

Melbourne Energy Institute Student Poster Competition



Competition guidelines

About

The MEI Student Poster Competition is part of the Melbourne Energy Institute's annual Symposium. The poster competition allows students to present their research, solutions and visions for tackling the nation's energy challenges.

The Student Poster Competition will take place in the scheduled lunch break during MEI Symposium 26. Posters will be displayed in the MSD Basement. Students must present their own work, and are encouraged to stand next to their poster during the exhibition to discuss their research with attendees. Winners will be notified by email and announced in [MEI's newsletter](#).

Theme: Advancing Australia's energy transition

This year's theme, **Advancing Australia's energy transition**, highlights the bold ideas and discoveries driving our move toward a sustainable, affordable and just energy system. Posters must reflect this theme, and be aligned with one of MEI's four [Research Programs](#):

- [Energy Systems](#)
- [Power Generation and Transport](#)
- [Heavy Industry and Resources](#)
- [Energy Materials](#)

Prizes

Over \$7,000 in prizes will be awarded for the top posters across MEI's four Research Programs. The top 3 student posters in each category of energy research, as judged by MEI Research Program Leaders, will win the following:

- 1st place: **\$1,000**
- 2nd place: **\$500**
- 3rd place: **\$300**

Eligibility

The MEI Student Poster Competition is open to undergraduate, masters, and PhD students currently studying at the University of Melbourne.

How to enter

- Complete the [competition registration form](#) by **5pm on 19 October**.
- [Register for MEI Symposium 26](#)
- Download the [poster template](#)
- Email your completed poster as a pdf file to mei-info@unimelb.edu.au strictly by **5pm 21st October**. Late submissions **will not** be accepted.

Key dates

Competition registrations due:

19 October 2026

Poster submissions by:

21 October 2026

Exhibition date:

28 October 2026

Key resources

- [Competition registration form](#) >
- [Register for MEI Symposium 26](#) >
- [Poster template](#) >
- [Submit your poster](#) >

Got a question?

For more information, visit our website or contact us:

www.energy.unimelb.edu.au

mei-info@unimelb.edu.au

Judging

The poster will be judged and winners determined by MEI's Research Program Leaders:

- **Power Generation and Transport:** judged by [Associate Professor David Keith](#) / [Associate Professor Shiahuey Chow](#)
- **Energy Systems:** judged by [Professor Pierluigi Mancarella](#) / [Dr Ye Wang](#)
- **Heavy Industry and Resources:** judged by [Professor Kathryn Mumford](#) / [Dr Tim Werner](#)
- **Energy Materials:** judged by [Associate Professor Wallace Wong](#) / [Associate Professor James Bullock](#)

Judging criteria

MEI Research Program Leaders as the judges of the poster competition will consider the following criteria when assessing the poster presentations:

Scientific significance (40%)	• Are the research conclusions of higher-than-average quality (for example, obtained using novel and/or complex techniques, requires greater than normal care to obtain low errors, is efficient in resource use through clever design)? • Does the submission align with research undertaken by a MEI Research Program and form the basis for Program expansion? • Does the research have applications in industry and does it address special industrial challenges?
Innovation (40%)	• Does this research have the potential to make a novel contribution to the overall field of energy research and thereby form the basis for new fields of investigation? • Does the submission demonstrate innovative research?
Clarity and visual appeal (20%)	• Are the components of the poster/presentation organised in a logical flow? Is there a good balance of visuals, text and white space? • Are the outcomes, conclusions and implications of the research clearly communicated?

Important information

- Entrants must complete all required information in the [registration form](#), or their entry will be invalid.
- Completed posters must be emailed (pdf format) to mei-info@unimelb.edu.au by **5pm on 21 October 2026**. Late submissions will not be accepted.
- Posters must use the provided [template](#) and be converted to PDF format. Posters using other templates will not be accepted.
- Images must be supplied in high resolution print-quality, suitable for use in size A0 prints.
- Research presented must be the entrant's own work under one of MEI's [Research Programs](#). You must indicate in your submission which Research Program your work is most aligned with.
- Entrants must include the sources of project funding on their poster.
- Entry is open to undergraduate, Masters and PhD students who are currently studying at the University of Melbourne. Former students, or students of other universities are ineligible to enter.
- The Student Poster Competition will take place during the scheduled lunch break at MEI Symposium 26. Entrants must also register to attend [MEI Symposium 26](#), to be part of the lunchtime poster competition session.
- Students who wish to keep their printed poster must collect after the competition concludes and before 4:30pm on the day of the Symposium.