

**How to Enter:**

The registration process will be provided by the UCF Statistics Department. Once registered, a registration ID will be assigned to each contestant by the system. The contestant will receive an email with the registration ID and a link to download the datasets.

**Deadlines:**

Competition Start Date: September 22, 2023. Final contest projects, as outlined below, must be submitted in full no later than January 15, 2024. All participants will be required to prepare presentations for their projects and present them to the Addition Financial Credit Union (AFCU) team. Presentations will take place between February 6th, 2024 through February 17th, 2024. Winners will be announced at the annual UCF Data Symposium on March 14, 2024.

**Eligibility**

The contest is open to current Full-time and Part-time UCF students. Students can submit as individuals or as a team. Teams may not be larger than 5 people. Employees, immediate family members of employees, and/or those living in the same household as employees of Addition Financial Credit Union are not eligible.

**Prizes**

Three (3) winning teams (first place, second place, and third place) will be awarded **\$3,000**, **\$1,500**, and **\$500** cash or cash equivalent prizes, respectively.

**General Requirements**

- Entries must be the original work of the submitter and/or his/her team.
- Teams must include their assigned team number (issued at registration) in the header or footer of all materials uploaded for judging.
- The required cover page should be the only place where it is possible to identify the University, Department(s), and/or the individuals involved in the submission.
- Each team will be required to formally present their findings to the AFCU competition judges at the AFCU Headquarters located at 1000 Primera Blvd. Lake Mary, FL 32746
- **\*\*Winning Teams** will be required to formally present their findings at the Big Data Analytics Symposium 2024 at the UCF Main Campus, Pegasus Ballroom\*\*

**Required Materials**

1. A separate cover page that references the department, team members, supporting faculty member, primary contact, and team number assigned at registration, and date submitted. The cover page will be removed for judging.
2. Project report that includes the following sections: executive summary, data analysis, modeling approach, results, and conclusions (see judging criteria in the next section). Please do not include any school/member identifying information on the report other than the team number. Include any/all programming code and/or flows to be examined by the judges.
3. Provide instructions for running the code and/or flows, including estimated running time with brief description of hardware environment, neatly organized code and/or flow running order, and clear labels for the order of execution. Placing notes throughout your code is recommended.
4. Project codes must be written in R or Microsoft SQL. Code file types should be compatible with the software used (example R file should be in "\*.r" (.rmd preferred), Python in "\*.py" (.ipynb preferred), Microsoft SQL file should be in "\*.sql"

**Report Format**

All submissions should follow this suggested format:

1. Margins: 1" from all sides
2. Typeface: Times New Roman size 12
3. Spacing: 1.5
  
4. Paragraph style: Block style
5. Captions: Captions to be placed under tables or figures, numbered sequentially across the document
6. Document size: Maximum 30,000 words or 10 pages (no limit on charts, graphs, visualizations which are instrumental in conveying results)
7. Page numbering: Page number to be placed at the bottom of each page (e.g., Page 1 of x)
8. File type: PDF format

**Where to get the data files**

Files will be available to download from a ShareFile link provided by Addition Financial:

<https://additionfi.sharefile.com/d-s5d7fb72a74954b97896548c7f7780f08>.

**How to Submit Results**

All files must be uploaded by midnight of the due date, contestant must submit all files using the ShareFile upload link provided by Addition Financial (<https://additionfi.sharefile.com/r-rcffc4749b15a46cf9a6b25b5bd2edf09>). Be sure to include your name and email address when submitting your final presentations. If you have any questions, send an email to [Dept-BusinessIntelligence@additionfi.com](mailto:Dept-BusinessIntelligence@additionfi.com) with subject line "2023-24 Branch Research Competition." Include your registration ID and contact information in the email. Please note AFCU is closed on weekends.

Files: Separate cover page with team identification information, code files and report with the file name being ID\_x where "x" is your registration ID. All files should be in one compressed ZIP file. Teams must provide formal instructions on how to run their model.

**Judging**

All entries will be judged based on the following criteria:

- Content in the Project Report, major sections should include:
  - Executive Summary
  - Data Analysis
  - Modeling Approach:
    - Rationale for modeling approach(es)
    - Evaluation process
- Results and Conclusions:
  - Clarity of Interpretations
  - Visualizations
  - Implications
- Presentation
  - How well the team can convey their findings to the AFCU competition judges which will be comprised of data scientists, senior managers and other AFCU agents.

Judges will need to be able replicate the analysis using the team's code/model on a test dataset. Teams must provide formal instructions on how to run their models. Judging will be based on the application of the data, the method(s) used to reach conclusions, and the accuracy of their model. Team will also be judged on how well they are able to present their models.

**Important Dates:**

Contest start date: September 22, 2023 (data files will be available on this date)

Final submissions due: January 15, 2024 (early submissions are encouraged)

Group presentations will be conducted between February 6, 2024 and February 17, 2024

UCF analytics dept. notification of top three winners: March 1, 2024  
UCF Big Data Analytics Symposium 2024: March 14, 2024

**Notification:**

Winners will be notified at or before the Annual UCF Data Symposium on March 14, 2024.  
For any further questions about the dataset, contact [Dept-BusinessIntelligence@additionfi.com](mailto:Dept-BusinessIntelligence@additionfi.com)