

EY Open Science AI and Data Challenge
Terms and Conditions
Last updated November 2024

ORGANIZERS OF THE COMPETITION

The EY Open Science AI and Data Challenge 2025 (the **Competition**) is conducted by EYGS LLP of 1 More London Place, London, SE1 2AF (the **Organizer**).

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and the Organizer do not provide services to clients.

EY Firm means a member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited.

1. ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER

The Competition is open to individuals or teams of up to a maximum of three people who are either: (a) university students with less than five years of professional experience or (b) early career professionals with less than five years of professional experience. These Terms and Conditions apply to such individuals and teams. A different challenge is open to individuals and teams who are employed by an EY Firm and separate terms apply to such individuals and teams.

Participants must also meet the following conditions to be eligible to enter the Competition:

- You fall into one of the categories below:
 - o You are currently enrolled in a university academic program and have less than five years of professional experience, excluding internships.
 - o If you have already graduated from a university, you must have less than five years of professional experience, excluding internships.
 - o If you have not attended a university, you must have less than five years of professional experience, excluding internships.
- You are proficient in English. All of the Competition materials and the support will be delivered in English and, in the case of you becoming a Global Semifinalist (as defined below), you will need to submit your work in English.
- You are of legal age required by law in your country of residence to enter the Competition.
- Previous winners of comparable competitions run in prior years are permitted to participate in this year's Competition but will not be eligible to win a prize.
- You don't currently work at EY.
- You are not currently employed by, or function in an executive or decision-making role with, any EY audit client or an entity affiliated with an EY audit client.
- You are not a family member of any of the judges (see section 3., "Competition Details") of this Competition.
- You are not resident in any of the following countries, regions or cities: Iran, Cuba, Syria, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Crimea region, Luhansk, Donetsk, Russia or Belarus.

Additional country conditions may also apply. See section 5., "Local Competitions."

Please note that your participation and award of any prizes may be subject to restrictions in your local country or subject to further terms and conditions and cannot be guaranteed by the Organizer. Prizes may be awarded by the Organizer or an EY Firm. The Organizer may vary prizes and awards at the Organizer's sole discretion and section 4., "Prizes and Awards" is subject to this.

2. INDEPENDENCE CONFIRMATION

By entering this Competition, you confirm to the Organizer that, to the best of your knowledge and belief, you, as an individual, do not serve as a director, officer, broker-/dealer, promoter, underwriter, general partner, voting trust in any capacity equivalent to a member of management or an employee of any audit client of EY, nor are you a direct or indirect substantial (5% or greater) equity owner¹ (or otherwise with control) of any audit client of EY. You also confirm that this status will not change during your participation in the Competition. If your status should change, you may be removed from participating in the Competition immediately without notice and at the Organizer's sole discretion. You confirm to the Organizer that the aforementioned statement is correct to the best of your knowledge and belief, and you will notify the Organizer of any exceptions to such whether you are aware or become aware of such exceptions before, during or after the Competition by contacting the Organizer at datachallenge@ey.com.

3. COMPETITION DETAILS

Platform registration and enrollment in the Competition

You will access the Competition via <https://challenge.ey.com/> (the **Platform**).
You will create an account on the Platform by completing the information required.

Each individual participant or team of participants (**Participants** or **you** or **your**) may be required to provide additional material supporting their submissions upon request by the Organizer, during the Competition or up to two months after the Competition has ended.

Participants will be given certain datasets (or be given instructions to access such datasets on publicly available sites) and will be asked to use those datasets to build a machine learning or artificial intelligence model to identify urban heating intensity at specific locations in the New York City area. The Competition objective is to build a machine learning and artificial intelligence model that identifies urban heating locations and their severity (the **Competition Objective**).

Global Finalists (as defined below) will be asked to develop a practical "business plan" that describes how the model could be applied by local beneficiaries to assess urban heating and their vision for expanded datasets and analyses.

