



Regulations of the Erste Award Competition for Students and Doctoral Students at SWPS University 2026

At a glance

In this section, we present general information about the competition. Details can be found in the subsequent parts of the regulations.



What you will gain in the competition

- The prize in the competition is a one-time financial support of PLN 4,500 net for students and doctoral students of SWPS University for their individual achievements and/or social engagement. We have provided 20 awards in the competition.



How to participate in the competition

- Submit your application via the [Pro Akademika Foundation website](#) by October 30.



Conditions you must meet

- On the day of submitting the application and receiving the award, you must be a student or a doctoral student at SWPS University.
- You must accept these regulations and consent to our processing of personal data.



Remember these dates

- By October 30, 2026, 23:59:59 – submit your application on [the Pro Akademika Foundation website](#).
- By November 30, 2026, 23:59:59 – we will inform you if you are among the winners.
- By December 4, 2026, 12:00:00 – send the completed declaration necessary to pay out the Award, along with your photo and consent for its use, which will be displayed during the award ceremony.



- These regulations describe the terms and conditions of the competition. Please read them before submitting your application.
- When we use the phrases:
 - "You" – we mean any person eligible to participate in the competition,
 - "We" or "Foundation" – means the Pro Akademia Foundation with its registered seat at ul. Chodakowska 19/31, 03-815 Warsaw,
 - "University" – means SWPS University,
 - "Competition" – means the ["Erste Award Competition for Students and Doctoral Students at SWPS University 2026"](#),
 - "Erste Foundation", "Founder" – means the Erste Bank Polska Foundation named after Ignacy Jan Paderewski with its registered seat at Pl. Europejski 3A, 00-844 Warsaw, the founder of the awards in the competition,
 - "Erste Bank Polska", "Partner" – means Erste Bank Polska S.A. with its registered seat at Pl. Europejski 3A, 00-844 Warsaw.
- Important information is highlighted in blue frames.
- Certain terms in the text have their own definitions placed in the Glossary. The first use of these terms is underlined.
- In matters related to the regulations, you can contact us at:
fundacja.fpa@swps.edu.pl.
- Whenever masculine forms are used in the Regulations, they refer equally to masculine, feminine, and gender-neutral forms.

Organizer

1. In these regulations, we have specified the rules for **the Erste Award competition for students and doctoral students at SWPS University 2026**.
2. The objective of the competition is to reward students and doctoral students at SWPS University for their scientific, social, sports, or artistic activities.
3. The Organizer of the competition is the Pro Akademia Foundation.
4. Our registered office is located at ul. Chodakowska 19/31, 03-815 Warsaw.
5. The founder of the awards is the Erste Foundation, with the support of Erste Bank Polska, the main supporting partner of the competition.

Participants

Who can participate in the competition

6. You may participate in the competition if you meet all of the following criteria:
 - On the day of submitting the application, you hold the status of a student or doctoral student at our University,
 - At the moment of submitting the application, you are not on a leave of absence and are not in the process of being removed from the list of students or doctoral students,



- You have accepted these Regulations and consented to the processing of your personal data by us (in accordance with Appendix No. 1).
7. You may submit only one application.

Who cannot participate in the competition

8. You cannot participate in the competition if:
- You are not a student or doctoral student at SWPS University,
 - At the moment of submitting the application, you are on a leave of absence or in the process of being removed from the list of students or doctoral students,
 - You are pursuing a doctorate in an extramural mode,
 - You have not accepted the provisions of these Regulations and have not consented to the processing of your personal data (Appendix No. 1),
 - In the 2025/2026 academic year, you were awarded the Santander Award for students or doctoral students at SWPS University,
 - You are a member of the Erste Award Committee.

How to Apply for the Competition

9. By October 30, 2026, fill out and submit your application via the Pro Akademia Foundation website at fundacjaproakademika.pl.
- a) Mandatory fields to complete:
- First and last name,
 - E-mail address,
 - Phone number,
 - Student/doctoral ID number (album number),
 - Name of faculty or doctoral school,
 - Field of study,
 - Level of study,
 - Year of study, mode of study,
 - Planned year of graduation,
 - Polish bank account number (for award payout if selected),
 - Description of achievements in one category: scientific activity, social activity, artistic activity, or sports activity, obtained no earlier than January 1, 2025.
- b) Mandatory attachments:
- Current certificate (issued no earlier than 30 days prior to application submission) downloaded from the Student Affairs Center or the Doctoral School confirming your status as a student or doctoral student at SWPS University (mandatory document),
 - Documents confirming achievements obtained no earlier than January 1, 2025, in one category: scientific activity, social activity, artistic activity, or



sports activity. Documents may include recommendations, certificates, diplomas, or translations of certificates issued in languages other than Polish or English (mandatory documents).

