



Student Case Study Competition



The NGAF Student Case Study Competition strives to further the professional development of collegiate students pursuing degrees in food and retail programs and provides student teams the opportunity to creatively address a real-world issue currently impacting the industry. The competition, hosted by the NGA Foundation and generously funded by the Asparagus Club, awards up to \$4,000 each to the winning team of students and their university.

This opportunity provides students with the experience and resources to help them build a career in the independent grocery industry.

For more information about the NGA Foundation and its resources for students, **visit our website** ngafoundation.org

CASE TOPIC SCENARIO:

A document outlining the case topic scenario, and retailer background information will be provided to all interested schools. Additionally, the retail partner will provide context via a webinar. This webinar will be recorded, and a summary follow up document will be provided to interested schools.

Students and faculty are not allowed to contact the retail partner, their suppliers, customers, or tour the company's stores as part of the preparation process.

COMPETITION OVERVIEW:

A comprehensive overview and rules for the case study competition are documented in the *NGAF Student Case Study Competition Overview and Rule Handbook*. Some of these are summarized below:

- Three rounds of competition will be scheduled at the NGA Show.
- Each student team will have 12 minutes to make their presentation to the judges. The panel of judges will then have 8 minutes to pose clarifying and contingency questions to the student teams.
- Presentation slide decks are required. These must be finalized and submitted to NGAF staff in PDF format approximately two weeks before the NGA Show.
- Students teams will consist of no more than four (4) undergraduate students.
- NGA Show attendees are invited and encouraged to listen to the presentations.
- Individuals affiliated with a university team (students, faculty, school board members, etc.) will only be allowed to listen to other team's presentations in the second and third rounds of competition.
- Presentations should not rely on internet access as it may not be unavailable in presentation rooms.

JUDGING PANELS

- Judges are volunteers and will be recruited from NGA Show attendees. Each panel will include representatives of retailer, wholesaler, supplier and service provider companies to represent diverse perspectives of the industry.
- Training, orientation, case study background information and a scoring rubric will be provided by the NGA Foundation to all judges.

- Conflicts of interest will be evaluated by the NGA Foundation when filling the judge panels. To do this, faculty advisors of competing teams must send a complete list of program faculty and board members to the NGA Foundation.

PRESENTATION SUBMISSION:

Final presentations must be sent to NGA Foundation staff via email (nga-foundation@nationalgrocers.org) by the specified deadline in a PDF format. After this submission, no alterations may be made to the slide deck. Student teams should travel with a back up electronic file of their presentation.

TRAVEL STIPEND:

Schools may be eligible to receive a stipend to offset travel costs of attending the NGA Show. W9 forms, account information, and mailing addresses must be provided to NGA Foundation staff to process these stipends. These will be sent out after completion of the competition.

TRAVEL INFORMATION:

- University attendees are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and booking hotels to The NGA Show. Hotel information and booking can be found at: www.thengashow.com/hotel-travel
- Student teams and up to two (2) participating faculty will receive complimentary registration to the NGA Show. Registration information will be collected by NGA staff for each faculty member and student attending the show.

For questions about the Student Case Study Competition or the Food Industry University Coalition, contact:
NGA Foundation staff at nga-foundation@nationalgrocers.org.

SCHOOL INTENT TO COMPETE FORM Deadline to return form: January 11, 2024.

Information below should be completed by the student competition team faculty member traveling to the NGA Show.

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| initial | I have reviewed the competition format, rules and additional information, and attest that my University and student team will follow to the best of our ability. |
| initial | I understand that by participating in the student case study competition we are being given access to confidential retailer information. I agree to use this information only in conjunction with preparing for the competition and will not share with outside entities. |
| initial | I will include a complete list of current program faculty and board members to NGA Foundation Staff in order to evaluate for conflicts of interest on the judging panels. |

First and Last Name _____ Title _____
 University _____ Street Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Mobile phone _____ Email _____
 Signature _____ Date _____