



Association of Civil Engineering Departments

Dominic Fox Prize

Dr Dominic Fox was head of civil engineering at the University of Portsmouth from 2004 to 2017 and served on the committee of ACED from 2003 to 2013, including as Chair in 2012. He sadly passed away in 2018, but his passion for encouraging and supporting young people from all backgrounds to become civil engineers has endured and ACED wish to continue this legacy.

Aims of the competition

Encourage civil engineering students and apprentices to reflect on what attracted them into civil engineering and share their enthusiasm and passion with young people by producing a video.

How is it organised?

The competition is being run and judged by ACED on behalf of its member institutions. Cash prizes are offered to the three best entries, together with the opportunity to attend the ACED Annual Conference in September 2026 to receive the prize. The winning video from 2021 may be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAB4Nzld63g>. Other entries to the competition including those from previous years may be found on Youtube with the tag **#acedDominicFoxPrize**

How to enter the competition

Produce a short video (no longer than three minutes) which could inspire the next generation of young people to study civil engineering and which covers things like what initially attracted you to civil engineering, what aspects of civil engineering do you feel most passionately about and where do you see a career in civil engineering taking you.

The video will:

- Show passion for engineering that will make it attractive to a diverse range of young people.
- Promote the profession of Civil Engineering and the impact civil engineers have on society.
- Demonstrate technical proficiency and creativity in civil engineering.

The video is not expected to be professionally produced and can be created using any technology (cameras, smartphones or animation) and edited by the participants themselves.

Videos should be uploaded to YouTube (or another free access video-sharing site) with the tag **#acedDominicFoxPrize** and the link emailed to acedadmin@epc.ac.uk with the email also including your name(s), age(s), institution of study and contact details. If you have created your video with a particular target audience in mind, for example a particular age group, then you are welcome to state this in your email.

The video must be in English.

The competition is open for submissions until **4.00pm BST on Monday 29th June 2026**.

Further information and the full Terms and Conditions are given on the following page.



Eligibility

Entrants must be at least 18 years of age, as of the date of submission Entrants can be either an individual, or a team of two.

Entrants must be students or apprentices studying either full-time or part-time at a UK higher education institution which is a member of the Association of Civil Engineering Departments. To submit a video, the entrant must already be a registered user of YouTube or other online video sharing site, or must sign up for an account.

Further information

A panel of judges will determine the winners based on how well each entry meets the criteria outlined above (see page 3 for detailed assessment criteria). The panel will comprise representatives of ACED. ACED reserves the right to disqualify or veto any entry at any stage of the competition. Up to three winning videos will be selected and will be awarded cash prizes as follows:

1st Prize –£600; 2nd Prize – £400; 3rd Prize – £200

The winning videos will be announced on the ACED website www.epc.ac.uk/aced on 30th July 2026. The winners will be invited to the ACED annual conference on 03/04 September 2026, where the order of the prizes will be announced (travel expenses and 1 night accommodation will be covered). Winners may be requested to offer support to promotional activities related to this competition such as providing personal profiles, background information and photos.

Full terms and conditions

Copyright of the submitted video remains with the respective entrants. However, in consideration of winning one of the prizes, each entrant grants a worldwide royalty-free perpetual licence to ACED to feature any or all of the submitted materials in any and all media for publicity, marketing or outreach purposes. This implies that any entry can be used for promotional purposes.

All contest participants grant ACED the perpetual licence to copy, edit, display, publish and make available their submission materials and agree that ACED and partner/s may publish their names in connection with this video contest and the purpose of promoting civil engineering in the wider context.

It is the responsibility of each entrant to ensure that all videos have been taken with the permission of the subject(s) (or, where the submission shows any underage persons, the consent of their parent) and/or venue/location/photo or sound owner and does not infringe on the copyright of any third party. Entrants guarantee that they own the copyright for the submissions and for the usage rights required by the contest, and that their entry does not infringe on the privacy rights, copyright or any other rights of any person.

The entrant further agrees to indemnify, hold and save harmless and defend at his/her own expense, ACED, its officials and persons performing services for ACED, against any claims, suits, liability, and demands made by any third parties in respect of such infringement or other hazards that may be suffered by the entrant as a result of the entrant's participation in this contest.

ACED reserve the right at any time to modify or discontinue, temporarily or permanently, this contest with or without prior notice due to reasons outside their control.



Appendix: Assessment Criteria

Criterion	Excellent	Very Strong	Strong	Good	Fair
Show passion for engineering that will make it attractive to a diverse range of young people	Demonstrates exceptional enthusiasm and uses highly inclusive, inspiring language and examples that strongly appeal to diverse audiences.	Shows strong passion with creative, relatable examples; inclusivity is evident and well-integrated.	Displays clear enthusiasm and provides good examples; some effort to be inclusive and engaging.	Shows noticeable interest; attempts to engage young people but inclusivity or creativity is limited.	Demonstrates minimal enthusiasm; approach is generic and lacks strong appeal to diverse groups.
Promote the profession of Civil Engineering and the impact civil engineers have on society	Provides compelling, accurate insights into civil engineering's societal impact with strong, inspiring examples and clear relevance.	Explains the profession clearly and highlights its importance with well-chosen examples.	Gives a positive and accurate overview of civil engineering's role; examples are relevant but not highly impactful.	Mentions civil engineering's role in society but lacks depth or strong examples.	Provides limited or superficial information; examples are weak or absent.
Demonstrate technical proficiency and creativity in civil engineering	Shows advanced technical knowledge and applies it creatively to present innovative, accurate solutions.	Demonstrates solid technical understanding with creative elements; solutions are correct and practical.	Displays good technical competence; creativity is evident but limited.	Shows basic technical understanding; ideas are conventional with minimal creativity.	Technical understanding is weak; creativity is minimal.

End.