The DFI Educational Trust announces the 2018 Student Paper Competition. Students studying in the fields of engineering, construction and geological sciences are encouraged to submit a paper for consideration. The author(s) of the winning paper will be invited to attend the DFI 2018 Annual Conference on Deep Foundations in Anaheim, California, to present the paper. Conference registration, two nights of lodging, and a $1,000.00 stipend for travel expenses will be provided to the winners. The winner and first runner-up will receive a library of up to 20 printed DFI Publications and a complimentary two-year Individual Membership in DFI. The winning paper will be considered for publication in the *DFI Journal*.

Papers are solicited on topics relating to deep foundations design and construction as suggested below. Papers on innovations and advancements that address performance based design and construction of foundations subject to increasingly challenging structural demands are specifically encouraged for this year’s competition.

- Risk Assessment and Mitigation
- Lessons Learned (Case Histories/Innovations/Forensic Work)
- Seismic Design/Soil Structure Interaction/Lateral Loading
- Performance Based Deep Foundation Design
- Ground Improvement
- Innovation Techniques for Earth Retention and Stabilization
- Advancements in Instrumentation and Monitoring
- Analysis, Design and Construction for Extreme Events
- Mega Projects (Projected Work/Risk Mitigation/Contractual Aspects)
- Constructability Issues and Design Aspects
- Other Deep Foundations-Related Topics

**Paper Competition Deadlines:**

- **Friday, March 9, 2018:** Submit an abstract (300 words or less) describing the subject matter of the paper at [https://tinyurl.com/DFIStudent2018](https://tinyurl.com/DFIStudent2018).
- **Friday, March 16, 2018:** DFI notifies students of abstract acceptability.
- **Friday, June 1, 2018:** Submit draft paper of no more than 20 pages in length via email to events@dfi.org. Papers will be judged based on submitted drafts.
- **Friday, August 6, 2018:** DFI notifies winners and offers comments on all papers. All authors are encouraged to incorporate comments and submit their revised paper for consideration in the *DFI Journal*.
- **Friday, September 14, 2018:** Final PowerPoint due by the winner.

**Please Note:**

- Students must be enrolled in an accredited college or university in an undergraduate or graduate program in the field of engineering/construction/geological sciences.
- Paper must be based on student's own work and be presented in her/his own writing.
- Multiple students may co-author a single paper submission for the competition but will share the prize should their paper be deemed the winner or runner-up.
- View samples of past winning student papers.
- Contact events@dfi.org or (973) 423-4030 with questions.

Deep Foundations Institute is a not-for-profit association of contractors, engineers, manufacturers, suppliers, owners and academia which promotes understanding and advancement of the deep foundations and excavations construction industry through conferences, publications, and community. The DFI Educational Trust is an independent, non-profit, charitable foundation established by DFI in 2005. It promotes awareness of career opportunities available in the deep foundations construction industry and provides financial assistance for the education of high school and college students pursuing one of these careers.