Competition

The Competition opens on 20 January 2025 at 10:00 (UTC) and closes on 20 March 2025 at 15:00 (UTC), whereupon it shall end. Any submissions made after the date and time the Competition ends shall not be counted or eligible for evaluation or eligible to win any prizes as set out under the section 4 **"Prizes and Awards."**

Full details of the Competition, and the corresponding data sets and scoring process, will be published on the Platform at the start of the Competition Period.

Your submissions shall be uploaded onto the Platform during the Competition period. Each Participant is permitted to provide up to (but no more than) five submissions per day. The last and most up-to-date

¹ A person shall be deemed a "substantial equity owner" of an entity if they (i) are a general partner in such entity, if such entity is a limited partnership; (ii) hold a 5% or more direct or indirect equity interest in (or the power, by contract or other relationship, to direct the affairs or management of) such entity, if such entity is publicly traded; (iii) or hold a 20% or more direct or indirect equity interest in (or the power, by contract or other relationship, to direct the affairs or management of) such entity, if such entity is privately held.

submission that you upload to the Platform will be considered your final submission, to the Competition.

Participant and winner selection process

Once the deadline to submit entries to the Competition ends, the Organizer will select the top ten Participants based on the model accuracy and design in achieving Competition Objective (the **Prospective Global Semifinalists**).

The Organizer will conduct eligibility screening of the Prospective Global Semifinalists to confirm their eligibility to proceed further in the Competition and will ask them to submit documentation to support their final submitted solution on the Platform, consisting of:

1. the code and model used in the submission;
2. a document to describe the model development approach; and
3. a curriculum vitae (CV) of the individual or each individual who is part of a team, as relevant

Prospective Global Semifinalists must submit the requested documentation before 30 March 2025. Information on how such documentation should be submitted to the Organizer will be communicated by the Organizer to the Prospective Global Semifinalists via email.

From the pool of Global Semifinalists who pass the eligibility screening stage, the top 5 Participants based on model accuracy and design in achieving Competition Objective will be selected (the **Global Finalists**). The Global Finalists will be asked to prepare a business case that describes how the model developed by them could be used by local beneficiaries to assess urban heating and their vision for expanded datasets and analyses.

The Organizer will ask the Global Finalists to submit a **Content Package** including the following materials:

1. a business plan document, following a specific template format, not to exceed 3 pages, summarizing the individual's or team's solution, benefits and practical deployment plan; and
2. a short video (less than 5 minutes) explaining the individual's or team's solution and how the model developed could be practically applied by local beneficiaries to assess urban heating and their vision for expanded datasets and analyses.

Global Finalists must submit the Content Package before 04 May 2025. Information about how such Content Package should be submitted to the Organizer will be communicated by the Organizer via email to the Global Finalists when announcing who they are.

Global Finalists models and the Content Package will then be evaluated by a judging panel, who will choose a **Global Winner and a Runner-Up**. The entries of the five Global Finalists will be evaluated based on the following selection criteria:

Critical thinking

- Demonstrated understanding of the end user and their problem
- Demonstrated creative problem-solving
- Design decisions are reasoned and clear
- Robust interpretation of results

Methodology

- Methodology not unnecessarily complicated (e.g., no redundant steps)
- Appropriate development of a training data set
- Appropriate use of feature and object engineering
- Appropriate use of validation approaches and accuracy calculations
- Explored use of data from other sources (in business plan)

Communication

- Compelling storytelling (e.g., narrative and visuals used to demonstrate impact)
- Clearly explained the approach
- Demonstrated understanding of real-world impact, including risks and benefits

The judging panel will select a winner of the Competition and runner-up using the selection criteria. The winning Participant shall be called the **Global Winner**. The Participant who places second shall be called the **Runner-Up**.

The Organizer reserves the right at any time to alter the number of submissions that will be reviewed by the judging panel to make the process of selecting the Global Winner and Runner-Up as fair as possible.

4. PRIZES AND AWARDS

The Global Winner and the Runner-Up will be invited to attend an awards ceremony either taking place physically in a location to be determined or virtually (the **Awards Experience**). This Awards Experience will take place between May-July 2025.

