

Regulations of the Santander Prize Competition for Students and Doctoral Candidates at SWPS University 2025

Overview

This section provides general information about the competition. You'll find the details in the subsequent parts of the regulations.



What you'll gain in the competition

The prize in this competition is a one-time financial support of **4,500 PLN net** for students or doctoral candidates at SWPS University for their individual achievements and/or social engagement. We've allocated **20 prizes** for this competition.



How to participate

- By October 13th, send your application to Santander Open Academy.



What Conditions You Must Meet

- On the day you send your application, you must be a student or doctoral candidate at SWPS University.
- Accept these regulations and consent to our processing of your personal data.
- Confirm acceptance of the prize on the Santander Open Academy platform – if you win this competition.



Pay special attention to this

- The competition consists of two recruitment stages.
- Monitor your application status on your Santander Open Academy account and through the communications we'll send to the email address you provided in your application.



Remember these dates

- By October 13, 2025, 11:59:59 PM – send your application to Santander Open Academy.
- By October 15, 2025, 11:59:59 PM – we'll inform you if you've advanced to the second recruitment stage.
- By October 30, 2025, 11:59:59 PM – complete the application form and attach the required documents.
- By November 28, 2025, 11:59:59 PM – we'll inform you if you are among the winners.
- By December 4, 2025, 11:59:59 PM – confirm prize acceptance on the Santander Open Academy platform and send the completed statement necessary for prize payment.

- The competition **rules** describe the conditions for participation. Please **familiarize yourself** with them before submitting your application.
- When we use the following terms:
 - **"You"** – we mean any person who can participate in the competition.
 - **"We"** – refers to Fundacja Pro Akademika with its registered office at ul. Chodakowska 19/31, 03-815 Warsaw.
 - **"University"** – refers to SWPS University.
 - **"Santander Open Academy"** – refers to the platform owned by Universia Holding, S.L. with its registered office in Ciudad Grupo Santander. Avda de Cantabria s/n, 28660 Boadilla del Monte (Madrid), available at <https://www.santanderopenacademy.com>.
 - **"Santander Foundation", "founder"** – refers to Fundacja Santander im. Ignacego Jana Paderewskiego with its registered office at Al. Jana Pawła II 17, 00-854 Warsaw, the founder of the prizes in the competition.
 - **"Santander Bank Polska", "partner"** – refers to Santander Bank Polska S.A. with its registered office at Al. Jana Pawła II 17, 00-854 Warsaw.
- **Important information** is highlighted with a red box.
- Some terms in the text have **definitions**. We've placed them in the **Glossary**. The first use of these terms is **underlined**.
- For matters related to the rules, you can **contact us** at fundacja.fpa@swps.edu.pl.
- Wherever masculine forms are used in these Regulations, they refer to **masculine, feminine, and gender-neutral forms** alike.

Organizer

1. In these regulations, we've defined the rules for the Santander Prize competition for students and doctoral candidates at SWPS University 2025.
2. The Organizer of this competition is Fundacja Pro Akademika.
3. Our registered office is located at Chodakowska 19/31, 03-815 Warsaw.
4. The founder of the prizes is the Santander Foundation, with the support of Santander Bank Polska, who is the main partner supporting the competition.

Participants

Who can participate in the competition?

1. You can participate in the competition if you meet all of the following criteria:
 - a) On the day you submit your application, you hold the status of a student or doctoral candidate at the University.
 - b) If you're a first-year student, your high school leaving certificate must show an average grade higher than 3.5.
 - c) If you're a student from your second year of studies onwards or a doctoral candidate, your average grade from the 2024/2025 academic year must be higher than 3.5.
 - d) At the time of sending your application, you are not on leave from classes, and you are not in the process of being removed from the list of students or doctoral candidates.
 - e) You have accepted the provisions of these Regulations and given your consent for us to process your personal data (in accordance with Appendix No. 1).
2. You may only submit one application.

Who Cannot Participate in the Competition?

1. Individuals who cannot participate in the competition include:
 - a) Employees and direct family members of Fundacja Pro Akademika.
 - b) Employees and direct family members of Santander Bank Polska S.A.
 - c) Employees and direct family members of Fundacja Santander im. Ignacego Jana Paderewskiego.
 - d) Members of the competition committee.
 - e) Individuals who do not meet the criteria outlined in the "Who can take part in the competition" section of these regulations.

