

Tab 3

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027



GREETINGS, FUTURE FINANCIAL LEADER!

Welcome to the Finance Competitions 2026-2027 Guide!

We're thrilled that you're taking the first step toward an exciting journey in the world of finance competitions. This guide has been carefully prepared to help you navigate the various opportunities available for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Whether you're a third-year student ready to dive into real-world financial analysis or someone exploring different career paths, these competitions offer invaluable hands-on experience, mentorship from industry professionals, and the chance to build lasting connections.

Take your time to explore each competition, consider which aligns with your interests and strengths, and don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions!

Remember: The best way to learn is to experience. These competitions will challenge you, push your boundaries, and help you discover strengths you never knew you had.

Good luck, and we look forward to seeing you compete!

Sincerely,

USC Finance Club - Competition Board

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027



SUMMARY

Competition Name <i>(Click on the Name to be redirected)</i>	Recruitment Period	Start Date	End Date	Members Per Team
CFA Institute Research Challenge	DONE	September	December	2 teams with 3-5 members each
PwC Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) Challenge	Early September - October	Late October	January 2027	2 teams with 3-4 members each
MART x CFAP Cup	January	March	Late May	2 teams with 3-5 members each
Hackathon	Varies	Varies	Varies	1 team with 5 members
CFA Institute & AmplifyME Global Investing Simulator Challenge	OPEN NOW	September 15	November 17	Individual participation
Eurasia Asset Management Challenge (EAMC)	First Quarter 2027	First Quarter 2027	March or April	3 members

QUICK JUMPS:

Skip the pages and click on the titles below to review the information:

- [Why Join Competitions](#)
- [Process of Joining a Competition](#)

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027



CFA INSTITUTE RESEARCH CHALLENGE

The CFA Institute Research Challenge is an annual global competition that provides university students with hands-on mentoring and intensive training in financial analysis and professional ethics. Each student will be tested on their analytical, valuation, report writing, and presentation skills. They gain real-world experience as they assume the role of a research analyst ([Learn More](#))

Duration	5 months
Official Start	September
Official End	December
Members Per Team	Two (2) Teams with Three to Five Members
Applicable To	3rd Years and 4th Years only

What you'll do

- Literally a mirror of real-world work of financial analysts
- Hands-on mentoring and training in financial analysis and professional ethics.
- Understand business model, evaluate financials, assess industry + competitive positioning
- Identify potential risks and opportunities
- Prepare an equity research report (a buy/hold/sell recommendation) with detailed financial analysis, valuation model, risk analysis, etc.
- Defend your analysis

If you win...

- **Php100,000 cash prize** for the national champion (within the Philippines)
- Represent CFA Society Philippines in the Asia Pacific Sub-Regionals

Roles needed

1. Head analyst - numbers person, valuations, and financial modeler
2. Project manager - helps the team lead a direction forward
3. Creative director - spearheads in compiling everything + makes visual materials and graphs

