

## 2026 IRMSA ANNUAL RISK CHALLENGE RISK MANAGEMENT CASE STUDY CHALLENGE

### Overview, Rules & Guidelines

The **IRMSA Annual Risk Challenge** will be held during the 2026 IRMSA Annual Conference. This inaugural prestigious student competition offers future risk professionals an opportunity to demonstrate their analytical capabilities, strategic thinking, and practical application of risk management principles. The Challenge also allows participants to network with peers, risk management practitioners, and senior industry leaders from across the world.

Participating university teams will analyse a real-world case study and submit a formal written report. The **top three** submissions will be invited to present live at the 2026 IRMSA Conference.

A panel of experienced and respected risk professionals will evaluate all written submissions and determine the top three teams based on rigorous judging criteria.

### TEAMS – IRMSA Annual Risk Challenge

- ★ Each participating university may enter **one** team consisting of three or four max five student members.
- ★ All members must be full-time **undergraduate/Postgraduate** students currently enrolled in a recognised South African university/ relevant tertiary institutions, in a qualification related to risk management, insurance, actuarial science, or a relevant discipline.
- ★ All team members must actively participate and have a speaking role during the presentation rounds.

### Application Process

- ★ Applications open on Tuesday, **31 March 2026** and will close on Thursday, **30 April 2026** at 17:00 SAST.
- ★ All application materials must be submitted via email to [youthdesk@irmsa.org.za](mailto:youthdesk@irmsa.org.za).
- ★ Email subject line and file name should follow this format: "2026IRMSAReg (YourUniversityName)."
- ★ All applications must have a code name for the tertiary institute to allow the judges to be objective.

### Required Application Materials:

1. Completed IRMSA Risk Challenge Application Form



2. Signed Photo Release Form for each team member
3. A brief University Programme Description (risk-related qualification)
4. CVs or resumes of all team members
5. Case study Solution

### Confidentiality Agreement

- ★ Each team member and the team's faculty advisor may be required to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) issued by IRMSA. This will be shared with teams upon confirmation of application receipt.

### Faculty Advisor Role

- ★ Each team must have **one** Faculty Advisor.
- ★ The Faculty Advisor's role is to:
  - ☆ Acknowledge and approve the team's participation on behalf of the university.
  - ☆ Confirm that all team members are currently enrolled full-time undergraduate students at the institution.
- ★ The Faculty Advisor may not contribute any content to the team's written submission or presentation.
- ★ **The Advisor's responsibility is to provide general guidance, logistical support, and mentorship throughout the competition process.**
- ★ The Advisor must be a current employee (faculty or staff) of the sponsoring university.



## Challenge Case Study Written submission

- ★ The Challenge Case Study will be distributed on Monday, 25 May 2026 together with the application forms
- ★ Each team must submit a written report (not to exceed 10 pages, including graphs, graphics, and supporting documentation). The cover page and references/works cited page are not included in the 10-page limit.
  - ☆ One (1) point will be deducted for each page beyond the maximum.
- ★ The written report must be submitted by 5:00 PM SAST on Friday, 31 July 2026 to [youthdesk@irmsa.org.za](mailto:youthdesk@irmsa.org.za).
- ★ Teams may only use publicly available data.
- ★ Written reports will be judged anonymously.
  - ☆ **Do not** include your university name or individual names in the report.
  - ☆ Teams must use a team name only on their submissions.
- ★ Judging will be based on the official IRMSA Risk Challenge scoring rubric.
- ★ Teams will be notified by 24 August 2026 whether they have qualified among the Top 3 teams selected to present at the IRMSA Annual Conference 2026.
  - ☆ Teams must confirm acceptance within 48 hours of notification.
  - ☆ Two alternate teams may be contacted if a selected team withdraws.

## Presentation:

- ★ Presentations must be prepared based on the report submitted for the case study and must be the original work of the team members.
- ★ Presentations must be submitted by 5:00 PM SAST on Friday, 18 September 2026 to [youthdesk@irmsa.org.za](mailto:youthdesk@irmsa.org.za).
  - ☆ No revisions will be accepted after submission. Only one submission per team.
- ★ Presentation content may include visual aids (e.g., PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.) but must remain within time and format constraints.



## Final Presentation Round

- ★ The Top 3 teams will present in the **Final Round** on **1-2 October 2026**.
  - ☆ Each team presentation must not exceed 10 minutes, with a 2-minute warning before time ends.
  - ☆ Every team member must actively participate and speak during the presentation.
  - ☆ Presentations will be followed by a 10-minute Q&A with the judging panel
  - ☆ This round is open to all IRMSA Conference attendees.
  - ☆ **Finalists will be sequestered prior to their presentation to maintain confidentiality.**
- ★ Judges will deliberate and announce the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners, during the IRMSA awards dinner.
  - ☆ The prize will be awarded immediately at the IRMSA Gala Dinner on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2026.

## Travel and Logistics Support

- ★ All Top 3 teams must be present for the full IRMSA Conference Presentation Days **(1–2 October 2026)**.
- ★ IRMSA will provide:
  - ☆ Complimentary IRMSA Annual Conference registration for each team member and one faculty advisor.
  - ☆ Teams are responsible for arranging and booking their own accommodation and transport.
- ★ Business attire is required for all presentation sessions.

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## ELIGIBILITY DISCLAIMER

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in penalties or disqualification from the 2026 IRMSA Annual Risk Challenge and future competitions.

For any questions or clarifications, please contact: The youth desk department on [youthdesk@irmsa.org.za](mailto:youthdesk@irmsa.org.za)

**Participants are permitted to use AI tools, however, usage must be responsible and limited to support functions only. AI must not be used for idea generation, critical thinking, or content creation.**