How to participate in the competition

1. Recruitment for this competition is conducted in two stages.
2. Stage One
 - a) By October 13, 2025, 11:59:59 PM, complete and submit your application on Santander Open Academy. you must fill in the mandatory fields (marked with an asterisk "*"): country of residence*, university name*, first name and last name*, email*, date of birth*, gender*, phone number*, professional status*, highest level of education obtained*, start and end year of current or highest level of education obtained*, area of specialization*, student ID number (student or doctoral ID)*, faculty name*, field of study*, level of study*, mode of study*.
 - b) You must also accept the regulations* and consent to the processing of your data in accordance with Appendix No. 1, which provides information on personal data processing*.
3. Stage Two
 - a) From October 15 to October 30, 2025, 11:59:59 PM, complete the application form for the second stage of recruitment by providing:
 - b) Your bank account number.
 - c) If you are a first-year student: your average grade from your high school leaving certificate.
 - d) If you are a student from your second year of studies onwards or a doctoral candidate: your average grade from the 2024/2025 academic year.
 - e) A description of your achievements and documents confirming your achievements in one of the following categories: scientific activity, social activity, artistic activity, or sports activity. These achievements must be no earlier than January 1, 2024. Acceptable documents include, but are not limited to, recommendations, certificates, diplomas, and translations of certificates issued in languages other than Polish or English.
 - f) Confirmation of your participation in the awards ceremony in December 2025, during which you will receive your diploma.
 - g) Important: All attached documents (scans and/or photos) must be compiled into one single file (for each of the scored criteria listed below) in .pdf or .jpg format, not exceeding 10MB in size.
4. From November 28 to December 4, 2025, 11:59:59 PM, confirm acceptance of the prize on the Santander Open Academy platform.
5. We will not evaluate incomplete applications or those that do not meet the conditions specified in these regulations.
6. You can check the status of your application at any time on Santander Open Academy.

7. If you encounter any issues with sending your application, please contact us at fundacja.fpa@swps.edu.pl.

Winner Selection Criteria

1. The decision to award the Prize will be made by the Santander Prize Committee, appointed by the Foundation's Board. This decision is final and cannot be appealed.
2. The Committee comprises:
 - A minimum of one representative from the academic staff or collaborators of SWPS University's academic area.
 - A minimum of one representative from the administrative staff or collaborators of SWPS University's organizational area.
 - A minimum of one representative from the Foundation.
3. The Santander Prize Committee will evaluate applications based on the following scoring criteria:
 - Criteria for Category No. 1: Social Activity (Please provide a maximum of 5 achievements):
 - i. * Criterion 1: Sustained involvement – max. 18 pts.
 - ii. * Criterion 2: Significance for the community – max. 18 pts.
 - iii. * Criterion 3: Role and responsibility – max. 18 pts.
 - iv. * Criterion 4: Non-discriminatory, inclusive activity – max. 18 pts.
 - v. * Criterion 5: Awards, distinctions – max. 18 pts.
 - Criteria for Category No. 2: Artistic Activity (Please provide a maximum of 5 achievements):
 - i. * Criterion 1: Sustained involvement – max. 18 pts.
 - ii. * Criterion 2: Significance for the community – max. 18 pts.
 - iii. * Criterion 3: Public presentation and reception – max. 18 pts.
 - iv. * Criterion 4: Awards, distinctions – max. 18 pts.
 - v. * Criterion 5: Rank and prestige of the award/distinction (local/regional, national, international level) – max. 18 pts.
 - Criteria for Category No. 3: Sports Activity (Please provide a maximum of 5 achievements):
 - i. * Criterion 1: Durability of involvement – max. 18 pts.
 - ii. * Criterion 2: Sports achievements (including awards, medals, distinctions, etc.) – max. 18 pts.
 - iii. * Criterion 3: Representation of SWPS University or membership in a team/club outside the University – max. 18 pts.
 - iv. * Criterion 4: Rank and prestige of competitions (local/regional, national, international level) – max. 18 pts.
 - v. * Criterion 5: Involvement in the development of others/sports community – max. 18 pts.
 - Criteria for Category No. 4: Scientific Activity:
 - i. * Criterion 1: Active participation in conferences (maximum 5) – max. 18 pts.
 - ii. * Criterion 2: Research or development projects (maximum 3) – max. 18 pts.
 - iii. * Criterion 3: Scientific publications (maximum 5) – max. 18 pts.
 - iv. * Criterion 4: Work in scientific clubs (maximum 3) – max. 18 pts.

