OFFICIAL GENERAL RULES

Organized and Run by:
EERI Student Leadership Council (SLC)

Competition Website: https://slc.eeri.org/2021-sdc/

1. Competition Objectives

The objectives of the (Virtual) 18th Annual Undergraduate Seismic Design Competition sponsored by EERI are:
- To promote the study of earthquake engineering among undergraduate students.
- To build professional relationships between EERI student members and EERI professional members.
- To provide civil engineering and architectural engineering undergraduate students with an opportunity to work on designing a cost-effective frame building to resist seismic loading.
- To promote EERI activities among undergraduate students as well as the general public, and to encourage international participation in these activities.

2. Eligibility and Registration

All deadlines, instructions, and forms will be posted on the competition website (listed on the cover page). Any team failing to meet all eligibility requirements or complete the registration requirements by the deadlines shall not be eligible to compete in the competition.

This year, teams will be invited to participate in the competition based on their 2021 SDC Interest Forms. The team captains as indicated in the interest survey would be the future point of contact between the SLC and the participating teams.

Team registration and eligibility questions should be directed to:

sdc@eeri.org

(a) Team Eligibility Requirements
The following eligibility requirements will be strictly enforced:

- Teams **must** be affiliated with a registered EERI student chapter in good standing. To start a student chapter, please reference the following website:
  http://www.eeri.org/about-eeri/student-chapters/how-to-start-an-eeri-student-chapter/
  Exceptions for first year teams creating a new EERI Chapter will be made on a case by case basis by the SLC Co-Presidents and EERI Staff.

- Teams shall be comprised of undergraduate students only. A team shall have at least two registered participants and may have as many undergraduate student participants as they wish. Undergraduate students may seek assistance from the graduate students, however, graduate students **cannot** register as team members. All competition deliverables shall be completed solely by undergraduate students.

- Each undergraduate student registered for a team must be a student member of the national EERI organization and a member of the EERI student chapter for the school being represented. Exceptions to this will be made on a case by case basis by the SLC Co-Presidents. Decisions by the Co-Presidents are final and may not be appealed.

- Each competing university shall enter only one undergraduate student team at the competition.

- Each team must complete all registration requirements.

- Any team member who has earned their undergraduate degree between the submittal of the interest form and the start of competition shall be permitted to participate in the competition, provided that their name appears on the first submitted deliverable document. Team members meeting eligibility requirements can be added to the team roster after the deliverable document has been submitted.

- Each team shall identify a team captain who will act as the team liaison for correspondence with the Seismic Design Competition Chairs (SDC Chairs, hereafter).

- Owing to the virtual nature of the competition this year, having access to numerical software packages is of paramount importance. Computers and Structures, Inc. (CSi) will generously provide teams with required licenses. A request form shall be submitted by teams requiring access to the analysis software by the assigned deadline as mentioned in the following section (Section 3). Request forms will be sent separately.

(b) Team Registration Requirements
All participating teams are required to complete the following registration requirements:

- Interest Survey
- Final Registration (Further announcements will be made)

3. Important Dates and Deadlines

Following are the dates for different milestones throughout the competition's timeline. These dates are tentative and subject to change/update with further notice on the competition website. Cutoff will be at 11:59 PM Pacific Time.

Milestone	Date/Deadline
Deliverable #1 - Release	Monday, January 11th, 2021
Teams Request for CSi package license	Monday, January 18th, 2021
Teams Registration	TBD
Deliverable #1 - Submission	Monday, February 8th, 2021
Deliverable #2 and #3 - Release	Monday, February 8th, 2021
Deliverable #2 and #3 - Submission	Monday, March 22nd, 2021
Deliverable #4 - Release	Monday, March 22nd, 2021
2021 EERI Virtual Annual Meeting	Tuesday, March 23rd, 2021 Wednesday, March 24th, 2021 Thursday, March 25th, 2021
Deliverable #4 - Submission	Monday, April 12th, 2021
Students Final Presentations and Posters	Thursday, April 15th, 2021 Friday, April 16th, 2021
Closing and Awards Ceremony	TBD

4. Deliverable Documents

Your team is required to submit four deliverable documents for evaluation by the SDC Chairs. If a team fails to submit their document by the aforementioned (tentative) deadlines, the weight of the document missed will be subtracted from their overall score. The following is an itemized list of general items required in a deliverable document:

- The document shall not exceed the page limit given in the deliverable rubric (a rubric will be sent along with each deliverable document). Any document exceeding the page limit will not be scored.
- Plagiarism is strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification and failure to compete. Any citation style is accepted, as long as it is consistent. Works cited or References pages are required but do not count toward the page limit. See Section 8 for more information.
- Format requirements mentioned in the rubric shall be followed.

A PDF of the document must be emailed to the SDC Chairs at the following email address by the date listed on the competition website (and mentioned above). The PDF file should be labelled as follows **SchoolName_Deliverable#X_2021**.The SDC Chairs will confirm the submission within 2-3 days after the submission date.

<div align="center">sdc@eeri.org</div>

For any clarifications, refer to the clarifications section on the competition website, or the team captain can submit a clarification request (See Section 7).

5. Scoring

Owing to the completely virtual nature of the competition this year, scoring rules have changed from previous years. Each deliverable will have its own method of scoring which will be described upon release in a separate rubric for each deliverable. The final form of evaluation (previously, the *Final Annual Building Income*) will be modified based on the new virtual competition format and further described along with the next deliverables. As of now, please make sure to do your best addressing the deliverable tasks. All information regarding evaluation and appeals process will follow in further announcements.

6. Presentation, Poster, and Architecture

Presentations and poster rules and guidelines will be updated to fit the new virtual format and will contribute to the overall scoring. These events will be held after the annual meeting and a separate closing and awards ceremony will be organized.

7. Rule Clarifications

All the rule clarification requests and answers to these requests will be posted on the competition website. The posted question and answer will also include the name of the school submitting the question. To submit a rule/point clarification, the team captain must fill out and submit an online submission form, which can be found on the competition website. Questions or clarifications about the rules sent via email will not be answered. Be sure to read the deliverable document, along with the released rubric and any other current-year clarifications thoroughly before submitting a question.

8. Code of Conduct and Plagiarism

The SDC Chairs and other SLC members understand that teams have worked very hard to compete in the event, but would also expect the teams to recognize that they, too, have worked very hard to organize and run the event (especially with the new virtual format this year). As such, individuals who treat the SLC with extreme disrespect, their team may be disqualified from the competition.

Plagiarism is strictly prohibited throughout the competition. Taken from [1], examples of plagiarism include:

- Taking credit for any work created by another person.
- Copying any work belonging to another person without indicating that the information is copied and properly citing the source of work.
- If not directly copied, using another person's presentation ideas without putting it in your own words or form and not giving proper citation.
- Creating false citations that do not correspond to the information you have used.

So-called common knowledge does not need to be cited; for more information, see [2].

[1] OSSJA (2016). "UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct."
<http://sja.ucdavis.edu/cac.html>.

[2] MIT (2016). "What is Common Knowledge."
<https://integrity.mit.edu/handbook/citing-your-sources/what-common-knowledge>.