The Awards Experience may be subject to your acceptance of further terms and conditions that relate to the Awards Experience which shall be communicated to you in advance of the Awards Experience.

If relevant, travel and subsistence expenses will be covered in accordance with local travel expense policy rules. However, we recommend securing necessary travel documents in advance (e.g., a passport and a visa may be required for citizens outside of the EU). The date of the Awards Experience, and details of how to join, will be announced before 15 May 2025.

The Global Winner and Runner-Up will receive the following monetary prizes:

- The team or individual placing first (Global Winner) will receive US\$10,000.
- The team or individual placing second (Runner-Up) will receive US\$3,000.

The Global Winner will receive a personalized certificate stating that they are the Global Winner. The Runner-Up will receive a personalized certificate stating that they are a Runner-Up. The Global Finalists and Global Semifinalists will receive a personalized certificate stating that they are Global Finalists and Global Semifinalists, respectively. All Participants who successfully complete the Competition and achieve a minimum accuracy level, as defined by the Organizer, will receive a personalized certificate stating their successful completion of the Competition.

Participants can receive no more than one certificate each. Certificates are electronic.

All prize money will be paid directly to the winning individual's bank account by the EY Firm based in the country that the relevant individual is resident in. If required under local legislation, the money will be paid net of any and all applicable taxes. Prize winners should also consider whether the receipt of a cash prize has any tax impact from a personal perspective.

If the Global Winner or Runner-Up is a team (i.e., more than one person), monetary prizes will be shared equally among each individual team member and will be paid directly to each individual's bank account by the EY Firm based in the country that the relevant individual is resident in. By way of an illustrated example, if a team of two is the Global Winner (and so is eligible to receive US\$10,000), the relevant EY Firm shall pay each individual US\$5,000.

Prizes and awards are not transferable.

5. LOCAL COMPETITIONS

Some EY Firms may organize local competitions to encourage participation in a particular country or region. These local competitions may or may not include additional prizes and awards for local winners, as well as activities to connect with local Participants.

These local competitions will have specific terms and conditions that are not part of this document. If relevant, these will be published in due course in a manner that Participants can discover them. Participants will need to comply with both the general Terms and Conditions (this document) and the local competition terms and conditions.

Participants must meet the following conditions to enter the local competition:

- The country setting in the Platform account of the team leader must be one of the countries involved in the local competition.
- All team members must meet any local eligibility requirements as set out in the local competition terms and conditions.

6. MEANS TO PARTICIPATE

The Organizer does not take any responsibility for the expenses incurred by Participants in securing resources necessary to participate in the Competition. The competition has been designed to run on a local computer without the need for cloud computing resources.

7. GENERAL

You acknowledge and agree that the submission of an entry to the Competition or any other form of participation in the Competition shall be deemed as your acceptance of these Terms and Conditions of the Competition.

Incomplete, illegible, incomprehensible or inappropriate submissions or supporting work submitted by email (unless specifically asked) will be deemed invalid.

The judges' decision of the selected Global Winner and Runner-Up is final and no correspondence will be entered into and no responsibility is accepted for late, lost or illegible entries. This is a game of skill, and chance plays no part in determining the winners. Each entry will be individually judged.

In entering this Competition and making submissions on the Platform, you are asserting that you have the authority to provide any personal information to the Organizer for the purpose of this Competition. Your personal information will be processed in accordance with the EY Privacy Policy available on the Platform at <https://challenge.ey.com/privacy>.

You acknowledge and agree that the Organizer shall be allowed to use your personal information for the purpose of sending updates on career news or other recruitment activities from the Organizer and EY Firms.

You acknowledge that during the course of the Competition, you may be provided by EY with access to data, software or other materials (**Competition Materials**). You agree to use all Competition Materials only to compile your submission for the Competition and will not use any such Competition Materials for any other use, whether commercial, academic or otherwise. You further agree that you will hold all such Competition Materials (and any other information contained on the Platform) in the strictest confidence and you will not disclose or publish them to any third party or use them for the benefit of anyone else unless otherwise approved by the Organizer.

