



## Innovating Texas Poster Challenge

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

### OPPORTUNITY

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

### THE CHALLENGE

The **Innovating Texas Poster Challenge** is for 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 IP and have been licensed within the last 5 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 semi-finalists** to move forward in the competition. All semi-finalists 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 access to:

- all sessions and meals during the conference
- the opening reception on **January 7, 2020** at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science,
- 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)
- showcase their research and innovation to more than 200 research and industry leaders during the poster session 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, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place contestants will receive:

- Cash prizes\*
  - Exclusive lunch with Nobel Laureates
  - Dedicated time for networking 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. (\*Each prize recipient will be required to complete a W9 Form at the time payment is awarded during the conference.)

## 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

<b>September 4, 2019</b>	Academic institutions distribute poster session challenge information
<b>November 6, 2019</b>	Deadline for prospective participants to submit poster entries to their academic institution
<b>November 29, 2019</b>	Participating academic institutions notify TAMEST of their semi-finalists selected for the competition and provide contestant information
<b>December 9, 2019</b>	TAMEST contacts semi-finalists to confirm conference attendance and participation
<b>January 8, 2020</b>	Poster contest at the TAMEST conference for all semi-finalists. Three finalists to "pitch" their innovations during the final day of the conference.
<b>January 9, 2020</b>	Finalist presentations; First, second and third place recipients chosen.

## POSTER SIZE, SET-UP & SCHEDULE

Posters should be no more than **8' wide x 4' tall**. 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 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 general schedule for participants is outlined below:

**Set-up** (All semi-finalists): Wednesday, January 8, 2020: 8:00 am – 10:00 am

**Poster Contest** (All semi-finalists): Wednesday, January 8, 2020: 9:45 am – 10:45 am; 12:45 pm – 1:15 pm; 2:45 pm – 3:15 pm

**Finalists' Presentations** (Three finalists): Thursday, January 9, 2020: 9:15 am – 10:00 am

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING SEMI-FINALISTS' INFORMATION

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

- Name, title, email address, phone number, institutional affiliation for the contact submitting semi-finalist(s) information
- Name, title, email address, phone number, institutional affiliation for each semi-finalist
- Title of the innovation (12-word limit) and a brief abstract with a description of the innovation (250-word limit) for each semi-finalist

Submit information to: [tamest@austin.utexas.edu](mailto: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. [tamest.org](http://tamest.org)