
Conclusions of presentation are stated	(Max. 5 points)
Significance or benefits are stated	(Max. 5 points)
Technical content – <i>is the content presented in a clear and understandable format?</i>	(Max. 35 points)
Presenter's quality and effectiveness in explaining the presentation and answering questions	(Max. 25 points)

### Printing Options

Shepard Exposition offers Poster Printing Services with convenient pick-up on the Show Floor. You will be emailed information on this upon acceptance. Please ensure that your full address is in your profile.

There are also two UPS Store locations adjacent to the Phoenix Convention Center. Please contact them or visit their website for hours and ordering details. [www.upsstoreprint.com](http://www.upsstoreprint.com)

**Please note that you are responsible for arranging your poster printing and all printing costs.**

**WM Symposia recommends you attend the following events:**

### STEM

WM Symposia is devoted to fostering science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) engagement as a pathway to energize young minds. To develop and maintain a pipeline that delivers our future workforce, we must work together to support STEM initiatives for younger students. WM2027 will feature activities highlighting STEM throughout the conference week including interactive panels, a teacher workshop, a STEM Zone in the Exhibit Hall and much more for you to participate in and support.

**STEM ZONE** | This featured space in the exhibit hall will showcase a wide variety of STEM resources. Sponsored by TradeWind.

**STEM SCAVENGER HUNT** | Each Scavenger Hunt participant receives a map of the Exhibit Hall with the booths marked that are giving away the scavenger hunt items. WM2027 attendees can visit the booths of the participating exhibitors to collect STEM-related items in the STEM bag to be donated to local area schools. Sponsored by Sigma Science.

### SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS' POSTER DISPLAY

Scholarship winners will have the unique opportunity of displaying posters describing their work/research during the Sunday welcome reception. This is a great opportunity for scholarship winners to display their current research to over 3,000 attendees.

### NEXT GENERATION WORKFORCE AND ROY G. POST FOUNDATION AWARDS & RECEPTION

This event is designed to recognize the current year's scholarship recipients and designate networking time for the next generation. All students, young professionals, and other conference attendees are welcome to attend. It is a great opportunity for established professionals in the industry to meet with students & young professional attendees to share ideas and vision of the industry.



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### YOUNG PROFESSIONAL PANEL SESSIONS

During these panel sessions, the employers, the new hires and early career professionals are encouraged to have open communications and transfer knowledge to the future leaders of the nuclear waste industry. These panels are part of the Technical Program sessions.

### WOMEN LEADERS IN NUCLEAR PANEL & NETWORKING RECEPTION

Anyone interested in diversity in our industry should attend the Women Leaders in Nuclear (formerly Women of Waste Management) Panel & Networking Reception. This program consists of a panel of leading women from diverse background to share their ideas on how female leadership is increasing in today's dynamic, communication-rich environment. A networking reception will follow the panel conclusion. Sponsored by Fluor.

### CAREER FAIR

WM Symposia is hosting a Career Fair for the Department of Energy (DOE), DOE contractors, and related businesses/companies attending WM2027. This event will only have LIVE features.

### TECHNICAL PROGRAM STUDENT ASSISTANTS

Technical Program Student Assistants help Session Co-Chairs run a smooth session. Students will be assigned sessions based on preferred topic and availability.

#### Duties & Responsibilities:

- Attend the **mandatory** Student Assistant Training session on Sunday prior to the conference at the Phoenix Convention Center. This training session is required to work as a Student Assistant during the Conference.
- Attend the Presenter's Breakfast each day of the session that you sign up for. You must sign in and attend the breakfast to meet and discuss your role in the session with the Session Co-chair(s).
- Assist Session Co-Chairs run a smooth session by helping set-up the timer for the speaker, operating lights in the session room, making sure that the laser pointer is working, etc.
- Help to refresh head tables in between sessions (add water, table tents, etc.)
- Gather the completed Session Co-Chair form(s) from each Co-Chair (Form WM56 for Panel sessions and Form WM57 for Oral sessions) at the conclusion of each session. Input the completed Oral Session Co-Chair form(s) online at [www.wmsym.org](http://www.wmsym.org). Please see instructions on how to input the completed Session Co-chair form(s) below.
- If you assist in a Panel Session, you won't need to input the Session Co-Chair form online. Please gather the completed Session Co-Chair form(s) from each Co-Chair and return it to the Presenter and Co-chair Information room.
- Complete the Student Technical Session form for each session you are an assistant for. You must obtain the signature of one of the Session Co-Chairs after the session has ended.
- Submit the completed Session Co-Chair forms that have been inputted online to the WM database and the Student Technical Session form to WM staff. Please keep the Student Technical Session form to claim your payment at the end of the session day. [How to input completed Oral Session Co-Chair form online](#)