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027

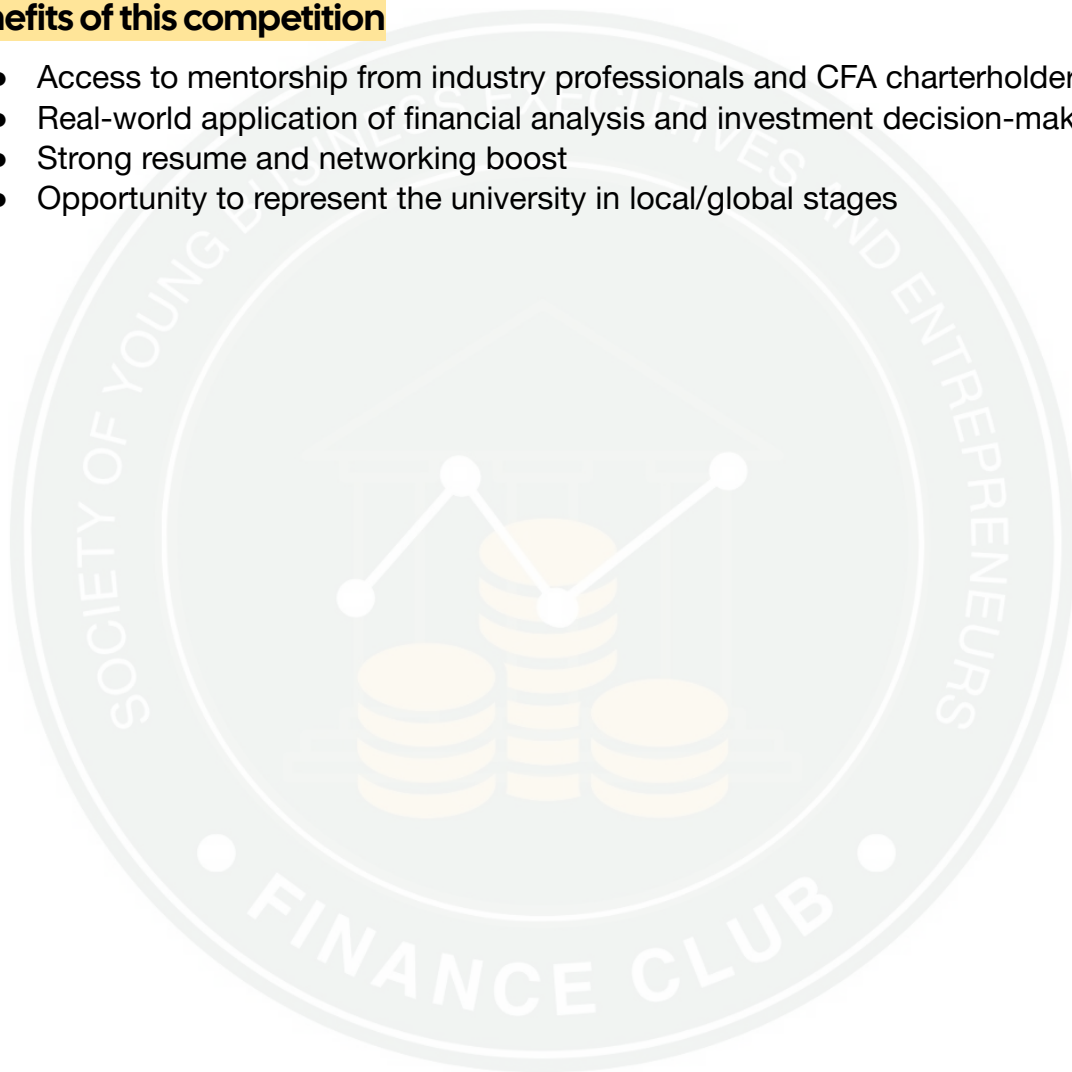
4. Researcher 1
5. Researcher 2

Tools needed

- MS PPT
- MS Excel
- Google Suite (Docs, Sheets, Slides, Drive)

Benefits of this competition

- Access to mentorship from industry professionals and CFA charterholders
- Real-world application of financial analysis and investment decision-making
- Strong resume and networking boost
- Opportunity to represent the university in local/global stages



FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027



PWC MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS (M&A) CHALLENGE

The PwC Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) Challenge is an annual business case competition for undergraduate college students in the Philippines. It helps college students build practical finance and business skills by creating innovative M&A proposals for real-world scenarios [\(Learn More\)](#).

Duration	3 weeks (1 week of training, 2 weeks of making the paper)
Recruitment Period	Early September (SOON!) - October
Start Date	Late October
End Date (Submission of Papers)	December
Final Round and Grand Finale	January 2027
Members Per Team	Two (2) Teams with Three to Four Members
Applicable To	3rd Years and 4th Years only

What you'll do

- Work in teams to analyze a real world M&A case provided by PwC.
 - There are themes being followed every year. The theme of the 10th PwC Philippines M&A Challenge (in 2025) was energy transition.
- PwC will provide you with a company to research on
- You will analyze the company's weaknesses and identify strategic gaps or challenges
- Based on your analysis, you will recommend another company for the target to either merge with or acquire
- Backup with data (e.g. opportunities, valuation, risk and integration strategy)

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027

If you win...