- v. * Criterion 5: Participation in scientific trips or internships AND/OR awards for scientific activity (maximum 3) – max. 18 pts. Kryterium wspólne dla wszystkich Kategorii: Wyniki w nauce:

For first-year students: the average grade from your high school leaving certificate – max. 10 points, calculated according to the formula:

$$\text{Points} = \frac{\text{Candidate's Average}}{\text{Highest average among candidates}} \times 10\% \times 100$$

For students from their second year of studies onwards or doctoral candidates: the average grade from the 2024/2025 academic year – max. 10 points, calculated according to the formula:

$$\text{Points} = \frac{\text{Candidate's Average}}{\text{Highest average among candidates}} \times 10\% \times 100$$

1. You can apply for the prize in only one of the categories listed above.
2. The Committee reserves the right to verify the credibility of the documents and information you submit.
3. After selecting the winners in the second stage of recruitment, we will create a reserve list.
4. If someone resigns or fails to confirm prize acceptance by the deadline, we will award it to the next person on the reserve list.
5. Individuals chosen from the reserve list will also need to confirm prize acceptance by the specified deadline.

Prizes

What is the Prize in the Competition?

1. Nagroda The prize is a one-time financial support in the amount of 4,500 PLN net.
2. An additional sum will be added to the awarded prize amount, corresponding to the flat-rate personal income tax due on the prize. You agree that this additional amount will not be paid out to you, but will be used by the Foundation to pay the due tax.
3. From the funds provided to us by the Santander Foundation, we will award 20 prizes of 4,500 PLN (say: four thousand five hundred 0/100 zlotys), with 5 prizes in each category, including at least one first-year student in each category.
4. A separate ranking list will be created for each of the above groups, from which winners with the highest number of points will be selected.
5. In the event of an insufficient number of applications in a given group (category and/or first-year students), the remaining spots may be allocated to individuals outside that group.
6. The prize can be awarded regardless of other scholarships and benefits you receive from other sources.

When and How We'll Transfer Your Prize

1. You'll receive the prize as a one-time bank transfer to the bank account you provide.
2. The prize will be paid out by December 18, 2025, at the latest.

3. You cannot exchange the prize for another or transfer it to anyone else..

Will You Pay Tax on the Prize?

Nie zapłacisz podatku od nagrody, ponieważ to Fundacja odprowadzi należny podatek.

Personal Data Protection

1. Pro Akademia Foundation is the administrator of your personal data that we'll have access to in connection with organizing the competition.
2. You give your consent for us to process your personal data by checking the appropriate box in the platform when applying for the prize.
3. We will process your personal data solely to fulfill the purpose of the competition in accordance with these regulations and our statutory activities.
4. You provide your personal data to us voluntarily. It's essential for you to receive the prize and for the recruitment process, prize awarding, and diploma delivery.
5. We process your personal data in accordance with applicable law, particularly Polish personal data protection regulations and the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 27, 2016, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (hereinafter: "GDPR").
6. In the context of the competition, we commit to ensuring the security and confidentiality of your personal data that we come into possession of. We commit to implementing appropriate measures for the secure processing of your personal data within Fundacja Pro Akademia, and maintaining the confidentiality of your personal data that we obtain in connection with the competition.
7. We provide protection against unauthorized or unlawful processing and accidental loss, destruction, or damage using appropriate technical and organizational measures.
8. Your data is confidential and cannot be published or disclosed to third parties without prior written or electronic consent. The obligation to maintain the confidentiality of personal data rests with us during the competition period and after its termination or expiry, and is not time-limited.
9. We fulfill the information obligation specified in Articles 13 and 14 of the GDPR towards competition candidates and participants.
10. The recipient and separate administrator of personal data processed on the Santander Open Academy platform is Universia Holding, S.L. with its registered office in Ciudad Grupo Santander, Avda de Cantabria s/n, 28660 Boadilla del Monte (Madrid), NIP B82976515, in accordance with its Privacy Policy and General Terms of Use.

Final Provisions

1. We take responsibility for the competition and its proper execution.
2. You agree to the provisions of these Regulations by submitting your application on the Santander Open Academy platform.
3. For all matters not covered in these Regulations, the Organizer of the competition will make the final decision.
4. These Regulations come into effect on the date of their publication on Santander Open Academy.

