

Dear Educators,

Greetings from the Highway Engineering Exchange Program (HEEP) and the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The purpose of this letter is to inform you and your civil engineering students of our Educator and Student Participation (ESP) program. The ESP program offers a student competition with cash scholarship awards.

The HEEP Educator Student Participation program is designed to build closer ties with educators and students interested in the field of transportation engineering, and especially the use of the information systems technology in that field. Annually, HEEP delegates from transportation agencies around the US, Canada, and Europe attend the International Engineering Exchange Program (IHEEP) conference. The conference is an opportunity to learn engineering and IT solutions to transportation challenges, to explore the latest trends in transportation technology and share transportation computer program experiences. The upcoming [2019 IHEEP Conference](#) will be in Asheville, North Carolina September 8 through 12. The final part of the 2019 ESP competition will take place during the conference. A HEEP ESP judging panel and HEEP delegates will listen to four civil engineering students compete for cash scholarships – First Place: \$1000; Second Place: \$750, Third Place \$400, 4th place \$100. We want one of those students to be from your university.

How to enter:

Interested students must submit an abstract of their presentation by May 1, 2019, using the link provided below. The students selected to present will be notified by email before May 20, 2019.

[ESP Abstract Submittal Link](#)

The ESP presentation competition will be on Monday, September 9th, 2019. Each student will be required to conduct a 20-minute presentation. The judging criterion, as well as past participants and their presentations, are on our [HEEP ESP webpage](#). There is no entry fee. Selected student presenters are registered at the International HEEP meetings at no charge, and are encouraged to attend as much of the conference as possible, including the vendor hall and social events. HEEP covers airfare and lodging for the selected participants. Students presenting at an International HEEP meeting may come from different educational institutions, are typically at the junior, senior or graduate level, and should be capable of accepting a commitment to attend the International HEEP meeting in the fall. The announcement of the Winners will be Wednesday, September 11th at the IHEEP Closing Dinner and Awards Ceremony.

The IHEEP conference is an opportunity for civil engineering students to network for their future careers, learn about current industry trends and challenges facing transportation agencies, and see new transportation products on the market. We hope you will encourage your students to use this opportunity to lay the groundwork for their future. The only thing this costs them is their time.

If the [ESP Manual](#) doesn't answer all your questions, please contact the ESP program coordinator Jon Starr, Jon.starr@nebraska.gov with subject title **ESP IHEEP 2019**. Please share this email with your colleagues and students. Thank you in advance for encouraging your students to participate, and we hope to include one of them in the competition on September 9th, 2019.

Rande Robinson
HEEP 2019 President
www.heep.org