

CSA-SCS: ITDS Student Paper Award Competition (2026)



Each year the [*Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology*](#) research cluster recognizes the best paper submitted by an undergraduate or graduate student on a topic related to the social implications of technology. The third annual **ITDS Student Paper Award Competition** invites paper submissions broadly in the areas of interest to cluster members, including but limited to: digital access and inequality, digitally-mediated communication, how technology influences networks and relationships (e.g., professional, friendship, romantic), cyberbullying and cybercrime, the role of technology in teaching and education, online self-expression (e.g., identity, performativity), methodological considerations and the affordances of online data (including big data), and many others that focus on online spaces or the impacts of technological interventions in face-to-face environments.

The deadline to nominate (or self-nominate) a paper for the 2026 competition is **April 15, 2026**. Results will be announced by May 29, 2026. For more information, please contact [Michael Adorjan](#), the Chair of the Award Committee.

Submission Instructions

Eligibility

- Canadian Sociological Association membership in good standing is mandatory.
- Currently enrolled undergraduate or graduate students (PhD or MA) will be eligible for the award. Papers are expected to be sole-authored or co-authored only with other currently enrolled undergraduate or graduate students.
- The ITDS cluster, in line with the CSA, invites and encourages the nomination (including self-nomination) of members from marginalized groups, including Indigenous peoples, racialized persons, persons with disabilities, persons who identify as women and/or 2SLGBTQIA+, and all candidates who would contribute to the diversity of the Association.

Requirements

- The paper must be approved for presentation (and subsequently presented) at the Canadian Sociological Association [annual conference](#) (either in a virtual or in-person session).
 - The presentation based on the paper must be submitted through the Call for Abstracts process as a condition for consideration, preferably to a session affiliated with the ITDS research cluster.
- Only one paper per author is permitted to be submitted for consideration to this ITDS paper award competition.
 - Authors are permitted to submit their papers to other CSA paper award competitions.
- Submitted papers should either be unpublished works or not already accepted for publication.
- The paper must be no longer than 10,000 words (including references and appendices).
- Submissions must be written in English.
- Papers should be submitted in MS Word (.doc, .docx) *not* PDF, enabling reviewers to more easily comment on the manuscript.

Submission Instructions

- Email a copy of the paper along with the following information to [Michael Adorjan](#) before the **April 15, 2026** deadline:
 - Primary author name, email address, affiliation (institution), and study program level (BA., MA, PhD).
 - Co-author name(s), affiliation(s), and study program level(s).
 - CSA conference session in which the paper is submitted for presentation.
 - The author(s) are welcome to self-identify as member(s) of an equity deserving group.

Competition Results

- Results will be communicated by the Award Committee by May 29, 2026.
- There will be one winner, who will receive from the CSA a prize of \$100 and a certificate of achievement.
- The Award Committee will also recognize up to two honourable mentions/runner-ups.