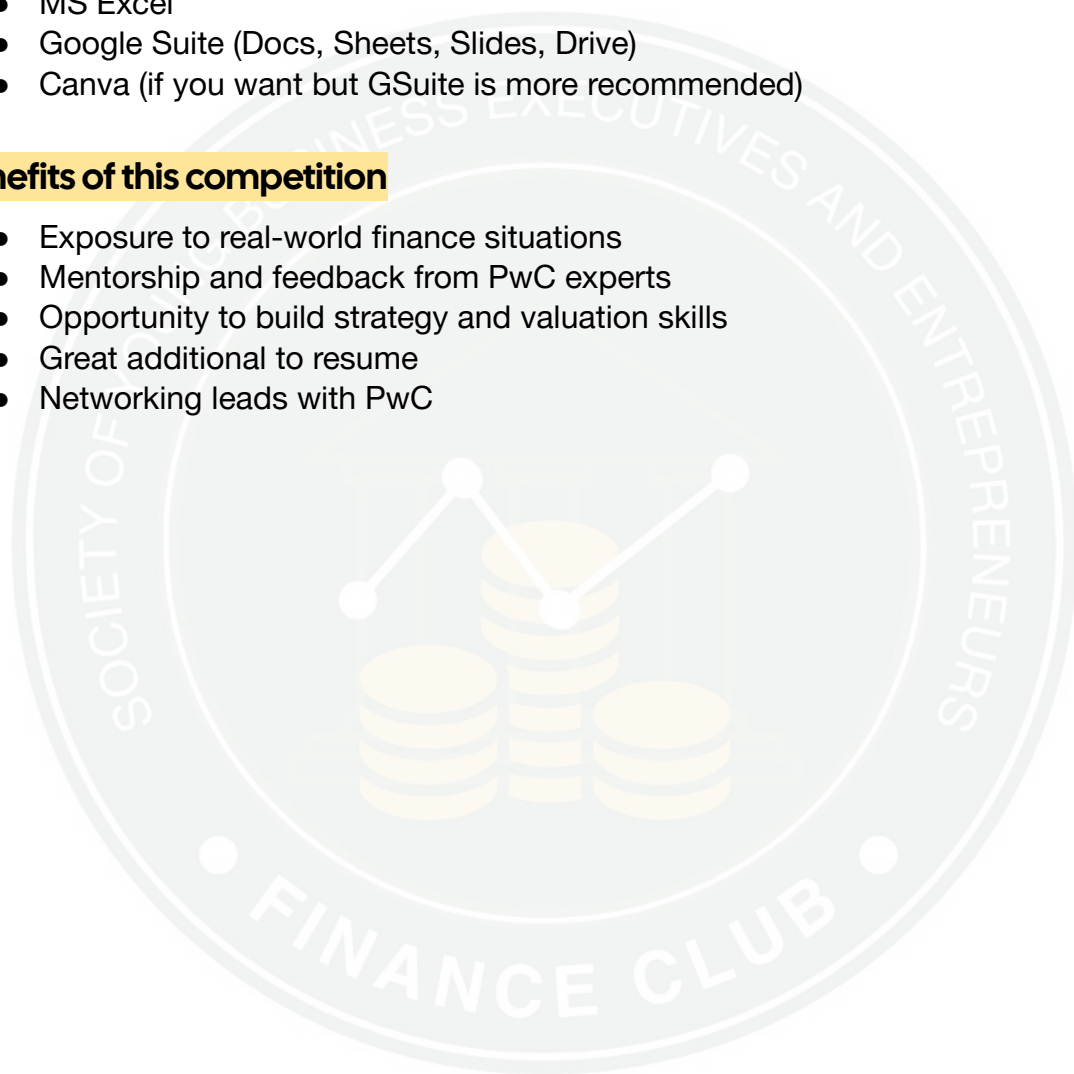
- Presentations only start when your team makes it to the pre-finals
- Cash Prize: **Php100,000** for the champion.

Tools needed

- MS PPT
- MS Excel
- Google Suite (Docs, Sheets, Slides, Drive)
- Canva (if you want but GSuite is more recommended)

Benefits of this competition

- Exposure to real-world finance situations
- Mentorship and feedback from PwC experts
- Opportunity to build strategy and valuation skills
- Great addition to resume
- Networking leads with PwC



FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027



MART x CFAP CUP

MART x CFAP Cup is a finance competition that gives students hands-on exposure to the world of fixed-income investing and bond trading through a realistic market simulation. Participants will manage a virtual investment portfolio valued at 1 billion pesos, analyze economic and market conditions, make trading decisions, and apply concepts such as bond valuation, interest rates, risk management, and portfolio strategy. More than a competition, it serves as a platform for students to experience how professionals in treasury, investment, and financial markets make decisions in real-world environments.

