



# 2024 SUPER ANALYTICS CHALLENGE

MODELED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH



The **University of Pittsburgh Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business**, in partnership with **Duquesne University**, **West Virginia University**, **Carnegie Mellon University**, and **Penn State University**, is seeking graduate students to join the 2024 Super Analytics Challenge.

This is an opportunity for graduate students to create data-driven solutions addressing real challenges faced by communities throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. Teams will consist of members from multiple universities, harnessing their skills and experiences in tandem with expert partners (corporate, government and NGOs) to apply data analytics to generate implementable ideas on how to address a complex societal issue. A selection of those ideas will then be brought to life through impactful fellowships.

## What is the Super Analytics Challenge?

- 1 Hackathon-styled competition** over a three-week time frame, concluding with a judging panel.
- Students also could participate in **professional development opportunities** on topics such as team building, storytelling, analytics tools, and the consulting process.
- 10 teams of five graduate students will **compete to deliver data-driven ideas on how to address the issue**.
- Teams will be aided by experts** in data analytics, executive coaches, and community leaders.
- Teams will present their solutions** across three judging phases: Problem Framing, Data Analysis, and a final presentation.

## Who can participate?


This challenge is ideal for any current graduate student with a desire to gain experience or skills in problem-solving, analytics and modeling, data management, storytelling, or non-profit work.

## Student Expectations

Applicants must commit to being involved with a community-based project and working together with this enriched opportunity to create solutions. Participation has a time investment of about **40 to 50 hours overall for the three-week time frame in January and February 2024**. Each student's strengths and experiences will be considered when formulating teams to ensure a balanced level of expertise for the challenge.

## Benefits for Students:

- Network with senior executives, technology experts, community leaders, and graduate students from four other universities. Learn from a variety of Fortune 500 executives and representatives from national and local community organizations.
- Hone analytical, leadership, and strategy skills.
- Receive more training opportunities with rich 1x1 coaching and input sessions.
- Be recognized for your participation in the Challenge with a completion certificate for your resume and professional reflection.
- Outstanding individuals are invited to apply for a Bridge Program fellowship to further implement your solution idea — to further work with Advisory Committee executives.
- The winning team of students receives fellowship funding to implement their idea through the Bridge Program.

 Scan for more information.  
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 Applications for the will open **Nov. 2023**  
**Challenge Kick Off Jan./Feb. 2024**



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# FAQs



## Who can participate in the Super Analytics Challenge?

The Super Analytics Challenge is open to graduate students at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, Duquesne University, Penn State University, and West Virginia University.

### To be eligible, students must:

- Complete the online application (opens November 2023)
- Provide a current resume in PDF form
- Briefly describe your interest in participating focused on the current year's social challenge and any related business skills (i.e., problem-solving, analytics and modeling, data management, etc.)

## What is the Super Analytics Challenge timeline?\*

*Applications Open:* November 2023

*Applications Due:* December 2023

*Teams Formed & Students Notified:* December 2023

*Challenge Launches:* Mid-January 2024

*Challenge Ends:* Mid-February 2024

Primarily, the Challenge takes place from January 2024 to February 2024.

## How many people will be selected to participate?

Fifty graduate students will be selected to participate and placed into 10 teams of five.

## How will teams be formed?

Teams will be formed by a committee representing all universities participating in the Challenge. Teams will include members from across the five institutions. The committee will also consider the functional area expertise and skill sets of its members, including their knowledge of the challenge topic, data and technical skills, and storytelling abilities, to build teams that are diverse and well-equipped.

## What is the time commitment for students who participate in the 2024 Super Analytics Challenge?

Participation is a time investment of approximately 40 to 50 hours over the course of four weeks.

- ~ 5 hours per week during the pre-challenge phase
- ~ 15 hours for the discovery phase
- ~ 25 hours for the actual Challenge week

## Will the Challenge take place virtually or in person?

The Challenge finale, tentatively scheduled for **Friday, February 16**, will take place in person at the University of Pittsburgh. More details will be shared at a later date. All other Challenge events will be held virtually or have the ability to be accessed virtually.

## Is there compensation for participating?

This is an application-based program whereas any participation is voluntary. Fellowships may be awarded to student teams to continue their projects after the Challenge. Details will be communicated to student participants who qualify for the awards.

\*Specific dates to be announced as we get closer to the application period.