



”ACRYRED Student Competition”

Regulations

1. Introduction

We are pleased to announce a student competition created by the ACRYRED cost action “Reducing Acrylamide Exposure of Consumers by a Cereals Supply-chain Approach Targeting Asparagine”. This competition is related to the creation of a video on the topic of acrylamide in food. Since its discovery in food in 2002, technological efforts have been made to reduce the levels of acrylamide in food, and acrylamide is nowadays the target of tight control by producers. The presence of carbonyl groups from sugars and free asparagine in the dough, associated with the high temperatures of cooking and food processing, leads to the formation of acrylamide.

The final stage of the contest will take place during the ACRYRED meeting, to be held in Aveiro on 8 to 9th July 2024, where the students that reach this stage will have the opportunity to show their presentation to the public (**online presentation** is preferable as transportation and accommodation are not included at this stage of the competition). The meeting delegates will have the opportunity to vote for the winner. The winner, to be announced at the end of the meeting, will have the opportunity to present his work at an international conference organised by ACRYRED that will take place in Brussels, 4-5th September 2024.

2. Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the contest, the student (>18 years old, from Europe) must be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduated degree at an accredited university. The student may be mentored by a senior researcher (e.g., faculty mentor, or industry collaborator) but this is not compulsory. Students interested in participating must submit an individual application file entitled “ACRYRED CONTEST” **by email to cpassos@ua.pt** by the deadline of **7 June 2024**. The application must include the following information:

- Student Individual name;
- Affiliation (name of the school/University);
- Mentor, if applicable (name and contact information);
- Video (up to 3 min, maximum)

A team of technical experts will review the proposals. Selections will be based on the proposal qualifications for originality, clearance, creativity, message delivered and feasibility of the topic. Invitations to participate in the final programme will be announced by **deadline, 20 June 2024**.

3. About the video (guidelines)

- We encourage to prepare a video with **no speech** (not mandatory), so that the message can be accessible to any person in the world (music can be added);
- **Be creative**, the topic is ACRYLAMIDE, but use the topic as you imagine...: give the definition, present mitigation strategies, explain the hazards, and advise for better food cooking practices...however, **try to end up with a positive view of the topic**.



4. The Event

The competition aims to engage students in the topic of Acrylamide, to learn more about it, how is it formed, and to be aware of its harmful potential in food products, but hopefully under a conscience attitude towards it. During the Aveiro event, a round table gathering scientist, food products, legislators, and some additional experts will be an opportunity for the student to learn more about the topic from experts. The students are encouraged to participate in person but can also present their work online if they choose to do so.

The competition presentation will take place in the Aveiro meeting, to be held on 8 to 9th July 2024, where the selected students will present their videos. The ACRYRED cost members will be given a link to participate and vote for their favourite. At the end of the meeting, the votes will be accounted for, and the winner announced. The winning student will have an opportunity to participate in the conference for ACRYRED to be held on 4-5th September 2024 in Brussels and present their original video. Check the conference webpage to learn more about the topic: <https://acryred.eu/news/acrylamide-and-process-formed-contaminants-a-supply-chain-approach/>.

5. Financial support

The ACRYRED has no financial resources to cover travel and accommodation expenses for participation in the Aveiro meeting. The final winner will have travel (across Europe), accommodation costs, and a daily allowance to cover expenses to participate in the ACRYRED conference in 4-5th September 2024.

6. Q&A

What if I am not selected or missed the deadline? You may still participate in the Aveiro meeting. However, only those applications that have been selected will be eligible to win the competition.

What type of computing platform can I use to prepare the video? You are free to use any computing platform, mobile devices (e.g., smartphones, tablets) or laptops.

7. Copyrights

By sending an application to this contest, I consent to the use of the shared material for dissemination on the COST ACTION: CA21149 - Reducing Acrylamide exposure of consumers by a Cereals supply-chain approach targeting Asparagine.

Contest Coordinator:
Cláudia P. Passos, University of Aveiro



universidade
de aveiro