

2017 Research Paper Competition

The Excellence in Highway Safety Data Award Encourages Undergraduate and Graduate Students to Use Roadway Data to Research a Safety Topic and Prepare for a Career in Highway Safety.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is pleased to announce the Excellence in Highway Safety Data Award, part of the Highway Data Analysis Excellence Awards Program, which is designed to encourage university students to use HSIS data to investigate a topic that advances highway safety and to develop a paper (2,500-5,000 words) to document the original research.

Award details

The Excellence in Highway Safety Data Award's goal is to encourage university students to use HSIS data with the intent of introducing potential future highway safety professionals to good quality safety data, the application of appropriate research methods to derive recommendations, and the practice of using data to make decisions.

— Papers due: **April 1, 2017** —

Note: The turnaround time for requested HSIS data, www.hsisinfo.org/datarequest.cfm, is normally less than two weeks; however, time needed to conduct analysis of this data varies per project. Please be sure to plan accordingly and in advance of the paper submission deadline.

Eligibility and guidelines

The HSIS Research Paper Competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students in degree-granting programs that support highway safety, including, but not limited to, engineering, planning, statistics, psychology, and economics. Participants who have graduated from a program within the six months prior to the submission date are also eligible, if the paper is based on work conducted as part of the program.

Students are encouraged to develop papers for the contest based on their use of HSIS data for class projects or for graduate thesis and dissertation projects.

The following eligibility requirements must be met by all applicants on a submission for the 2017 Award:

- Applicant(s) must be enrolled as a graduate or undergraduate student in the 2016-2017 academic year or graduated from a university located in the U.S. during the 2016-2017 academic year. (See note below regarding faculty participation.)
- Analysis must be conducted on data requested and acquired from the Highway Safety Information System (<http://www.hsisinfo.org/datarequest.cfm>). Data from other states or localities may be used in support of the primary analysis using HSIS data.
- Email submission instructions will be available on the website, www.hsisinfo.org/contest, in February 2017.

Submissions by individual students or groups of students will be considered. Teams, however, must define one lead student and contributing students for the project. (Prizes reflect this requirement.) Faculty can participate in an advisory role but cannot be coauthors on the paper.

HSIS

HIGHWAY SAFETY INFORMATION SYSTEM

An Analysis Tool for
Making Informed
Safety Decisions

Award prizes

	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	Honorable Mentions
Recognition at the ITE 2017 Annual Meeting and Exhibit (July 30 - August 2, 2017, Toronto, Ontario, Canada) All authors will be acknowledged and receive a plaque. (FHWA is unable to pay for the recipient's travel to Canada due to US Federal restrictions regarding funding of international travel.)	X	X	X	X
Registration for EITHER the 2018 TRB Annual Meeting (January 2018) OR the 2018 ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit (August 2018) will be provided to the lead author only.	X	X	X	
Lodging (2 nights) will be provided for the lead author to attend EITHER the 2018 TRB Annual Meeting (January 2018) OR the 2018 ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit (August 2018).	X	X		
Roundtrip, domestic airfare will be provided for the lead author only to attend EITHER the 2018 TRB Annual Meeting (January 2018) OR the 2018 ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit (August 2018).	X			
Paper will be published in the ITE Journal and/or on the HSIS website.	X			

All prizes – including travel reimbursements – are subject to FHWA rules, regulations and approval at time of award.

For More Information

Learn more at www.hsisinfo.org/contest.

The Highway Safety Information System (HSIS) is a safety database that contains crash, roadway inventory, and traffic volume data for a select group of agencies. The participating States of California, Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, and Washington and the city of Charlotte were selected based on the quality of their data, the range of data available, and their ability to merge the data from various files. The HSIS database also contains historic data from Michigan and Utah. The HSIS is used by FHWA staff, contractors, university researchers, and others to study current highway safety issues, direct research efforts, and evaluate the effectiveness of crash countermeasures.