

2021 High School Fed Challenge Guidelines

1. Form a Team

- a. Teams can consist of up to five high school students. Additional alternates acceptable.
- b. Faculty advisers cannot have worked for the Federal Reserve System for two years prior to advising a team.
- c. All team members must be current students at a high school in the Chicago Federal Reserve 7th Bank District, which includes Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan + Indiana.
- d. All team members must be from the same high school.

2. Register Your Team

- a. Teams must register by email. **Deadline to register is Friday, January 29, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. CST.**
- b. To register, email: education@chi.frb.org with the following information:
 - i. School name
 - ii. Adviser(s) name(s) and email address(es)
 - iii. Students' names and email addresses
 - iv. Alternates' names
 - v. Primary contact
 - vi. School's experience in the Fed Challenge
 - vii. Video + Photo Release Form

*Faculty advisers are required to ensure submission is received.
- c. Once registered, teams will receive a confirmation email from the Fed Challenge Team with a unique ID number.
- d. New this year - Teams will be assigned to one of two divisions:
 - i. **Yellen Division – Experienced.** These high schools have experience as finalists in a past High School Fed Challenge at the district level.
 - ii. **Bernanke Division – Rookie.** These high schools have not participated as finalists in the High School Fed Challenge or this is their first year participating.
 - iii. Please note: Division assignments are at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's discretion.

3. Watch Orientation Video

- a. Orientation video release is scheduled for the week of January 4-8, 2021.
- b. The orientation video will be available on the Chicago Fed's [High School Fed Challenge website](#).

4. Develop Your Video Presentation

- a. Teams must prepare a **presentation** based on content rubric (see High School rubric, section III). This may be in the team's preferred video presentation platform. Example platforms include, but are not limited to: Zoom, WebEx, and Google Classroom.
- b. It is recommended that video be turned on for the duration of the recording.
- c. Teams may choose to include a slide deck alongside video, but this is not required.
- d. Video should be a simple presentation recording. Presentations are scored on content ONLY and **not video production quality**. (See High School rubric, section III).
- e. Presentations should be no longer than 15 minutes.
- f. Paper submissions are not accepted.
- g. Presentations are evaluated based on the High School rubric.
- h. Do **not** identify your school or names in your presentation. For the purposes of fair judging, proposals must exclude any identification of team members, advisers, or school affiliations. This includes school colors, emblems, and logos.
- i. Video submissions should follow the High School rubric and include the following elements:
 - i. An analysis of current economic conditions (as of the day of the competition); these conditions may include broad macroeconomic conditions as well as conditions experienced in different geographic areas, urban/rural areas, or different demographic and socioeconomic groups (e.g., racial and ethnic groups age groups), borrowers and savers, etc.
 1. Please note: Once registered, teams will receive materials pertaining to a December Economic outlook symposium.
 2. We encourage participants to use the January Federal Reserve FOMC meeting as a jumping off point.
 - ii. A forecast of near-term economic and financial conditions relevant to the formulation of monetary policy;
 - iii. A discussion of significant risks to the economy that should receive special attention in formulating monetary policy; these risks may include the possible effects (positive or negative) of monetary policies on different segments of the population.
 - iv. A monetary policy recommendation, encompassing both traditional tools and newer approaches as warranted. Presenters should give supporting reasons for their recommendation.

5. Submit Your Video Presentation

- a. Each registered team will receive a designated and unique team ID number once registered.
- b. Registered teams should upload their videos to YouTube as unlisted and submit their unlisted video link by email no later than **Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. CST**. in

YouTube. Please title your submission video with the following convention: "High School Fed Challenge 2021 Team #" [ID number given during registration step 2 above].

- c. Send the link to the YouTube video entry to education@chi.frb.org. Include in your subject line "High School Fed Challenge 2021 Video Entry [Team ID Number]"

6. **Participate in Finalist Q&As.** Finalist Q&A will be conducted virtually, live with video recommended. Please note that participation in the Finalist Q+A will determine the winners of the Yellen and Bernanke Divisions.

- a. If selected, your team will receive an email from education@chi.frb.org to schedule a Finalist Q&A.
- b. Finalist teams will be contacted between **March 8-12, 2021** if selected for the Finalist Q&A.
- c. Six teams (three from each division) will be selected for the Finalist Q&A.
 - i. Finalist Q&A will occur **March 22 - 26, 2021**.
- d. The Finalist Q&A virtual session will be recorded.
- e. At the designated time, your team will join the online platform sent via invite.

Q&A portion will follow the [High School rubric section IV](#)

7. **Fed Challenge organizers announce winners**

- a. Final winner will be announced on **April 6, 2021** at an online event. All teams that participated in the Finalist Q&A will be invited to this online event.
- b. The winning team's video submission and Q&A will be posted to the Chicago Fed's website.
- c. Highlights will be included on the Chicago Fed's social media pages.