

2026 LiDS Student Paper Competition

The Lifetime Data Science (LiDS) Section of the American Statistical Association is soliciting entries for the student paper competition for the 2026 Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM).

Eligibility

The applicant must be a member of the ASA LiDS Section at the time of paper submission, a doctoral degree candidate at an accredited institution, or a graduate with a doctoral degree during the 2025 calendar year. The topic of the research should be relevant to methods or applications for lifetime data science. The applicant must be the first author of the paper, but it may be co-authored by faculty advisors and/or collaborators. The paper must not be published or accepted for publication at the time of submission. The Award winners should be available to present the same paper submitted for the Award at the 2026 Joint Statistical Meetings in Boston, Massachusetts.

Please note that membership in the ASA does not automatically confer Section membership; ASA members must join individual sections in addition to their generic membership; Lifetime Data Science Section membership is free for students: when joining the ASA or renewing your ASA membership, select "Lifetime Data Science" to join.

Guidelines for Manuscript Preparation

The manuscripts should be on the topic related to lifetime data science and should be no more than a total of 25 pages in length (including the abstract, tables, figures, references, and appendix, if any), with at least one-inch margins, a 12-point font size, and no more than 25 lines per page, double-spaced.

The submission should include:

1. a cover letter stating eligibility for the application and including name, current affiliation, status including actual or intended date of graduation, the institution for the doctoral degree, contact information (address, telephone, e-mail) of the applicant, and the signature from the advisor certifying student status.
2. a title page of the manuscript which includes the title, author names and their affiliations, abstract, and keywords (no more than six).
3. a BLIND copy of the manuscript (no author name or affiliation).

Review Criteria

Selection criteria will be based on the following areas:

- The research should be well motivated by a relevant scientific problem in the broad field of Lifetime Data Science;
- The proposed methodology should be applicable to the motivating problem(s);
- The manuscript should be well organized and clearly presented.

Awards

Up to five awards will be offered to the outstanding student papers. Each winner will receive a **\$1000** cash prize to cover JSM 2026 expenses.

Submission

All required materials for the Student Paper Award Competition must be submitted by **11:59 p.m. EDT November 15, 2025**, to Dr. Mengling Liu, Chair of the LiDS Student Paper Awards Competition Committee, at mengling.liu@nyu.edu with "*2026 JSM LiDS Student Paper Competition*" on the subject line of the email.

Student Paper Award winners will be announced by **January 15, 2026**. Winners should submit an abstract to the Topic Contributed session of the Lifetime Data Science Section Student Paper Awards for JSM 2026.

Additional requirements:

- Competition winners must submit abstracts and register for JSM through the official JSM abstract submission system by the deadline.
- Students may submit papers to no more than two sections and may accept only one section's award. Students must inform both sections applied to when he or she wins and accepts an award, thereby removing the student from the award competition for the second section.
- Students planning to participate in section competitions must adhere to the eligibility, paper format, submission process, and other requirements of the sections to which they are applying.