You agree that you are, to the fullest extent permissible by law, entitled to assign intellectual property rights (**IPRs**) or license (on such terms as the Organizer may direct) to the Organizer or to such other entity as the Organizer may direct (the Organizer and such other entity being the **IPR Transferee** for the purposes of these Terms and Conditions) all IPR incorporated in your respective entries, whether on the Platform or subsisting in content otherwise submitted by you to EY to support your submissions during the different phases of the Competition, including documents, videos, models, software and code, and that following any assignment to an IPR Transferee, these shall become the sole property of the IPR Transferee. You further agree to execute and deliver such assignments, license agreements and documents and to do, or cause to be done, such further acts and things as may be necessary or reasonably requested by EY in connection with the assignment or licensing to the IPR Transferee of all IPR pertaining to your submission.

For the purposes of these Terms and Conditions, IPRs shall mean patents, utility models, rights to inventions, copyright and neighboring and related rights, moral rights trademarks, business names and domain names, rights in get-up goodwill and the right to sue for passing off or unfair competition, rights in designs, rights in computer software, database rights, rights to use, and the right to protect the confidentiality of and confidential information (including know-how and trade secrets) and all other IPR, in each case whether registered or unregistered and including all applications and rights to apply for and be granted renewals or extensions of, and rights to claim priority from such rights and all similar or equivalent rights or forms of protection that subsist or will subsist now or in the future in any part of the world.

In making submissions to the Organizer during the Competition, you are confirming that such submissions are your own original work and are not plagiarized from any third-party sources. Participants must, on request of the Organizer, supply an accurate and complete list of all resources used for the purpose of their entries.

You will be automatically disqualified from the Competition if the Organizer detects that any of your submissions are plagiarized or if you are found to be noncompliant with these Terms and Conditions (including the eligibility criteria set out in section 1.). In the event that noncompliance with the rules or plagiarism is discovered after the Competition has been finalized, and you have been declared a Global Winner or Runner-Up, you will be responsible for returning any monetary prizes you have received.

You will be automatically disqualified if the Organizer, upon performing experience background checks, discovers that you do not meet the eligibility criteria in section 1.

The Organizer shall have the right to remove (and subsequently disqualify) any entry that contains content that the Organizer considers (in its sole discretion) offensive, inappropriate, objectionable, plagiarized or that breaches a person's privacy.

The Organizer accepts no responsibility for late, lost or misdirected entries or a failure in the Competition proceeding due to technical failures, unauthorized intervention or other causes beyond the Organizer's control.

You agree to provide information or details to be used in all promotional and marketing campaigns leading up to the Awards Experience. This includes giving EY permission to record, video and photograph the

Awards Experience, but also any other activity organized by EY, such as personal interviews or physical events in relation to this Competition (for example, local networking or competition activities organized in some countries), and to use the footage for an unlimited period of time in any online or offline materials created by EY.

The Organizer and EY are not liable for any loss incurred or damage whatsoever (including, but not limited to, indirect or consequential losses) sustained by you during the Competition, except for liability that cannot be excluded by law.

You may withdraw from the Competition at any time. However, the content submitted, or any audiovisual material recorded by the Organizer until that moment, will remain the Organizer's property.

The Organizer may vary the terms of this Competition by posting amendments at any time on the Platform (<https://challenge.ey.com>). All amended terms will automatically become effective one day after posting. The decisions of the Organizer and the judges are final.

These terms and conditions are for the benefit of the EY Firms. Any provision that may benefit EY Firms are intended for the benefit of all EY Firms, who shall be entitled to rely upon and enforce those provisions. Otherwise, a person who is not a party to these terms and conditions may not rely upon or enforce any terms of these terms and conditions and shall have no third-party rights under these terms and conditions, whether under the Contract (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 or otherwise.

These terms and conditions and any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with it or its subject matter, or in connection with the formation of the contract between EY and you that incorporates these Terms and Use (including non-contractual disputes or claims) shall be governed by the laws of England.