- c) Accept the regulations and consent to the processing of your data in accordance with Appendix No. 1 (Information clause on personal data processing).
10. We will not evaluate incomplete applications or those that do not meet the conditions specified in the regulations.
11. If you are among the winners, by November 30, 2026, 23:59:59, you will receive an e-mail from fundacja.fpa@swps.edu.pl containing:
- Confirmation of the award grant,
 - A request to send back the completed declaration necessary to pay out the Award, your photograph (which will be displayed during the ceremony and published in Foundation communication channels), and voluntary consent to the use of your image,
 - An invitation to the award ceremony held in December 2026.
- Send back the aforementioned declaration, photograph, consent, and attendance confirmation by December 4, 2026, 12:00:00, by replying to the received email. If we do not receive your data by the specified deadline, we will not be able to pay out the award.
12. The Competition results, including the names and surnames of the winners, will also be published on the website and social media channels of the Pro Akademia Foundation.
13. If you encounter any issues with submitting your application or have additional questions, write to us at: fundacja.fpa@swps.edu.pl.

Selection Rules for Competition Winners

14. We have established the Erste Award Committee, which will make the final decision regarding the granting of awards. This decision is final and non-appealable.
15. The Committee consists of:
- a) At least 1 representative of academic staff or associates of SWPS University,
 - b) At least 1 representative of organizational staff or associates of SWPS University,
 - c) At least 1 representative of the Pro Akademia Foundation.
16. The Erste Award Committee will evaluate applications according to adopted scoring criteria:
- a) Category 1: Social Activity (up to 5 achievements):
 - Criterion 1: Sustainability of commitment – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 2: Impact/significance for the environment – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 3: Role and responsibility – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 4: Awards, honors – max. 25 pts.
 - b) Category 2: Artistic Activity (up to 5 achievements)



- Criterion 1: Sustainability of commitment – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 2: Impact/significance for the environment – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 3: Public presentation and reception – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 4: Awards, honors – max. 25 pts.
- c) Category 3: Sports Activity (up to 5 achievements)
- Criterion 1: Sustainability of commitment – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 2: Sports achievements (including awards, medals, honors, etc.) – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 3: Rank of competitions (local, regional, national, international level - including whether it was abroad) – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 4: Team/squad membership (national, provincial, university) – max. 25 pts.
- d) Category 4: Scientific Activity
- Criterion 1: Active participation in conferences (max. 5) – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 2: Research or development projects (max. 3) – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 3: Scientific publications (max. 3) – max. 25 pts,
 - Criterion 4: Participation in scientific trips/internships AND / OR awards for scientific activity (max. 3) – max. 25 pts.
17. You may apply for the award in only one of the above categories.
18. The Committee has the right to verify the authenticity of the documents and information you present.
19. The Committee will not publicly disclose information regarding points awarded to you or other participants. It will also not provide information regarding your or other participants' position on the ranking list.

Awards

What is the competition prize

20. The award is a one-time financial support in the amount of PLN 4,500 net.
21. An additional cash amount equal to the lump-sum personal income tax due on the award will be added to the awarded amount. You agree that this additional amount is not payable to you, but will be designated by the Foundation to pay the tax due.
22. Within the funds provided to us by the Erste Foundation, we will grant 20 awards in the amount of PLN 4,500 (say: four thousand five hundred 00/100 PLN), with 5 awards in each category, including at least one first-year student in each category.
23. A separate ranking list will be created for each group, from which the winners with the highest score will be selected.
24. The award pool indicated in these Regulations constitutes the maximum number of awards envisaged in the Competition. The Organizer is not obliged to distribute the entire pool.



25. In the absence of a sufficient number of applications in a given group (category and/or first-year students), the remaining awards may be transferred to individuals outside that group.
26. In the case of an insufficient number of applications, or a lack of applications meeting formal or substantive requirements, the Organizer reserves the right to:
 - a) Grant a smaller number of Awards than planned,
 - b) Refrain from granting Awards in a given category,
 - c) Completely waive granting Awards.
27. Participants hold no claims against the Organizer for not granting or not distributing the entire Award pool for the reasons mentioned above.
28. The Award may be granted independently of scholarships and allowances you receive from other sources.
29. After the competition concludes, the Pro Akademia Foundation may contact the winners with a request to voluntarily provide brief information regarding their professional career (including the impact of the award on their career) and a current photo. Providing these materials is voluntary. If provided, the winner consents to their use and the dissemination of their image by the Pro Akademia Foundation for promotional and informational purposes related to non-profit activities, specifically on the website and social media. Consent may be revoked at any time.

When and how we will transfer the award

30. You will receive the Award as a one-time bank transfer to the bank account specified in your application form.
31. We will pay out the Award by December 24, 2026 at the latest.
32. You cannot exchange the award for another or transfer it to anyone else.