Duration	7 to 9 weeks
Recruitment Period	January
Official Start	March
Official End (Finals)	Late May
Members Per Team	Two (2) Teams with Three to Five Members
Applicable To	3rd Years and 4th Years only

What you'll do

- Engage in real-world bonds trading challenges.
- Utilize financial data platforms and analytical tools with a specific focus on the government securities market using real-life market data and scenarios.
- Each team will be allocated a virtual seed fund of PHP 1 billion at the start of the competition and will strive to achieve the highest total-return portfolio value by the end of the competition

Key Activities

- First-hand experience trading in the government securities market.
- Excel trading blotters are sent by the organizers to each participating team where they have to trade WEEKDAYS in the 1st round.
- Submission of orders on google forms should be done before 3pm

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027

- Mentorship by professional fixed income traders who are members of the Money Market Association of the Philippines, Inc. (MART).
- **Attend free lecture series** on the basics of fixed income investing and trading, market dynamics, and code of ethics for traders.

If you win...

- Compete for **₱50,000 / ₱30,000 / ₱20,000 cash prizes + plaque/ trophy** with your team name

Tools needed

- Laptop/tablet/ipad
- MS Excel (for trading blotter)
- Zoom (for online lectures)
- Viber (announcements by the organizer)

Benefits of this competition

- Trade like real bond dealers and experience real-time decision-making in financial markets, specifically in fixed income trading.
- Gain limited access to the Bloomberg Terminal
- Learn negotiation & trading techniques
- Apply market conventions & ethics
- Build confidence under pressure
- Expand their network with top student traders across schools

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027

HACKATHON

Finance hackathons, often called Fintech Hackathons, are intense, timed events where software developers, designers, and financial experts collaborate over 24 to 48 hours to build new financial technology products or solve banking challenges.

There are no postings for Hackathons at the moment! We will be updating interested individuals should there be announcements regarding the registration and its timeline.

Duration	Varies
Official Start	Varies
Official End	Varies
Members Per Team	One (1) Team with Five Members
Applicable To	ALL Levels

What you'll do

- Teams develop solutions to a real-world problem
- Participants ideate, prototype, and present a functional product, business solution, or app
- Themes may vary: financial technology (this was last year's theme), climate change, social impact, AI, etc.
- Pitch your idea, and present it to a panel of judges

If you win...

- Presentations and videos will be done by finalists
- Winning university teams from these local events progress to ***national competitions***.
- The champion competes in the Global Final, where one team is ultimately crowned the global champion.
- Prize: Receives 2 certificates (each member & 1 with team name); team trophy; a rare ***Php2,000 Bill*** from BSP and other BSP merch

