

PRESS RELEASE

ACA launches Student Pensions Essay Competition in celebration of its 75th year

30 March 2026 - Are you or do you know a UK-registered student with an interest in the future of pensions and long-term saving? If so, our Student Essay Competition for a prize of up to £3,000 is open for entries!

Members of the **Association of Consulting Actuaries (ACA)** provide top-class advice to employers, trustees and individuals in relation to UK pensions, working at actuarial consulting firms – both large and small – across the UK. To mark its 75th anniversary, the ACA is not only celebrating its history and achievements but also looking forwards to the future of the industry – as a result the ACA is launching a **‘Future of Pensions’ Student Essay Competition and Prize.**

We’re inviting students at UK universities (studying any discipline) to submit an essay of up to 1,500 words on **the future of UK pensions and long-term saving – we’d love to hear about innovative ideas on how to improve provision, understanding, take-up and/or overall savings adequacy at all levels of UK society.**

Prizes

- 1st prize: **£3,000**
- 2 runner-up prizes: **£1,500** each
- Winners will also have the **opportunity to present their work at the ACA Bloomfield Lecture in London in November 2026**, in front of consulting actuaries, lawyers, regulators and other pensions professionals and leaders from the industry’s prominent employers



Submissions from 30 March to 30 June 2026

Find out more – including competition rules - and apply [Here](#)

ACA Chair, Stewart Hastie commented on the competition launch saying:

“75 years ago, there were under 30 consulting actuaries in the UK and today we have close to 1,650 members advising most of the country’s largest firms and trustee bodies and thousands of smaller organisations and individuals on pensions and other areas.

“Building on that success, we are keen to encourage young talent to come forward with fresh ideas and initiatives for the future of pension savings – an area where as a society we need to do much more.

“We hope the competition will attract students to outline perspectives that go beyond current industry thinking and – if they have a mind to – consider how they might contribute in the future by perhaps looking at careers in the financial services industry – one of the UK’s key sectors today and into the future.”

Contacts for further information:

Stewart Hastie, ACA Chair, at stewart.hastie@isio.com or 07799 893797

David Robertson, ACA Secretariat, at david.robertson@aca.org.uk or 020 3102 6763

About the Association of Consulting Actuaries (ACA)

Members of the ACA provide advice to thousands of pension schemes, including most of the country’s largest schemes. Members of the Association are all qualified actuaries and all actuarial advice given is subject to the Actuaries’ Code. Advice given to clients is independent and impartial. ACA members include the scheme actuaries to schemes covering the majority of members of private sector defined benefit pension schemes. The ACA is the representative body for UK consulting actuaries, whilst the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries is the professional body. The ACA is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year.



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