

# European QuantAwards

## Awards in Quantitative Finance

# GUIDELINES



**Applications:** Students and interns are invited to submit an original research report in quantitative finance focusing on a chosen issue in portfolio management. The report should focus on the importance and practical application of the research rather than the techniques used. It must be original work carried out by the candidate, and can include an end of studies dissertation, internship report or work carried out specifically for the Award.

**Eligibility:** The Award is open to students currently registered in a Masters, regardless of specialty. Professional experience is limited to internships, which shouldn't exceed 3 years combined. The competition is open to individuals only but the report submitted can be the work of a team if necessary. Entry is free of charge.

**Format:** A submission consists of a cover page, the report and appendices. The cover page should contain the report title but no candidate name or institution name. The latter should be indicated in the report name as follows: **Quant Awards — candidate name — institution name**. If the submission is an adaptation of an internship report, include the name of the company where the internship was completed. The submission should be between **5 and 7 pages long**. Appendices appropriate to the dissertation may be attached.

**Language:** The report should be written in English.

**Judging:** The judging panel consists of 7 reviewers. The panel may also call on the expertise of external examiners should participation be particularly high or if a given submission requires additional technical oversight.

Each submission will be marked by two jury members, from 1 to 10. Their mark is a weighted average of four criteria:

1. Presentation (10%)
2. Accuracy and completeness (30%)
3. Applicability and relevance (30%)
4. Innovation (30%)

This ensures that the strongest entries will provide a good balance between the technical nature of the subject and its practical application. Submissions are provided to the judging panel anonymously, with a code replacing the names of the candidates.

The final mark allocated to each submission will be the sum of the marks of two jury members. In the event of a tie, the Chairman's mark will prevail after consultation with other members of the panel. Decisions may not be appealed.

**Awards:** There are three prizes for the top 3 submissions with the highest marks.

- The first prize winner will be awarded €2,000 and registration to a CFA exam\*.
- The 2nd prize winner will be awarded €1,000 and registration to a CFA exam\*.
- The 3rd prize winner will be awarded €500 and registration to a CFA exam\*.

\*Registration to a CFA exam will be reimbursed to the level of the 1st deadline fee (circa \$620).

**Award Ceremony:** The Award Ceremony will be held in the country of the CFA Society where the winner applied. Both the winner and the runners up will be invited and travel and housing costs covered (with a limit of €1,000 per person). All participants are welcome to attend the ceremony at their own costs. The Award Ceremony will take place early 2020.

**Deadlines:** Candidates should register with their local CFA Society before **30 June 2019**; no CFA membership is required. Registered candidates must submit their reports before **31 August 2019**.

**About CFA Societies:** CFA Societies are the local member societies of CFA Institute, the global association of investment professionals that sets the standard for professional excellence and credentials. The organization is a champion for ethical behavior in investment markets and a respected source of knowledge in the global financial community. The end goal: to create an environment where investors' interests come first, markets function at their best, and economies grow.

The Institute offers the Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA) Program, a globally recognized, graduate level curriculum that provides a strong foundation of real-world investment analysis and portfolio management skills.

**Questions?** For more information, please contact the participating societies.

[www.cfasociety.org/france](http://www.cfasociety.org/france)

[www.cfasociety.org/ireland](http://www.cfasociety.org/ireland)

[www.cfasociety.org/netherlands](http://www.cfasociety.org/netherlands)

LinkedIn Group: QuantAwards

**Assignment:** Candidates assign publication rights to the organisers. Their name and the summary of their report may be cited, and photos may be taken during the Award Ceremony.

The organisers reserve the right to amend the rules according to requirements or to cancel the competition without candidates being able to claim compensation.