

**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**



Rector Council of Cambodia (R.C.C)

Student Research Competition 2017

Food safety has been and will always be a very important issue worldwide, and especially for a developing country like Cambodia where access to proper knowledge is limited. According to World Health Organization (2015), 1 in 10 people in the world annually fall ill as a result of eating contaminated food and foodborne diseases cause an estimated 420 000 deaths a year.

The issue of food safety is becoming critical and has drawn attention in Cambodian society in recent years. Eating unsafe food can make us sick and thus put additional burden to the finance of the family as well as the society as a whole. However, what is food safety? And, how can we promote food safety?

Food safety can be divided into two important stages. First is the production stage. Producing safe food, free from contaminated substance that is not good for human body. Second is the handling stage. The knowledge to safely handle, store, and prepare food to prevent infection and keep enough nutrients are equally essential.

Therefore, the Rector Council of Cambodia (NUM, RULE, RUPP, ITC, UHS and PNCA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, is organizing the 'Student Research Competition 2017' which focuses on "Food Safety". The main question is: How can we promote food safety in Cambodia? And, it has 4 sub-questions as below:

- 1) How to produce safe food?
- 2) How to safely handle food?
- 3) How to promote food safety awareness?
- 4) How to promote law enforcement on food safety?

Research Prize (SAMDECH TECHO HUN SEN'S RESEARCH PRIZE)

Champion: USD 2,000, Status of gold Champion, with gold medals

Conditions for the Student Research Competition

I. Eligibility

The Student Research Competition 2017 is open to all undergraduate students currently studying at universities in Cambodia. The applicants are required to form a team which has two or three members, with both genders represented on each team.

II. Process of the Competition

The Student Research Competition has three steps: concept note, research proposal and full research paper level.

1. Application Form and Concept Note Submission

Each team is required to submit an application form and a concept note to src2015@num.edu.kh by 01 August 2017, at 16:00. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Requirements: the concept note must

- be written in English from 300-400 words
- be the original work of the contestant
- contain research title, research problem, research methodology, and anticipated outcomes as defined in the sample of the concept note in Annex 1.
- be submitted in both PDF and Microsoft Word files.

The **Application Form** is available on our Facebook page “Cambodian Student Research Competition” (<https://www.facebook.com/csrtc2015>). The applications will be shortlisted by an independent evaluation committee based on the evaluation criteria. The shortlist results will be released on 21 August 2017. The shortlist results will be communicated to the shortlisted teams through direct calling and posting on the Facebook page.

Evaluation Criteria for Shortlist

First, the evaluation committee will screen application form in order to identify the eligible applicants. Second, the committee will evaluate the concept note of eligible applicants as following:

- English proficiency (20 marks)
- Relevance to the research topic (30 marks)
- Presentation of innovation or creative idea (40 marks)
- Format/Style (10 marks)

- Plagiarism is prohibited; otherwise, the applicants will be disqualified from the competition.

2. Training Workshop on Research

After the shortlist, the organizers will host the Training Workshop on Research which is designed in order to provide the shortlisted teams with the knowledge of the guidelines of research paper writing, research skills and presentation skills. The shortlisted teams are required to attend this workshop; otherwise, they will be disqualified from the competition. The workshop will be held on 05 September 2017.

3. Research Proposal Submission

Each team is required to submit a research proposal on 03 October 2017 before 16:00. The research proposal must:

- be type-written in English from 1500-2000 words, not including appendices (bibliography, graphs, photographs, or other supplementary materials)
- be the original work of the contestant

The research proposal must be submitted to the committee at Research Center of the National University of Management (Building F, 1st Floor). The evaluation committee will select only 10 best research proposals based on the selection criteria. The research proposal results will be released on 25 October 2017. The results will be informed through direct calling to the candidates and posting on Facebook page.

Evaluation Criteria for Research Proposal

The selection committee will evaluate:

- Clarity of the research objective (10 marks)
- Soundness of the methodology (10 marks)
- Criticality of literature review (10 marks)
- Expected outcome of the research (20 marks)
- Practical application of the research outcome (20 marks)
- Citation and referencing (10 marks)
- English proficiency (10 marks)
- Format/Style (10 marks)

4. Full Research Paper Submission

The 10 teams of best research proposals are required to submit a full research paper on 10 January 2018 before 16:00. The research paper must:

- be type-written in English from 3,500-5,000 words, not including appendices (bibliography, graphs, photographs, or other supplementary materials)
- be the original work of the contestant.

The full research paper must be submitted to the committee at Research Center of National University of Management (Building F, 1st Floor). Also, these 10 teams are required to present their research findings in the final round of the competition to be hosted by NUM. They are required to submit presentation slides, a poster and a three-minute video of their research to src2015@num.edu.kh by 25 January 2018.

Evaluation Criteria for Full Research Paper

The evaluation committee will evaluate:

- Clarity of the research objective (10 marks)
- Soundness of the methodology (10 marks)
- Criticality of literature review (10 marks)
- Analysis and interpretation of research results (10 marks)
- Practical application of the research results (30 marks)
- Citation and referencing (10 marks)
- English proficiency (10 marks)
- Format/Style (10 marks)

5. Oral Presentation

The oral presentation will be conducted on 27 February 2018. The 10 teams are required to do oral presentations before audiences and the committee. Each team will have ten (10) minutes for the oral presentation and another ten (10) minutes to respond to the questions from the committee. The committee will give scores to each team based on the evaluation criteria. The scores of their papers will be added to the scores of their oral presentation. The team obtaining the highest overall score is the champion of the competition.

Evaluation Criteria for Oral Presentation

The committee will evaluate:

- Ability to articulate the paper (30 marks)
- Organization of the presentation (30 marks)
- Ability to respond to questions/comments from the committee (20 marks)