

2019 HR GRADUATE STUDENT CASE COMPETITION

This year Villanova University is hosting a Human Resource Graduate Student Case Competition. This competition is open to students from any university currently enrolled in an HR or HR related graduate program. The purpose of the competition is to provide students a unique learning opportunity to utilize their strategic HR knowledge and apply that knowledge to a realistic HR situation. This competition will require HR knowledge, problem solving, and critical thinking with strong communication and presentation skills.

ELIGIBILITY

- This competition is open to any teams of 2-3 students currently enrolled in an HR or HR related graduate program. (Please note that all team members must be able to compete in-person at Villanova University on the day of the competition.)
- Each team is comprised of 2-3 students with a minimum of one student in their first year of graduate study.
- Each student is only permitted to compete on one team. (Please note there is no restriction on the number of teams per university; multiple teams may be formed from the same university or students from different universities may compete on a single team as long as the students competing do not apply with more than one team.)
- There is no registration fee for teams to compete in the competition. Each team must submit a [Team Registration Form](#) by March 1, 2019 to gradhrdoffice@villanova.edu.

THE COMPETITION

The competition will be a one-day event at Villanova University where teams will work to analyze a business case study and make a recommended HR solution. Teams will be responsible for preparing a written executive summary and PowerPoint presentation prior to the competition that will accompany their 10-minute oral presentation to be given on the day of the competition. Teams will be presented via email with the case study on February 18, 2019 and will return their executive summary and PowerPoint presentation slides by no later than March 3, 2019 to gradhrdoffice@villanova.edu. All teams and students are expected to follow the [academic integrity policy of Villanova University](#) for all submissions and presentations. Teams that miss the March 3, 2019 deadline for submission of their slides and executive summary will not be able to compete in the competition.

Round 1: Each team will present their 10-minute oral presentation to a panel of judges followed by a 10-minute Q&A with the judges. These presentations will be closed to audience members. Only the presenting team and the judges will be present. The top two teams will be selected to move on to round two.

Round 2: Each of the top two teams will again present their 10-minute oral presentation to the judges followed by another 10-minute Q&A with the judges. These presentations will be open to audience members. Members of all participating teams are encouraged to listen to the finalist presentations.

The winning team will be announced at the [Villanova HRD Annual Networking Reception](#) on April 15, 2019. All members of the top two teams will be given complimentary tickets for them and a guest to attend this event.

LOCATION

The competition will take place on campus at Villanova University. Complimentary parking will be provided for all participants. Villanova is also located on the Paoli/Thorndale SEPTA Regional Rail line. A map of campus and full event schedule be emailed to all teams after the registration deadline. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided on the day of the competition for all team members and judges. Any additional travel expenses to compete on the day of the competition are the responsibility of the students.



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PRIZES

Each member of the top two teams will receive complimentary tickets for them and a guest to attend the Villanova HRD Annual Networking Reception on April 15, 2019 from 5:30-8:30pm. More details on this event can be found at www.Villanovahrd.com/2019-anr.

Grand Prize: Each member of the winning team will receive complimentary student registration (\$350 value) to the [SHRM19 Annual Conference & Exposition](#) to be held June 23-26 in Las Vegas, NV and \$500 towards travel reimbursement. *(Note: Substitutions are not permitted for the complimentary student registration and travel reimbursement.)*

DEADLINES

- Each team must submit a [Team Registration Form](#) by March 1, 2019 to gradhrdoffice@villanova.edu.
- The Case Study will be distributed to the primary email contact on the Team Registration form on February 18, 2019.
- Each team must submit their executive summary and PowerPoint presentation by March 3, 2019 to gradhrdoffice@villanova.edu.
- The competition will take place on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at Villanova University from 8am to 4pm. Each team must check-in before 9am on the morning of the competition and all team members must be present for their assigned time to present.
- The winning team will be announced at the Villanova HRD Annual Networking Reception on Monday, April 15, 2019.

JUDGES

The judges for the competition will be members of the regional HR and business community. Judges will be senior professionals with significant and relevant business and HR management experience. (No university faculty will be judges if that university has students competing.)

SCHEDULE

A map of campus and full event schedule be emailed to all teams after the registration deadline. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided on the day of the competition.

8:00-9:00am	Registration, light breakfast provided for all participants (Curley Exchange)
9:00-9:30am	Welcome & Competition Overview
9:30am-1:00pm	Round 1 Team Presentations*
1:00-2:30pm	Lunch
2:30pm	Top 3 Teams Announced
3:00-4:30pm	Round 2 Final Team Presentations**
4:30pm	End-of-Day for all teams

This schedule is tentative and may change based on the number of teams competing.

*Round 1 presentations are closed to audience. Only team members, judges and volunteer coordinators will be permitted in the room.

**Round 2 presentations are open to audience members. Members of all participating teams are encouraged to stay to listen to the finalist presentations.

