

Call for Papers

INFORMS Conference on Quality, Statistics, and Reliability (ICQSR) Best Paper Competition

2026 INFORMS Conference on Quality, Statistics, and Reliability (ICQSR) announces the Best Paper Award Competition to recognize excellence among the high-quality papers submitted to ICQSR. This award program brings prestige to the QSR Section as well as to the recipients of this honor.

Conference dates: July 06 – 09, 2026

Location: Shanghai International Convention Center, Shanghai, China

Conference website: <https://sites.google.com/view/icqsr2026/>

The INFORMS Conference on Quality, Statistics, and Reliability (ICQSR) is the flagship conference of the [Quality, Statistics, and Reliability](#) (QSR) section of the [Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences](#) (INFORMS). ICQSR aims to provide an international forum for exchanging research innovations and advancements that reinforce the scientific essentials – quality improvement, statistical learning, and reliability assurance – and embrace emerging practical challenges. The theme of ICQSR 2026 is **AI for Quality & Reliability, with potential applications in manufacturing, energy, healthcare, human-machine systems, and beyond**. By integrating the efforts from academia and industry, ICQSR intends to promote original, basic, and transdisciplinary research that potentially makes timely and long-lasting impacts in a broad range of applications.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Process monitoring and control
- Quality and reliability analysis in Industry 4.0
- Prognostics & health management
- Design and analysis of computer experiments
- Machine learning and data mining
- Data quality assurance and data visualization
- Physics informed machine learning
- Reliability modeling
- Analytics for smart & advanced manufacturing
- Maintenance decision-making
- Data analytics in healthcare applications
- Systems informatics and control
- Human-machine interaction & robotics
- Smart & resilient infrastructure

On behalf of the Best Paper Competition Committee, we would like to invite you to submit a paper for this competition. The primary authors of the selected papers will be invited to present their work in the best paper session at the 2026 ICQSR. All submitted papers and oral presentations will be reviewed and ranked by multiple reviewers. The winner will be announced at the 2026 ICQSR Banquet. The broad criteria for selecting the recipient of the ICQSR Best Paper Award are: (a) Academic significance (originality, depth, and completeness of the work, and its potential impact on future research); (b) Engineering or business relevance (significance of the problem, and its impact on engineering or business practice); and (c) Quality of the written paper and oral presentation.

Eligibility Requirements and Application Process:

- At least one of the authors **must be a member of the QSR Section** ([Link](#) to join QSR)
- The submitted paper should be unpublished work by the submission deadline of the competition.
- The submitted paper should not have been selected as a winner of past competitions in other conferences.
- The primary author or one of co-authors must be committed to presenting the paper at a special session of the 2026 ICQSR.
- Papers considered for this competition **MAY** be simultaneously submitted to other sessions of the ICQSR. If a finalist is scheduled to present in another session, they need to present the paper twice: once in the ICQSR Best Paper session, and once in their previously scheduled session.
- The ICQSR Section does NOT own the copyright of the paper.
- **Required Format for Submission:** Please keep articles as brief as possible. The maximum length is one-column 12 pages. Use 11 point and Times New Roman font with 1 inch margins, and single-spacing for the manuscript including references, tables, figures and appendices. The paper must begin with an abstract of at most 250 words. The paper must follow the required format, or it will be returned without review.
- **The finalists of the best paper award competition will be encouraged to submit to IISE Transactions on Data Science, Quality and Reliability. The editorial board of IISE Transactions on Data Science, Quality and Reliability will work closely with the committee of the ICQSR Best Paper Competition to shorten the review cycle.**

To participate in this competition, **a blinded as well as an unblinded version** of the paper in MS WORD or PDF format should be emailed to **all members** of the Best Paper Competition Committee, with the email subject line "Name+University+2026 ICQSR best paper competition" prior to the deadline of **May 8, 2026**. This deadline will not be extended. Late submissions will be ineligible for the competition, and not reviewed.

Competition Timeline:

May 8, 2026:	Paper submission deadline
June 15, 2026:	Finalists announced
July 6-July 9, 2026:	Presentation in the ICQSR Best Paper session

The committee of the ICQSR Best Paper Competition:

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