

## 2023 AFCPE® Symposium Knowledge Bowl Guidelines

### Objective

The objective of the AFCPE Knowledge Bowl is to promote the field of financial counseling and create a unique opportunity to involve university students in the AFCPE Symposium. This annual event highlights the core competency domains of AFC® professionals and the important role that students play in the future of the financial counseling profession.

### Overview

The 2023 AFCPE® Financial Counseling Knowledge Bowl will be held during the 2023 AFCPE Annual Research and Training Symposium November 29 – December 1 in New Orleans, LA. 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

- Teams may consist of up to three full-time students.
  - Teams may include a 4th team member as an alternate in the event a primary team member cannot participate. Only one team member substitution is permitted. All four students may work together on the application process, but only the three competing team members will receive the scholarship benefits. If additional scholarship funding becomes available, the alternates will be the first students notified. If the university would like to fund the alternate's attendance, the alternate may register for the Symposium at the student rate (transcripts required).
- Students cannot already be an AFC or an AFC Candidate that has passed the exam.
- Students from any degree/major are eligible, but all team members should have a strong interest in the field of personal finance, financial counseling, and the pursuit of the AFC® certification.
- Students need to have completed 50% of AFC-approved courses to be eligible to participate.
- Each team must be accompanied by a faculty or staff advisor.
- Only one team per institution is eligible to participate.
- Students may only participate in one Knowledge Bowl competition; prior participants are not eligible.

## Benefits\*

- Complimentary AFCPE Membership for the upcoming year.
- Complimentary registration for the AFCPE Annual Symposium, November 29 – December 1 in New Orleans, LA.
- One complimentary night stay at the Symposium hotel.
- A special Student Scholarship Luncheon at the Symposium
- Earn up to 45 hours toward the AFC experience requirement.
- Access to AFC Online Study Guide to prepare for the competition and the AFC® exam.
- Scholarship to cover the cost of the AFC Exam (1 attempt).
- Cash prize for 1<sup>st</sup> place team members (up to three students only).

\*The above benefits are for the three primary team members. The advisor is eligible for all the above, except for the cash prize and cost to cover the AFC Exam.

## Application Process

Submit application and video: by **April 28, 2023 (11:59pmET)**

### Application:

- The application must be submitted online: [AFCPE Financial Counseling Knowledge Bowl Application](#) which includes:
  - Name, contact information, and headshot for each team member and for the faculty/staff advisor. A copy of unofficial transcripts for all team members.
  - A video introduction of all team members that answers the questions below.
  - One team response to the Field Question posed in the application (detailed below).
- All teams applying must agree that if chosen, they will:
  - Attend the full 2023 AFCPE Symposium, to include specific student-focused programming once the Symposium schedule is finalized.
  - Complete the Knowledge Bowl Participant survey emailed from AFCPE after the Symposium. Your feedback is critical to the enhancement of this event each year.

### Video:

- Submit a video with responses to the following:
  - Introduction of each team member. Some ideas for introductions are:
    - Current degree program and projected graduation date.
    - How did you become interested in this area of study?
    - Describe future educational and/or career goals.
    - Your passion for the field of financial counseling/planning/education.
    - What do you know now that you wish you had known when you started school?
    - Favorite personal finance topic or class taken in your degree program and why?
    - What current events or personal experiences have highlighted the importance of the financial counseling/education profession?
  - Why does your team want to compete in the Knowledge Bowl?
  - How did you hear about the AFC designation? When do you plan to sit for the AFC exam? How will the AFC benefit your career and those you serve?



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### **Video Guidelines:**

- Video may be up to 10-minutes long.
- Please ensure the sound is clear and avoid the use of programs that run promotional banners that may distract reviewers from your video.
- Videos must be submitted in a format that all selection committee members can readily view without needing specialized software.
- Please house large, media-rich files on a server and provide a web-link in the application.
- The team advisor may consult with their team on the video and provide support, but the work should be done by the students.
- Note: Clips from the videos will be shown at the AFCPE Symposium, so show your school spirit and have fun with it!

### **Field Question Rules/Guidelines:**

- Each team must submit one group response to the 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 their faculty/staff advisor, professors, professionals in the field, other students not on the team, or other third parties in preparing the response to the Field Question.
- Please submit team response in a Word document, double-spaced.

### **Financial Counseling Field Question:**

Please choose one (1) of the following scenarios to respond to. Once you have chosen a scenario, in 500 words or less, share how you would counsel that couple. Be sure to include at least three (3) skills, resources, and/or information you'll use in the process.

#### **Option 1**

*After missing several appointments, your client Shiro calls to schedule an urgent meeting. When he arrives, you are surprised to see that he is in a wheelchair. He explains that he had been struck by a hit-and-run driver while walking home from work, and that the injury paralyzed him below the waist. For several weeks, all of his focus had been on recovery and rehabilitation, but now that his health has stabilized, he is starting to panic about his finances. The police never found the driver of the car that hit him and as a young and healthy man who was self-employed, he had opted not to have health insurance (against your advice). He is currently staying at a rehabilitation center, but his time there is almost up and his apartment is not wheelchair accessible. He had been self-employed in construction, which will not be possible with his injury. Finally, he has several hundred thousands of dollars of medical debt and his injury is going to cause additional medical expenses for the rest of his life. He desperately needs support. How can you help him?*



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## Option 2

Ysabelle comes to you because she would like to propose to her long-term girlfriend, Patrice, and would like your help with her finances. She and Patrice are both in juniors in college and living at home. Ysabelle has a partial athletic scholarship that covers tuition and materials but not room and board, and Patrice's parents are paying for her tuition and materials as long as she helps with her younger siblings and with housework. As you discuss their situation, you learn that Ysabelle and Patrice are both members of a religion that forbids same-sex relationships and are both hiding their relationship from their families. Ysabelle thinks her family may eventually accept the relationship after she and Patrice are married, but Patrice's family is more strict and believes that any relationship outside of marriage between a cis-gendered man and a cis-gendered woman is a mortal sin. Because of these family dynamics, they had planned to wait to marry until after they graduated and found jobs. Recently, however, Patrice's family have pressured her to start dating, telling her that they were only paying for college so she could find a husband. Patrice's mental health is starting to deteriorate under the pressure. Ysabelle wants to find a way for she and Patrice to be able to afford to marry. While Ysabelle can't work without putting her athletic scholarship in jeopardy, she is wondering if Patrice can get enough in student loans to cover both of their living expenses for their last 2-3 years of school. How would you counsel her?

## Selection Process

- Applications will be reviewed by members of the AFCPE who do not have an affiliation with any of the university teams submitting for the competition.
- Both video and field question responses will be evaluated and scored using the below criteria.
- Please note: the content/message of the video is more important than professional quality.

### Video Criteria

Clarity	Importance of AFC®	Relevance
Connection to AFCPE®	Creativity	Perceived Opportunity

### Field Question Criteria

Accuracy	Critical Thinking	Creativity
Awareness of Issues	Quality of Solution	Holistic Approach

- The selected teams will be notified on **June 2, 2023 (by 5pm ET)**. Up to four (4) teams will be accepted to the Knowledge Bowl this year. The number of teams selected will be determined by both the quality of the applications and scholarship/sponsorship funding.



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### Questions:

Questions about the Knowledge Bowl may be directed to Zulairam Ruiz-Agosto (Member Services Associate Manager) at [zruizagosto@afcpe.org](mailto:zruizagosto@afcpe.org) and 614-362-4901.