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

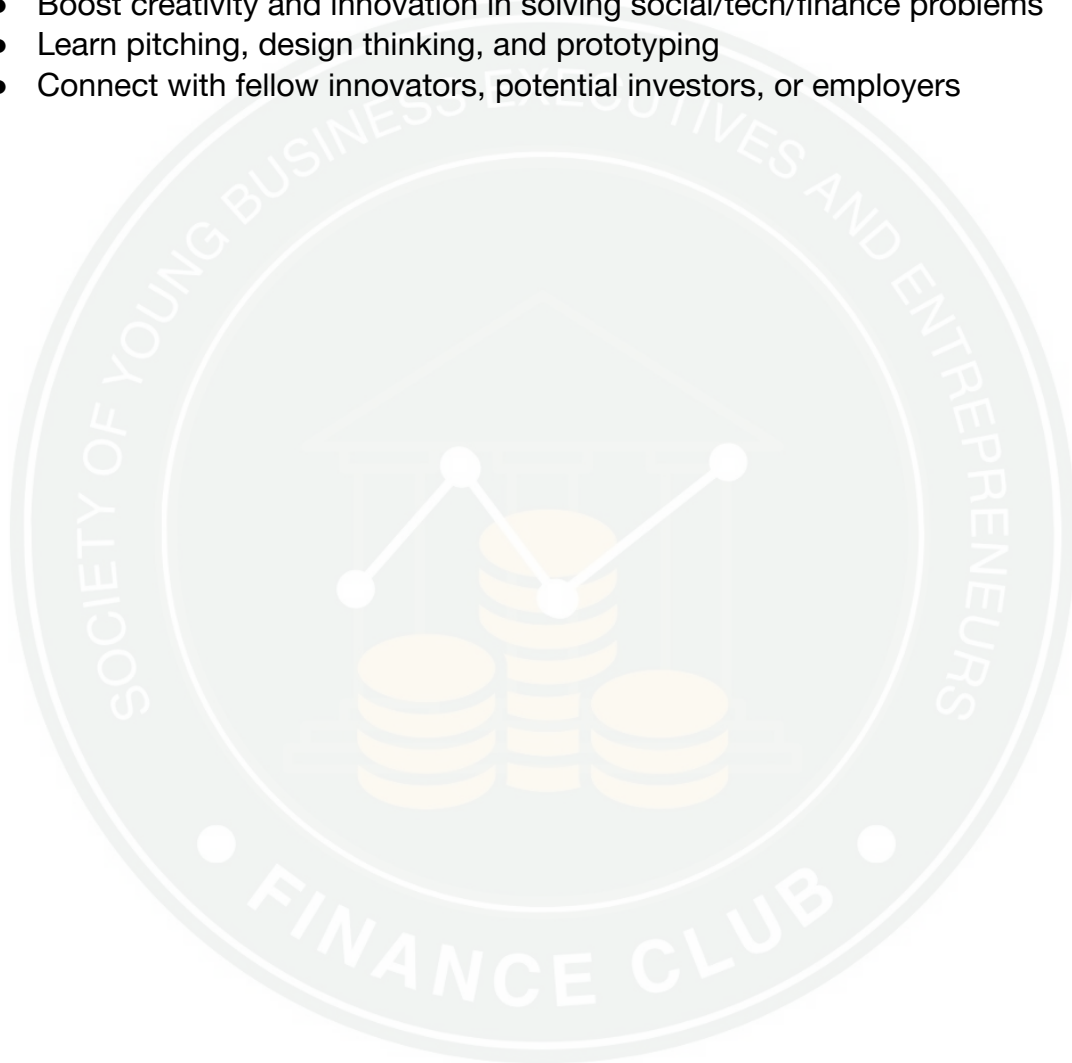
S.Y. 2026 – 2027

Tools needed

- Canva
- Google suite
- Prototyping Tools
- Videoediting Software

Benefits of this competition

- Boost creativity and innovation in solving social/tech/finance problems
- Learn pitching, design thinking, and prototyping
- Connect with fellow innovators, potential investors, or employers



FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027



CFA INSTITUTE & AMPLIFYME GLOBAL INVESTING SIMULATOR CHALLENGE

CFA Institute x AmplifyME Investing Simulator Challenge gives you the chance to experience what it's like to work in a real investment role, no prior experience required. Compete against students around the world in this exciting challenge, rise to the top of the leaderboard, and earn your place in the global final, with the opportunity to win a CFA® Program scholarship ([Learn More](#)).

Duration	2 months (Only requiring one 2-hour session from the provided dates and the Final session)
Official Start	September 15
Official End	November 17
Applicable To	ALL Levels but must be a Full-time University Student

What you'll do

- Participate as asset managers and investment bank traders on a live, real-time investing simulation platform
- Respond to breaking news and dynamic market data to make rapid investment and trading decisions
- Manage a virtual portfolio reflecting real-world investing challenges and opportunities
- Compete to maximize portfolio performance through strategic asset allocation and trading activities

If you win...

- Top 10% of regional participants advance to a global final competition
- Winners gain international recognition and prizes including **CFA® Program Scholarships**
- Top five global winners receive a scholarship that covers CFA Program Level I enrollment and exam fees

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027

Tools needed

- Access to [AmplifyME live simulation platform \(provided\)](#)
- Reliable internet connection for live simulation sessions
- Optional: Excel or other tools for tracking personal strategy analysis

Choose the session that best fits you

Slot	Date (US/ET)	ET Time	Philippine Time (PHT) & Date
1	15 September	7:30–9:30 AM ET	7:30–9:30 PM, 15 September
2	17 September	1:00–3:00 PM ET	1:00–3:00 AM, 18 September
3	22 September	6:00–8:00 PM ET	6:00–8:00 AM, 23 September
4	24 September	7:00–9:00 AM ET	7:00–9:00 PM, 24 September
5	26 September	8:00–10:00 AM ET	8:00–10:00 PM, 26 September
6	29 September	7:00–9:00 PM ET	7:00–9:00 AM, 30 September
7	8 October	7:30–9:30 AM ET	7:30–9:30 PM, 8 October
8	12 October	1:00–3:00 PM ET	1:00–3:00 AM, 13 October
9	13 October	6:00–8:00 PM ET	6:00–8:00 AM, 14 October
10	15 October	7:00–9:00 AM ET	7:00–9:00 PM, 15 October
11	17 October	8:00–10:00 AM ET	8:00–10:00 PM, 17 October
12	26 October	6:00–8:00 PM ET	6:00–8:00 AM, 27 October
13	29 October	7:00–9:00 AM ET	7:00–9:00 PM, 29 October
14	2 November	1:00–3:00 PM ET	2:00–4:00 AM, 3 November

