

Disaster Resilience Is Focus of Triple-I, U. Penn Student Competition

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NEW YORK, Sept. 10, 2020—The [Insurance Information Institute](#) (Triple-I) and the [Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center](#), University of Pennsylvania are co-sponsoring for the third straight year a competition for college students aimed at developing innovative solutions to real-world disaster resilience problems.

To be held virtually, the third annual “[Hack-for-Resilience](#)” begins on Friday, Sept. 11 and concludes on Sunday, Sept. 13 as part of [PennAppsXXI](#), the nation’s oldest student-run hackathon. The word “hack,” in the context of a hackathon, describes how multiple technologies can be used in new and innovative ways.

“This event allows the Triple-I and its [Resilience Accelerator](#) partners to bring together insurers and student innovators who have the same goal—to create new products and services that will reduce the risks people face from natural disasters,” said Sean Kevelighan, CEO, Triple-I. The Triple-I’s Resilience Accelerator was launched last year to reduce the impact of extreme weather events on households and communities through insurance.

The 2020 “Hack-for-Resilience” competition will give entrants from midnight on Saturday, Sept. 12 through 9 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 13—to compete. During this time, teams of up to four

students will conceive, test, and deliver working apps while others develop hardware solutions, Internet of Things (IoT) protocols, and data tools that can save lives and reduce property damage in the wake of a natural disaster.

“Building resilience to disasters is more important than ever,” said Dr. Carolyn Kousky, Executive Director, Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center.

“Hack-for-Resilience” judges will award first- and second-place cash prizes in two categories: “Best Overall Hack” and “The Most Outstanding Application of Insurtech,” which is defined broadly as either a product or service that improves the insurance customer experience. The winning teams will be announced on Sunday evening, Sept. 13.

New to this year’s “Hack-for-Resilience” is that both first-place prize winners will participate in the [Resilience Accelerator’s Lightning Round innovation showcase](#) on Thursday, Oct. 22, 2020.

The first-place prizes in 2019 were awarded to the creators of [Phoenix](#), an autonomous drone with the capacity to track and extinguish fires (Best Overall Hack) and [WildFire Protect](#), a parametric insurance product which would pay a policyholder immediately after they incurred a wildfire-related property loss (The Most Outstanding Application of Insurtech).

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Video: [Hack-for-Resilience III](#)

About the Insurance Information Institute (the Triple-I):

The [Triple-I](#) is a nonprofit communications organization supported by the insurance industry. With offices in New York City and Arlington, Va., the organization has been a trusted source of unique, data-driven insights on insurance for over 60 years.

About the Wharton Risk Center:

For more than three decades, the [Risk Management and Decision Processes Center](#) at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania has been at the forefront of basic and applied research to promote effective corporate and public policies for low-probability events with potentially catastrophic consequences.

The Triple-I has a full library of educational videos on its [YouTube Channel](#). Information about Triple-I mobile apps can be found [here](#).

Back to top