



## 2017 AFCPE® Annual Research and Training Symposium

Wednesday, November 15 through Friday, November 17

### Financial Counseling Knowledge Bowl Guidelines

**Objective:** The objective of the AFCPE® Financial Counseling Knowledge Competition is to provide an engaging and interactive format to promote the field of financial counseling to advance and expand the profession. This annual event engages university students in general financial counseling issues and expands awareness of the professional community and organizations that support the profession.

**Overview:** The 2017 AFCPE® Financial Counseling Knowledge Bowl will be held during the 2017 AFCPE Annual Research and Training Symposium November 15 -17 in San Diego, CA. Teams will compete against each other in a gameshow-style competition during the symposium. Questions presented will be similar to those on the AFC® exam. The team with the most points at the end of the competition will win first place, next most points will be second, etc.

#### Eligibility Requirements:

- Up to 5 teams will participate in the knowledge bowl competition.
- Teams will consist of up to three\* currently enrolled undergraduate students.
- Each team must be accompanied by a faculty or staff advisor.
- While multiple applications from a school may be accepted, only one team per school will be invited to participate.
- Students may only participate in one Knowledge Bowl competition; prior participants are not eligible.

#### AFCPE Knowledge Bowl Participants Will Receive:

- Complementary registration for the 2017 AFCPE Annual Symposium, November 15 - 17 in San Diego, CA
- One complimentary night stay at the Paradise Point Resort
- A special Scholarship luncheon on Wednesday, November 15
- Opportunity to be paired with a conference mentor
- Complimentary AFCPE Student Membership for 2018

#### Registration Process:

- Applicant must submit the online [AFCPE® Financial Counseling Knowledge Bowl Application](#) including:
  - Name and contact information for each team member and faculty/staff advisor.
  - One team response to the Field Question posed in the application (detailed below).
- Completed application must be **received no later than May 19, 2017**.
- Applicant is responsible for reviewing and following all guidelines for submission.

\*Teams may include a 4th team member as an alternate in case a primary team member can't attend. All 4 may work together on the response to the Field Question but only the 3 team members that compete will receive funding.



### Financial Counseling Field Question:

- A response to the following question will be required as part of the application process and will be the determining factor in identifying the teams that will participate in the AFCPE® Financial Counseling Knowledge Bowl.

*Student loans continue to be a topic of national discussion as [total student loan debt in the United States has exceeded \\$1.3 trillion](#). With [graduates facing higher average loan balances](#) and [delinquency rates being significantly higher on student loans than on other types of consumer debt](#), this is a growing concern for an increasing number of individuals, and an important issue that needs to be addressed.*

***Practitioners, institutions of higher education, and policy makers alike are looking for ways to better protect and help students and borrowers. What problems do you see related to the current student loan situation and what suggestions would you make to address them?***

### Field Question Rules/Guidelines:

- Each team must submit one group response to the above Field Question. Responses to the Field Question should be the exclusive work of the students on that team.
- Students should not seek or accept help from professors, professionals in the field, other students not on the team, or other third parties in preparing the response to the Field Question.
- While faculty/staff advisors may encourage students from the background, they are not permitted to discuss the Field Question with the team or offer any kind of assistance that might be perceived as guidance in their response.

### Decision Process:

- All applications will be reviewed by the Knowledge Bowl Review Committee, appointed by the AFCPE® Board of Directors.
- Responses will be evaluated and scored using the following criteria:

- Subject Content
- Awareness of Issues
- Critical Thinking
- Quality of Solution
- Creativity

- The top 5 teams will be invited to participate in the gameshow-style Financial Counseling Knowledge Bowl competition at the 2017 AFCPE Annual Research and Training Symposium in San Diego, CA November 15-17, 2017.
- Participating teams will be announced by **June 5, 2017**.

### Timeline:

- March 31, 2017 – Registration opens: Teams may submit their application
- May 19, 2017 - Registration deadline: No applications will be accepted after this date
- June 5, 2017 – Participating teams announced
- November 15-17, 2017 - Students participate in symposium networking and learning opportunities
- November 15, 2017 – Scholarship luncheon and mentor connection
- November 16, 2017 – AFCPE® Symposium Knowledge Bowl Competition