



SEPG North America 2011: Information for Students

[SEPG North America 2011](#), the premier conference on software, systems, and services process improvement, is coming to Portland, Oregon, March 21-24, 2011. Attendees will enjoy tutorials, presentations, and keynote speeches on a variety of process improvement topics in this naturally beautiful, eco-friendly, culturally rich gem of a city in the Pacific Northwest. The SEPG Conference Series is hosted by the Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute.

SEPG North America 2011 is a great opportunity for students to connect with software and systems professionals from around the world. Again this year, we are pleased to offer two affordable options for students to participate: the Student Poster Presentation Program and a significantly reduced student registration rate.

Submission Deadline: February 28, 2011

Student Poster Presentation Program

We invite full-time undergraduate and graduate students to submit poster presentations for SEPG North America 2011. Students whose presentations are accepted will get FREE full-conference registration (a value of \$1,995!).

What is a poster presentation?

A poster presentation is a visual presentation representing the student's work. SEPG North America 2011 will provide a poster board for hanging the poster presentation, which can be as simple as PowerPoint slides. Posters will be displayed in the Exhibit Hall allowing all attendees to see the students' work.

Who is eligible?

Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible and will be required to show a valid student ID at the conference.

What is the deadline and when will I be notified?

The deadline for submission is February 28, 2011. Students will be notified about acceptance by March 4, 2011.

Are there any fees?

One student per poster session will receive a complimentary full-conference registration, including access to the mini-tutorials, tutorials, presentations, panel sessions, keynote addresses, special events, and meals (morning beverage service, lunches, and breaks).

What topics should the poster presentation address?

The work being presented must be new and current research and development in the field of performance improvement through process capability. Work being done in conjunction with a professor is permitted. [Click here to review the list of topics to be covered in the technical program.](#)

What do I submit?

Students will be required to submit a short 50- to 75-word abstract and three learner outcomes that attendees are expected to gain from the presentation. You will be asked to choose a conference track into which your work fits, as well as the target audience level (introductory, intermediate, or advanced).

How do I submit my work?

To submit an abstract for consideration, [please click here.](#)

What are the selection criteria?

The Program Committee will be reviewing submissions based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the field of performance improvement through process capability
- Potential for practical impact
- Degree of originality
- Technical depth
- The overall quality of the submission

Do I need to stay with my poster if accepted?

Students are required to be on hand to discuss their posters at the Exhibit Hall Opening on Monday, March 21, 2011 from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. as well as during the afternoon breaks on Tuesday and Wednesday. It is not mandatory to

be near your presentation during the morning or lunch breaks, but many of the conference attendees will be walking through the Exhibit Hall during these times.

If my poster is accepted, what guidelines should I follow to create my presentation?

- Use graphics where possible.
- For case studies, be sure to describe the process improvements that led to these results.
- Use a large enough font to be visible by someone standing up to 2 meters away from the poster (minimum of 18 point).
- Be sure to leave enough white space to allow people to focus on what is most important for them to see.
- When using graphics, do not put too much information in one figure or chart.
- When using text, avoid long sentences; instead use bulleted statements.
- Avoid using any promotional material for your organization that is not directly related to the poster theme.
- If using acronyms, provide definitions.

If my poster is accepted, do I still need to register for the conference?

Yes, you must register for the conference. The registration fees will be waived when you [register](#). You are required to complete registration by March 11, 2011.

Top Five Reasons You Should Present a Poster at SEPG North America 2011

- 5 Get Professional Feedback:** Obtain a critical review of your work from an academic expert, and meet potential sponsors of your work.
- 4 Make Connections:** Expand your network of other students and industry professionals interested in software, systems, process management, and performance improvement.
- 3 Gain Valuable Insights:** Listen in on hot-topic panels and presentations and take home the most current research and solutions from industry leading experts. Don't miss this chance to hear lessons learned, best practices, and success stories.
- 2 Receive Recognition:** Upon completion of the conference, you will receive a Certificate of Participation as acknowledgement of your research contributions.
- 1 Explore Employment Opportunities:** SEPG North America typically draws more than 800 attendees, some of whom could be future employers. Your poster can help you to create a lasting, positive impression on some of the country's largest companies, agencies, and organizations who employ process improvement professionals.

Student Registration Information

Not interested in submitting a poster presentation but still want to participate? We are pleased to offer students* a significantly reduced fee of \$595 for all four days of the conference, including all meals (lunch and refreshments during breaks are provided by the conference) and special events. That's a discount of \$1,400! [Register today](#).

SEPG Social Media: Stay Connected

Twitter: [@SEPGConferences](#) (#SEPGNA)

Blog: <http://sepgconference.wordpress.com/>

*The student discount applies only to full-time students. Students will be asked to provide proof of full-time status with an accredited institution. They will need to present their student ID and a government-issued photo ID at check-in to receive their registration materials. Students will be able to select a student rate package during the registration process and do not need a special code to access their special rate. Anyone who cannot produce a valid student ID and government-issued photo ID will be assessed the full conference rate instead of the discounted student rate.