



## REGISTER BY: OCTOBER 16, 2024

To register, scan the QR Code or fill out the registration form at <https://acdhs.org/casecomp>

## SAMPLE SCHEDULE

### MONDAY | OCTOBER 21

Case Kick-Off (in-person)  
6 - 8 pm

Human Services Building  
One Smithfield Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Registered graduate students will join us in-person at the Human Services Building to be put on their teams and learn about the case challenge!

### WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY | OCTOBER 23 & 24

Feedback sessions (virtual) throughout the day on Microsoft Teams

Teams will share their solutions to the case challenge with DHS staff, and will be provided with feedback to improve their solution and presentation.

### SATURDAY | OCTOBER 26

Presentations (in-person)

9am - 5pm

Human Services Building  
One Smithfield Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Teams will present their proposals to judges, and winning teams will be selected!

### DHS IS

responsible for providing and administering publicly funded human services to Allegheny County residents.

### DHS PRINCIPLES

All services will be

- high quality, comprehensive, and accessible
- individualized and designed to be respectful of the unique cultural characteristics of each individual and/or community
- integrated and offered through a team approach that recognizes the capacity of individuals and families to identify their own strengths, needs, and goals; create relationships with natural supports; and take steps necessary to accomplish these goals

[www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs)

Human Services Building  
One Smithfield Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2221

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of a protected class including: race; color; religion; national origin; ancestry or place of birth; sex; gender identity or expression; sexual orientation; disability; marital status; familial status; age (40 and older); use of guide or support animal because of blindness, deafness, or physical disability.

DHS funding information is available at [www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/funding.aspx](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/funding.aspx)  
Produced by the DHS Office of Equity and Engagement 7/2024



# CASE COMP 2024

**LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT  
CASE  
COMPETITION**

**OCTOBER 21 - 26  
2024**



**Allegheny County  
Department of  
Human Services**

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT CASE COMPETITION

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) Local Government Case Competition (LGCC) began in 2007 as part of the celebration of DHS' 10th anniversary as an integrated department.

It has been hosted almost every year since then, welcoming students from a wide variety of backgrounds and academic disciplines to participate.

The competition is generously funded by the Human Services Integration Fund (HSIF).

### THE COMPETITION

Like other case competitions, the LGCC highlights challenges and managerial dilemmas faced by government leaders. Competing teams work under pressure to solve a real problem, using simulated business conditions such as time critical deadlines and incomplete information to formulate action-oriented recommendations.

### THE CASE CHALLENGE

The case challenge is not revealed until the Monday night Kick Off event, but previous case challenges have been to:

- Find innovative solutions to move DHS clients away from housing instability
- Propose solutions that improve quality of life outcomes for various populations, taking into account the range of social determinants of health
- Use emerging technologies to address human service problems

Students will be provided appropriate background materials about the case and about DHS. There is no way to prepare in advance for the case topic.

### THE PREPARATION

After receiving the challenge on Monday evening, randomly assigned teams of students will have until Saturday to design a solution to the case challenge and create a presentation to share that solution with a panel of judges.

Teams will have one virtual, 20-minute feedback session midweek with DHS staff in which they will be given feedback on how to strengthen their solution and communicate it successfully.

### THE JUDGING

Teams will present their solutions to judges throughout the day on Saturday, and the top 3 teams will be selected and announced!

### THE PRIZES

Cash prizes will be awarded to the Top 3 Teams.

**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: \$3,500 per team**

**2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: \$2,500 per team**

**3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: \$1,700 per team**

### THE PARTICIPANTS

Students enrolled in graduate programs pertaining to public policy, social work, nonprofit management, public administration, business, law, psychology, design or other related fields may participate.

Students in non-traditional (part-time) programs are eligible.

Undergraduate students are not eligible to participate.

### THE TEAMS

Students will be assigned by DHS Staff to an interdisciplinary team of 3-5 students. Students may not assemble their own teams.

Students will be randomly placed on an interdisciplinary team at the Kick-Off event on Monday evening; students who cannot make this event will not be eligible to participate.

### THE COMMITMENT

Students will have five full days to meet with their team members – other graduate students from different programs and universities – and come up with a solution to a human services challenge.



<https://acdhs.org/casecomp>

For more information, please contact  
[DHSComp@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:DHSComp@alleghenycounty.us)