Glossary

Concepts in Alphabetical Order	Wyjaśnienie pojęcia zgodnie z brzmieniem w regulaminie
Application Submission	Completing the application form on Santander Open Academy, with successful submission confirmed via email by Santander Open Academy.
Competition	To check your application's status, log in to your Santander Open Academy account (using the email you submitted your application with) and navigate to the competition page. Your application can have the following statuses: • Draft – when you begin filling it out and click "save draft." Such an application is not submitted and will not be evaluated by the Santander Prize Committee. • Application Sent – your application has been successfully submitted. You can view and edit it until the recruitment period closes. • Under Evaluation – your application is currently being evaluated. You can view it, but you cannot edit it. • Accept Scholarship – the Committee has awarded you the prize; we are awaiting your confirmation of acceptance. • Scholarship Accepted – we have received your confirmation of prize acceptance. • Rejected – the Committee did not award you a prize in this competition. You will no longer participate in it. Waiting List – your application is on the reserve list. If one of the selected winners does not accept the prize, we will award it to the next person on the reserve list.
Competition	The purpose of the competition is to provide financial support to SWPS University students and doctoral candidates distinguished by individual achievements in social activities and/or artistic, sports, or scientific achievements.
Confirmation of Prize Acceptance	To confirm prize acceptance, log in to Santander Open Academy, go to the competition page, and click "Accept and continue."
Enrollment Stage (Etap rekrutacji)	The competition consists of two recruitment stages. In the first stage, you must submit your application on Santander Open Academy by October 13, 2025. If you qualify for the second recruitment stage, you will receive a notification to complete your application with the required documents and information.
Organizer	The organizer of the competition is Pro Akademia Foundation.

Prize	The Santander Prize for students or doctoral candidates at SWPS University 2025, which is a one-time financial support of 4,500 PLN, increased by the due tax.
Regulations	The Regulations for awarding the Santander Prize for students or doctoral candidates at SWPS University 2025.
Reserve List	The reserve list contains candidates for prize allocation in case selected winners decline the prize or do not accept it by the specified deadline.
Santander Foundation	Fundacja Santander im. Ignacego Jana Paderewskiego with its registered office at Al. Jana Pawła II 17, 00-854 Warsaw, the founder of the prizes in the competition.
Santander Open Academy	A global platform of the Santander Group available at www.santanderopenacademy.com/pl , which contains information about the competition and is the exclusive means through which a valid application can be submitted.
Santander Prize Committee	The Santander Prize Committee evaluates applications from students and doctoral candidates.
Winner	A person awarded a prize in the competition.
2024/2025 Academic Year Grade Point Average (GPA)	You can check it on Virtual University: portal.swps.edu.pl , under the "Grades" tab.

Appendix No. 1: Information Clause on Personal Data Processing by the Organizer

Identity and Contact Details of the Administrator:

The administrator of your personal data is Fundacja Pro Akademika (the Foundation), with its registered office in Warsaw, at ul. Chodakowska 19/31, 03-815 Warsaw.

You can contact the administrator via email at fundacja.fpa@swps.edu.pl or by writing to the Foundation's registered address.

Purposes and Period of Processing:

Your 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 (Art. 6 sec. 1 lit. a GDPR) and explicit consent (Art. 9 sec. 2 lit. a GDPR) if the Winner's application includes special categories of personal data, e.g., regarding health.

Fulfilling obligations arising from tax law provisions; the legal basis for processing is (Art. 6 sec. 1 lit. c GDPR).

Defending against potential claims; the legal basis for processing is the legitimate interest of the Foundation (Art. 6 sec. 1 lit. f GDPR). The Foundation's legitimate interest is to defend against potential claims.

Personal data will be processed until a decision on awarding 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 the employees and collaborators of the Foundation involved in conducting the recruitment.

Your data may be transferred to entities providing services to the Foundation, particularly those 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, its erasure, or restriction of its processing, its portability, as well as the right to object to the processing of data for reasons related to your particular situation for purposes related to the legitimate interest of the administrator.

If data processing is based on your consent, you have the right to withdraw it at any time. Withdrawal of consent does not affect the lawfulness of processing carried out based on consent before its withdrawal.

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

Additional Information:

Providing your personal data is voluntary, but it is a regulatory condition for participation in the recruitment process. The potential consequence of not providing the data is the inability to participate in the recruitment.

The administrator will not make automated decisions, including profiling, based on your personal data.