#### Payment



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Students will receive \$25 cash for their assistance in each session. Payment can be collected at the end of the session day if all necessary forms have been submitted to WM staff. If you are unable to pick up your payment by the end of Thursday at the Conference, payment will be forfeited.

### Eligibility & How to Apply

- Any full-time student attending the WM conference is eligible to apply for this position.
- Once the schedule has been created, students may sign up by emailing [iparenti@wmsym.org](mailto:iparenti@wmsym.org) with the session of interest. The sign-up process is on a first come-first-serve basis.

## COMPLIMENTARY STUDENT HOUSING

### Eligibility

- Students participating in the Student Poster Competition.
- Students receiving a Scholarship.
- Students participating in a Technical Program session **may be** eligible to receive complimentary housing. Please email your request to [iparenti@wmsym.org](mailto:iparenti@wmsym.org).

Please note, WM has a limited number of student rooms. Submit your request for complimentary student housing by the deadline. Requests received after the deadline are not guaranteed a room.

### Costs covered by WM Symposia

WM will pay for a hotel room and tax for up to 5 nights. WM is not responsible for student's incidentals (such as food, transportation, activities, dry cleaning, etc.). Earliest arrival date and latest departure date are on the form. No pre-and/or post-extensions charges will be paid by WM.

Complimentary housing is available for students participating in the Student Poster Competition. This does not include housing for their guest(s). Students will share a room with another student in the Student Poster Competition. A credit card is required to guarantee your reservation and again upon check-in for any hotel room incidentals.

### How to Apply

1. **Complete your WM Conference registration process online at [www.wmsym.org](http://www.wmsym.org).** Please be sure to apply the student discount code (Scholarship Recipients/Student Poster Competition Participants) sent to you before you process your payment. If you are unsure of the code, please email Meg Pratt [mpratt@wmsym.org](mailto:mpratt@wmsym.org).
2. **Complete the Electronic Student Housing Request Form** A link will be sent to you in your scholarship acceptance email or poster competition acceptance email.

## SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

### Eligibility

Scholarship recipients are eligible to receive travel reimbursement to attend the WM Conference.

### Costs covered by WM:

- Roundtrip airfare to and from scholarship winner's home airport.
- Additional airfare expenses (baggage fees, early check-in, meals, etc.) will not be reimbursed.
  - Students must provide a receipt for airline fees or reimbursement will not be made.
  - **If a student is traveling to/from an airport other than their home airport, then an airfare quote comparison needs to be sent to WM and approved by WM before booking.**



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- If a student is extending their travel beyond the conference dates, then an airfare quote comparison needs to be sent to WM and **approved by WM before booking**.
- Each scholarship recipient traveling to the conference, will receive a one-time stipend to be used to cover meals, transportation to and from airports/hotel, baggage fees, other incidentals etc. **No additional incidentals will be reimbursed.** Lunches and receptions are included in the student conference registration. Breakfast may be provided by the hotel depending on the student housing location.
- **ONLY For Arizona Resident Scholarship Recipients**; should you choose to rent a car to travel to/from Phoenix, WM will reimburse you for the rental car cost to/from your home. A quote from the rental car company **must be approved by WM before booking the car**. Please send quote to Meg Pratt, [mpratt@wmsym.org](mailto:mpratt@wmsym.org)

### **How to submit your Travel Reimbursement Form**

Please submit your Travel Reimbursement Form electronically along with your travel invoice. A link to where to find the forms and how to submit them will be included in your scholarship acceptance email.