# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SJU Prize for SESAR Young Scientist Award 2021 REF. SJU/LC/0160-CNT

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| 1 | Deadline for submission of applications & Eligibility criteria | Section 3.1 Sections 2 & 4.1 of Contest Rules | I am going to defend my PhD thesis before 2 July, but the due date is 25 June for application. Which application is appropriate for me: as a student or a PhD? I will be still student before 25 June, but in December I will be already a PhD researcher. (11/05/2021) | The deadline for the submission of the application is 5th of September 2021 (please, refer to Section 3.1 of the Contest Rules).
If, as mentioned in your question, you will have your PhD thesis defended before 2 July (i.e. before the deadline for applications), it would therefore appear that you shall be in the position to apply for the PhD category. |
| 2 | Eligibility criteria | Sections 2 & 4.1 of Contest Rules | My situation is as follows: I am currently doing my PhD, but I expect to submit my thesis in September. Therefore, I'll probably have the final version of the thesis (after being revised by external reviewers) before the deadline to apply for the contest.
Still, I will probably defend my thesis in October, so I guess that anyway I should apply to the "Student" category; however, I have one question related to the following field in Appendix A of the Application Form: Structure, clarity and appropriateness of the written thesis
Should I focus on the Master thesis? Or, instead, as probably I would have finished my PhD thesis, I should | We confirm that, in accordance to Section 2 of the Rules, eligibility requirements are as follows:
"Within the Student category:
- Bachelor thesis defended not more than 18 months before the date of closure of the present Contest, or
- Master thesis defended not more than 18 months before the date of closure of the present Contest, or
- on-going PhD"
If you fulfil two of the above requirements, it is your choice, whether to send your application in respect of your defended master thesis or on-going PhD. Your application and supporting documents should reflect your choice, including the mention of the relevant tutor. |
| 3 | Eligibility criteria | Sections 2 & 4.1 of Contest Rules | focus on the PhD thesis instead (even if the PhD is not defended yet)?
Furthermore, regarding the tutor, should I mention the tutor/supervisor of the PhD or the tutor of my Master thesis?

(05/07/2021) |
|---|---|---|---|

| 4 | Eligibility criteria | Sections 2 & 4.1 of Contest Rules | I am interested to register my MBA Thesis, however this thesis has been defended 2,5 years ago.
Is it still possible to apply for the award or not?

(07/07/2021) |

| 4 | Eligibility criteria | Sections 2 & 4.1 of Contest Rules | I am a PhD student at the University of [...] and very interested in participating in the SESAR Young Scientist Award contest as my PhD project is in cooperation with the German ANSP ( [...]). Before applying, I would like to ask one question: Does the PhD thesis have to be defended or is it also possible to apply this year if the project runs until mid-2022?

(09/07/2021) |

| 4 | Eligibility criteria | Sections 2 & 4.1 of Contest Rules | In accordance to Section 2 of the Rules, relevant eligibility requirements are as follows:

“Within the **Student category:**
- <...>
- Master thesis defended not more than **18 months before the date of closure** of the present Contest, or
- <...>”

In accordance to Section 2 of the Rules, relevant eligibility requirements are as follows:

“Within the **PhD category:**
- <...>
- **on-going PhD”**

“Within the **PhD category:**
- **PhD thesis defended not more than 18 months before the date of closure of the present Contest”**
Within the PhD category the PhD thesis shall already be defended when the application is submitted. And this is valid irrespective of the end date of the Project the PhD thesis is linked to.

| 5 | **Update** | Eligibility criteria | Sections 2 & 4.1 of Contest Rules | I graduated from the Master of Science program in Cyber Security at University X. My program was Non-Thesis. I completed my graduation article, which I defended 2 months ago. Can I apply to the contest with this academic study? My graduation report is an article and **corresponds to a thesis**. Can I attend to the contest with this study? | In accordance to Section 2 of the Rules, young scientist can apply who:  
- Have **contributed to scientific achievements within the area of Air Traffic Management and Aviation**, *(selection criterion in line with section 4.1)*  
- **Within** one/some of the following **student categories** *(particularly relevant to this question)* [...] **Master thesis** not more than 18 months before the date of closure of the present Contest *(eligibility criterion in line with section 4.1)*.  
  *The contest rules do not foresee corresponding or alternative documents per the student categories.*  

The evaluation of the applications will be performed in respect of the principle of equal treatment of all applicants in strict compliance with the criteria as set in the Contest Rules. |

| 6 | **New Award criteria** | Section 3 & 4.2 of Contest Rules | In the application rules, there is some info about presentation & papers. Should all must be related to the subject of the thesis or should it reflect the researcher in the domain of ATM with a different subject from the thesis? | In accordance to Section 2 and Section 4.2, the applicant needs to show having contributed to scientific achievements within the area of Air Traffic Management and Aviation.  

In particular, for the assessment of the “selection criterion” *(Applicant has contributed to scientific achievements within the area of Air Traffic Management and Aviation)*, section 3 states that the application must contain clear references to the source containing all the documents *(e.g. articles, abstracts, presentations, etc...)*. All the documents with relevance to the ATM domain will be considered. |
| 7 | New Eligibility criteria | Besides working on my Bachelor's thesis, while completing my degree I have also done two internships in the field of air traffic management. Is it possible to mention it in my application form and join the recommendation letters of my internship supervisors or should I strictly, only refer to my Bachelor's thesis? (it's a separate project). |
|   | Section 4.1 of Contest Rules | In addition, once passed the administrative phase, the application will be assessed for award in line with the criteria set in section 4.3., these include “Relevance to the thematic area of ATM & Aviation”. |

(29/08/2021) Please refer to answer to question 6, in particular, on the selection criterion where all with relevance to the ATM domain will be considered.