UCSD Grad SLAM 2025
Preliminary Round Participant Guidelines

Welcome to the [2025 Grad SLAM competition](#)!

Follow these guidelines when making and submitting your 3-minute video in the **Preliminary Round**.

Some important things to note:
- The deadline to submit your video is **Wednesday, February 19th at 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Time)**.
- All graduate students currently enrolled (or on filing fee status) in a UCSD Masters' or Doctoral program (including JDP, School of Medicine and School of Pharmacy) are eligible to participate.
- In cases of collaborative research, the participant's contribution must be clearly specified.
- Participants are being judged on the content of their talk, not the quality of their video.
- Eligible participants who follow all video guidelines and submit a video will receive a $50 VISA gift card.
- There are **NEW SLIDE RULES** for 2025.

When making/creating/ recording the video, keep in mind the following:
- Timing will commence from the moment the participant engages with the audience.
  - If starting with a hand clap, gesture or other engagement prior to speaking - that's when the clock begins.
  - If there is no such engagement, the clock starts when the participant begins speaking.
- Stick as closely as possible to 3 minutes; timing will be taken into consideration when selecting finalists.
- You may practice, but your video submission must be a single, continuous, unedited take.
- Participant must be viewable on screen for the entire duration of your video.
- One PowerPoint slide is allowed but optional; Prezi or other presentation formats are not allowed.
- If you choose to use a slide:
  - **Presenters are limited to ONE slide, excluding the [title slide](#).**
  - **Students must create the PowerPoint slide themselves;** the slide can include visual elements created by someone else, as long as the slide credits the original creator.
  - The slide **must be static** - no media, transitions or animations are allowed for 2025
  - Props are allowed, but they need to be cleared in advance of the final round

Please see [FAQ sheet](#) for more details.

To submit the final video, fill out the [UCSD Grad SLAM 2025 submission form](#).

The video should be titled with the following format: **LastName_FirstName_2025GradSlam.mp4**

For additional support with how to get started, check out these [preparation resources](#) that UC San Diego has organized on the Grad SLAM event page.

If you have questions, please contact **gradlife@ucsd.edu**. We look forward to seeing your talks!

grad.ucsd.edu/student-life/events/gradslam