Benefits of this competition

Real-world immersion	Step into a professional investor's role and make live, simulated trading decisions.
High-stakes practice	Test your response under pressure in a realistic, time-sensitive environment.
Peer learning	Compete and collaborate with equally curious, driven students globally.
Skill-building	Develop practical, career-ready confidence and hands-on

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027

	financial expertise.
Career clarity	Discover if investment management truly fits your interests and strengths.
Global platform	Access AmplifyME's immersive simulation + CFA Institute's worldwide university network.
Resume booster	Earn a certificate from CFA Institute X AmplifyME if you qualify for and compete in the final round.
Top 300 advancement	Finish among the top 300 students across all sessions to secure your spot in the final round on Tuesday, 17 November 2026.
Grand prize	Five overall winners receive a CFA Program Scholarship (exam enrollment, study materials, and registration fee support).

FAQs

1. Do I need to attend multiple sessions?

- No, you're only signing up for one 2-hour live session. If you finish in the top 10, you'll be invited to the final round on Tuesday, 17th November 8–10 AM EST / 1–3 PM GMT / 9–11 PM SGT / 6:30–8:30 PM IST.

2. Are there any prerequisites or recommendations to help me prepare for the challenge?

- No formal prerequisites are required! You can check out these short videos to help you make the most of your experience. [Watch the prereading videos here.](#)

3. Do I need prior finance or investment experience?

- No. The challenge is designed for students with a range of backgrounds and experience levels. Whether you're exploring a career in finance or already studying investment-related topics, you'll gain valuable insights from the experience.

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027



EURASIA ASSET MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE

The Eurasia Asset Management Challenge (EAMC) is an annual international case competition organized by the NTU Investment Interactive Club (NTU-IIC) in collaboration with partner groups like the London School of Economics Business and Finance Group. This competition simulates real-world asset management scenarios and client interactions. It serves as a platform for students to showcase their portfolio modelling, portfolio analytics and presentation skills to renowned industry professionals while expanding their professional connections globally. ([Learn More](#)).

Duration	2 weeks
Recruitment Period	First Quarter of 2027
Finals	March or April
Members Per Team	Three Members
Applicable To	ALL Levels

What you'll do

- Construct and optimize investment portfolios using real-world scenarios and constraints
- Analyze risk-return profiles, performance metrics, and asset allocation strategies
- Connect with students from universities across Asia and Europe
- Present your portfolio recommendations to a panel of industry professionals and receive real-time feedback.

If you win...

- Top teams advance to the Grand Finals to compete for cash prizes and recognition from industry leaders.
- **Cash Prize: 2000 SGD (~Php 97,739.76) for 1st place**

Tools needed

- MS Excel
- Canva / MS PPT / MS Word

FINANCE COMPETITIONS

S.Y. 2026 – 2027

- Refinitiv/Bloomberg

Benefits of this competition

- Provides a unique platform to apply theoretical knowledge in a real-world portfolio management scenario, network with industry professionals, and gain valuable insights into the asset management industry while competing for recognition and prizes.





WHY JOIN THESE FINANCE COMPETITIONS?

- **Connect with Professionals** – These competitions allow you to network to judges and mentors who are already industry experts and recruiters. This can lead to internships, job opportunities, or valuable career advice/
- **Build Relationships with Peers** – Work and grow together with your friends, seniors, or juniors and build friendships that can last a lifetime.
- **Personal Growth** – You will be challenged in ways that regular classes won't. These competitions will push yourself to learn new things, work under pressure, and discover strengths you never knew you had.
- **Hands-on, Real-World Experience** – The best way to learn is to experience. Instead of reading about financial concepts from a book, you put them into practice and analyze data happening in the real world.
- **Career Readiness** - What you are asked to do in these competitions will give you a glimpse of what to expect in your future professional careers. This experience can assist you in choosing the right path, identify what tasks you excel in, and determine the kind of workplace environment you want to put yourself in.
- **Strong on the Resume** - Joining a competition shows initiative, which many employers in the job market look for in candidates.



PROCESS OF JOINING A COMPETITION

1. Fill out the form
2. Undergo screening with the Finance Competition Board (don't worry, it's not formal)
3. The competition board will reach out to you once registration/s for the aforementioned competition/s have started
4. Comply with the requirements of the competition (e.g. CVs, application form details, etc.)
5. The competition board will register your group to the competition unless said otherwise

Interested in any of these competitions?

Fill out the form [here](#) and we'll keep you updated!