Will you pay tax on the award

33. You will not pay tax on the award because the Pro Akademia Foundation will pay the required tax.

Personal Data Protection

34. The Pro Akademia Foundation is the administrator of your personal data accessed in connection with the competition.
35. We process your personal data in accordance with applicable laws, particularly Polish data protection laws and Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR).
36. We process your personal data based on your consent (Art. 6(1)(a) GDPR) solely to execute the competition according to regulations and statutory activities, as well as to fulfill legal/tax duties (Art. 6(1)(c) GDPR).
37. Consent is expressed via the corresponding checkbox in the application form.



- 38. Data will be processed until the end of the competition and until statutory obligations expire. Tax-related data will be kept for 5 years starting from the beginning of the year following the financial year concerned.
- 39. Providing data is voluntary but necessary to participate, receive the award, diploma, and fulfill legal/tax requirements.
- 40. Data will not be processed outside the European Economic Area nor subject to automated decision-making or profiling.
- 41. You have the right to information, access, rectification, erasure (under specific conditions), restriction of processing, data portability, and withdrawal of consent at any time. You may lodge a complaint with the President of the Personal Data Protection Office (UODO).
- 42. Contact regarding data: fundacja.fpa@swps.edu.pl.
- 43. Data may be shared with processors acting on our behalf (authorized employees, IT service providers).

Final Provisions

- 44. We take responsibility for the competition and its correct execution.
- 45. Questions regarding the Competition can be directed to: fundacja.fpa@swps.edu.pl.
- 46. Promotional materials are auxiliary; binding terms are contained in these Regulations.
- 47. By submitting an application, you agree to these regulations.
- 48. The Organizer decides on matters not covered by these regulations.
- 49. Regulations enter into force upon publication on the website:
<https://fundacjaproakademika.pl/>.



Glossary

Terms (in alphabetical order)	Explanation
Application Submission	Filling out and sending the application form via the link found on the Pro Akademia Foundation website: https://fundacjaproakademika.pl/
Award	Erste Award for students or doctoral students at SWPS University 2026, which is a one-time financial support in the amount of PLN 4,500 net.
Competition	Competition aimed at financial support for students and doctoral students at SWPS University with individual achievements in social, artistic, sports, or scientific fields.
Erste Award Committee	The Erste Award Committee evaluating student and doctoral applications.
Erste Foundation	Erste Foundation named after Ignacy Jan Paderewski with its seat at Pl. Europejski 3A, 00-844 Warsaw, founder of the awards in the competition.
Organizer	The Organizer of the competition is the Pro Akademia Foundation based in Warsaw, ul. Chodakowska 19/31, 03-815 Warsaw.
Regulations	Regulations for granting the Erste Award for students or doctoral students at SWPS University 2026.
Winner	A person awarded in the competition.

Appendix No. 1. Information clause on personal data processing by the Organizer

Identity and contact details of the controller:

The personal data controller is Fundacja Pro Akademia (Foundation) with its registered office in Warsaw, address: ul. Chodakowska 19/31, 03-815 Warsaw.

You can contact the controller by email at: fundacja.fpa@swps.edu.pl or in writing to the registered address of the Foundation.

Purposes and legal basis of processing:

Personal data will be processed for the purpose of:

- awarding the prize in accordance with the provisions of its regulations; the legal basis for processing is consent (Article 6(1)(a) GDPR) and explicit consent (Article 9(2)(a) GDPR) if the Winner indicates special categories of personal data (e.g., concerning health) in the application,
- fulfilling obligations arising from tax law provisions; the legal basis for processing is Article 6(1)(c) GDPR,
- defending against potential claims; the legal basis for processing is the legitimate interest of the Foundation (Article 6(1)(f) GDPR). The legitimate interest of the Foundation is defense against potential claims.

Personal data will be processed until the decision to award the prize is made, and in the case of individuals who receive the prize, for the period required by tax regulations.

Who will process your data:

Your personal data will be processed by employees and associates of the Foundation involved in conducting the selection process.

Your data may be transferred to entities providing services to the Foundation, in particular entities providing IT services, document storage and destruction services, or courier and postal services.

Your Rights:

You have the right to request access to your data, its rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, data portability, as well as the right to object to data processing on grounds relating to your particular situation for purposes related to the legitimate interest of the controller.

Where the processing of data is based on your consent, you have the right to withdraw consent at any time. The withdrawal of consent does not affect the lawfulness of processing based on consent before its withdrawal.



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You have the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority dealing with personal data protection (in Poland: the President of the Personal Data Protection Office).

Additional Information:

Providing your personal data is voluntary, but it is a regulatory requirement for participation in the selection process. The potential consequence of not providing data is the inability to participate in the selection process. The controller will not make automated decisions, including profiling, based on your personal data.