

IGS Student Paper Contest 2025

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Rules and Regulations

Overview

The IGS Student Paper Contest 2025 is an academic competition held as part of the **International Geomechanics Conference 2025** to recognize outstanding student research in Geomechanics. The contest aims to highlight research contributions aligned with the evolving energy landscape, especially within the conference theme:

“Geomechanics’ Role in the Era of Energy Diversification.”

The contest consists of two phases:

1. **Abstract Submission**
2. **Presentation Rounds** (Online and In-Person)

Students will compete in two academic categories: **Undergraduate** and **Graduate**, each judged independently.

Entry Requirements

1. Open to all **currently** enrolled **undergraduate and graduate students**.
2. Each participant is allowed to submit **only one abstract**.
3. The topic must be related to **Geomechanics**, and should reflect innovation, technical rigor, and relevance to energy challenges.
4. Submissions must list the student as the primary (first) author and sole presenter.
5. Up to two additional contributors (e.g., supervisor, co-advisor) may be listed as co-authors to acknowledge their guidance or support.
6. All submissions must reflect original work. Plagiarism or data fabrication will result in immediate disqualification. The organizing committee reserves the right to verify authorship and originality.
7. The research must be student-led, and only the student will present and compete in the contest.
8. The research:
 - May be part of academic work (e.g., course project, thesis).
 - Must **not** be previously presented or accepted for publication in any conference or journal.
9. Abstracts must be submitted through <https://forms.gle/vsJguNH622ZMTcvR6>

Abstract Guidelines

- **Length:** 300–350 words maximum.
- Should clearly summarize:
 - Background and motivation
 - Methodology
 - Key results
 - Conclusions and implications
- Must be original, well-organized, and technically sound.

Dual Submissions and Best Student Paper Award

1. Each student may submit one abstract to the **Student Paper Contest (SPC)** – kindly note that this is different from your abstract submission to the **IGS program** which could be considered for the **Best Student Paper Award**.
2. If the eligibility criteria are met, and a student wins the Best Student Paper Award based on their IGS submission, they may still be eligible to receive a prize in the SPC, provided the SPC submission is a different abstract. In other words, a single abstract cannot be awarded a prize in both the Student Paper Contest and Best Student Paper.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Relevance to geomechanics, energy, and the conference theme
- Innovation and novelty
- Technical clarity
- Organization and writing quality

Presentation Phase

Online Round

- Shortlisted students will present their work in an online session.
- Top **6 students from each academic level** will advance to the final round.

Final Round (In-Person)

- Date: **November 17, 2025**
- Location: **Dhahran, Saudi Arabia**
- Format:
 - **Morning:** Presentations before a panel of judges
 - **Afternoon:** Award Ceremony

- All presentations will be evaluated by a panel of experts from academia and industry, selected by the organizing committee.
- The **Top 3 students** from each academic level will be recognized during the final round.

Travel Support

- Finalists can apply for a financial grant. The IGS student support committee will review all applicants, and selected students will receive up to USD 500 to assist with travel and personal expenses. Selected students can collect this amount on day 1 of the conference (in-person).

Presentation Guidelines:

- Max duration: **20 minutes**, followed by a short Q&A.
- Evaluation Criteria:
 - Relevance and importance of the topic
 - Technical content and accuracy
 - Presentation clarity and structure
 - Audience engagement and Q&A responses

Awards

- The **Top 3 students** from each academic level will be recognized during the final round.
- Winners will receive official certificates, monetary prizes (amounts to be announced) and event recognition.

