



MedPhys Slam: Rules & Judging Criteria

Who is Eligible?

Individuals must be current Student, Junior, or Resident members of AAPM or COMP at the time of the 2026 Joint AAPM/COMP Annual Meeting. Individuals involved in planning the final MedPhys Slam competition are not eligible. Presentations must be based on your own, original research. Finalists and winners of the AAPM MedPhys Slam or COMP S3 from previous years are eligible to compete provided they still meet all eligibility requirements as a new participant and present **new**, original research.

How do I Enter?

Contact your local AAPM chapter to inquire about a preliminary competition. Each AAPM Chapter will be holding a separate preliminary competition. It is the responsibility of participants to confirm if their chapter will be holding a preliminary competition.

If you are a COMP member or an international applicant, your preliminary competition will be hosted virtually. Additionally, if your AAPM chapter is not hosting a preliminary competition, you may submit to the international 'non-chapter' competition. You may submit your pre-recorded presentation to the following google forms:

- COMP: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfIJ8H_nsNzzCwJ4watStwSPV2YWqWYmr_tkwvaFtf1d_J6YA/viewform?usp=dialog
- International 'non-chapter': <https://forms.gle/Ntz2S8qZh4CopBwG8>

Final Live Presentation Rules

- The presenter's contribution to the project must be salient and clearly specified
- Timing will commence from the moment the contestant starts talking. Three (3) minutes are permitted. If the contestant goes over three minutes, a time penalty will be applied.
- Visuals
 - Maximum of 3 slides, not including title slide generated by STSC
 - PowerPoint slides allowed but optional; no Prezi or other presentation formats
 - Slide material cannot be created by a professional
 - No embedded audio and/or video clips
 - No gifs, animations, or slide transitions
- No additional props are permitted, including but not limited to notes, laser pointers, costumes, musical instruments, and laboratory equipment
- Presentations must be given in English and spoken word presentations (e.g. poems, rap, or song) are not permitted
- Presenters must remain on stage for the duration of their presentation

Videotaping

The 2026 Joint AAPM/COMP Annual Meeting MedPhys Slam live event will be photographed and videotaped. By entering the contest, you agree to allow the AAPM/COMP to use the resulting photographs and/or video, which may include your image or presentation, in publicity surrounding the contest and/or in other contexts, such as websites, promotional materials, etc.

Direct all questions to the MedPhys Slam team (MedPhys.Slam@gmail.com)



Judging Criteria

Comprehension/Content:

- Did the presentation clearly identify the research question/topic being addressed and its significance? /10
- Did the presentation help the audience understand the research? /10
- Did the presenter clearly outline the nature and aims of research? /10
- Did the presenter clearly indicate what was significant about this research, and how their individual work advances the area of research? /10
- Did the presentation follow a logical sequence? /10

Communication:

- Was the thesis topic communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience? /10
- Did the speaker use sufficient eye contact and vocal range, and maintain a steady pace? /10
- Did the speaker avoid scientific jargon, explain terminology, and provide adequate background information to illustrate points? /10
- Did the presenter spend the right amount of time on each element of the presentation – did the presenter elaborate for too long or rush? /10
- Did the slides enhance, rather than detract from, the presentation; was it clear, legible, and concise? /10

Engagement:

- Did the presentation make the audience want to know more? /10
- Was the presenter careful not to trivialize or 'dumb down' the research? /10
- Did the presenter convey enthusiasm for the research? /10
- Did the presenter capture and maintain their audience's attention? /10
- Would the audience want to know more about the speaker's research? /10

Deductions

Visuals

- 10 point deduction for use of Prezi or presentation formats beyond PowerPoint
- 10 point deduction per extra slide
- 10 point deduction for material created by a professional
- 10 point deduction for embedded audio and/or video clips
- 10 point deduction for gifs, animations, or slide transitions

Delivery

- 10 point deduction for use of additional props including but not limited to laser pointers, costumes, musical instruments, and laboratory equipment
- 10 point deduction for the use of notes
- 10 point deduction for presentations not spoken in English.
- 10 point deduction for presentations utilizing spoken word (e.g. poems, raps, or songs)
- 10 point deduction for presenters that leave the stage the presentation

Timing

- 5 point deduction for presentations overtime by 0-5 seconds
- 10 deduction for presentations overtime by 5-10 seconds
- Additional 5 point deduction per 5 second thereafter