



World's Top Talented Collegiate Programmers to Compete at ICPC 2019 Porto in Porto, Portugal
135 Teams to Vie for “ICPC World Championship” in Computer Programming

Porto – March 25, 2019: The next generation of elite software engineers, developers and researchers will arrive in Porto, Portugal on March 31 to compete in the 43rd Annual World Finals of the ICPC International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) sponsored by JetBrains and hosted by the [University of Porto](http://www.up.pt), with the support of the Municipality of Porto, the North Regional Coordination and Development Commission and Tourism of Portugal. A live broadcast will air on [ICPCLive.com](http://icpclive.com).

The ICPC is the world's oldest, largest, and most prestigious academic programming contest. In 2018, the ICPC served over 52,000 students from 3,200 universities in 115 countries. With global headquarters (<http://icpc.global>) at Baylor University (<http://www.baylor.edu>) and the support of the UPE Honor Society in Computing and Information Sciences, the ICPC has been raising aspirations and performance of top talent in computing since 1970.

The ICPC World Finals takes place in a different city every year, unites academia, industry, and community. With over 320,000 alumni worldwide engaged in high technology in all sectors of business and industry, including Google, Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft.

Known as the “Battle of the Brains”, university teams of three elite student programmers sharing a only one computer per team are challenged to invent software solutions to a series of complex real-world problems in only five hours with no tolerance for error.

“The University of Porto, and specifically Professors Fernando Silva and Jose Leal, have created opportunity for opportunity makers for decades. ICPC 2019 Porto combines the strengths of academia, community leaders, and industry.” said Dr. William B. Poucher, ICPC Foundation President.

“The ICPC World Finals is an excellent opportunity to promote the country, the city of Porto and the University of Porto on the international stage. We are expecting 1,500 international guests, including 405 university students many from abroad. They are the best and brightest students, with a special talent in programming, which can have an economic, scientific and social impact. Due to this, we consider the ICPC an initiative that promotes the relations between the universities from all around the world, which captures the interest of thousands of people from scientific and technologic community”, said António de Sousa Pereira, Rector of the University of Porto.

Jeff Donahoo, ICPC Executive Director of World Finals Contests and Baylor University Professor.

“Through countless hours of preparation, unwavering dedication to improvement, the will to achieve, and the desire to excel, participants have made all of this possible. They have built the skills that make this competition possible and will make building the solutions to tomorrow's problems a reality. Their dedication and ambition have unlocked the door to a brighter future for us all.”

The contest is supported by JetBrains, the ICPC Global Programming Tool Sponsor, together with regional industry partners including Huawei (Europe Gold Sponsor), Two Sigma (North America), Endure Capital, Prodigy Finance. Local industrial support is provided through the courtesy of DNS.PT, Associação de Turismo do Porto e Norte, Farfetch, Primavera, Euronext, Efacec, Jumia, Natixis, Autosueco, Axians, Cisco, Maxiglobal, Sonae, Firmo and Navigator.

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ABOUT ICPC

The “ICPC International Collegiate Programming Contest”, known as the ICPC, is an annual multi-tiered [competitive programming](#) competition among the universities of the world. Headquartered at [Baylor University](#), directed by ICPC Executive Director and Baylor Professor Dr. William B. Poucher, the ICPC operates autonomous regional contests covering six continents culminating in a global World Finals every year. In 2018, 52,709 students from 3,322 universities in 115 countries participated

The ICPC is an extra-curricular, competitive programming sport for students at universities around the world. ICPC competitions provide gifted students opportunities to interact, demonstrate, and improve their teamwork, programming, and problem-solving prowess. The ICPC is a global platform for academia, industry, and community to shine the spotlight on and raise the aspirations of the next generation of computing professionals as they pursue excellence

Tracing its roots to 1970, over 320,000 ICPC alumni populate the professional ranks of high-tech companies, consulting firms, financial institutions, investment firms, high-tech startups, venture-capital firms, academia, and public service.^[6] ICPC Alumni are developers, software engineers, senior software engineers, leads, chiefs, CTOs, CEOs, founders, and co-founders. They are also professors, researchers, and in public service. A good number are in venture capital, helping others start companies.

Renowned Participants

Some former ICPC finalists have made remarkable achievements in the software industry and research. They include [Adam D'Angelo](#), the former CTO of [Facebook](#) and founder of [Quora](#), [Nikolai Durov](#), the former CTO of [vk.com](#), [Matei Zaharia](#), creator of [Apache Spark](#), [Tony Hsieh](#), CEO of [Zappos](#) and a venture capitalist, [Craig Silverstein](#), the first employee of [Google](#).

ABOUT ICPC PARTNERS

About JetBrains

JetBrains is the ICPC Global Programming Tools Sponsor. JetBrains is a software development company committed to providing tools that empower software developers and project managers. JetBrains provides its tools to all ICPC participants. In 2011, JetBrains introduced Kotlin, a high performance programming language that runs within a Java virtual machine (JVM). The company offers an extended family of integrated development environments (IDEs) for SQL and the programming languages Java, Kotlin, Ruby, Python, PHP, Objective-C, C++, C#, Go, and JavaScript. JetBrains was founded in Prague and has six offices in Prague, Saint Petersburg, Moscow, Munich, Boston and Novosibirsk employing software development experts, many who competed in the ICPC when in college.

About Huawei

Huawei the ICPC Europe Gold Sponsor, is a leading global provider of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and smart devices. With integrated solutions across four key domains – telecom networks, IT, smart devices, and cloud services – the company is committed to bringing digital to every person, home and organization for a fully connected, intelligent world.

About The University of Porto

The University of Porto is the most sought-after university in Portugal and one of the top 200 universities of Europe. Close to 32,000 students and 2,000 teaching and research staff attend its 15 schools and nearly 50 research units, covering the whole fields of knowledge and all levels of higher education. Representing itself as a leading research university, the University of Porto is responsible for almost 25% of all Portuguese scientific production and for some of its greatest innovations. The Science and Technology Park of the University of Porto, with its 180 startups, is the center of Porto’s innovation ecosystem, considered one of the strongest in Europe. Embedded in a city classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and elected as Best European Destination for the third time in five years, the University of Porto offers a vibrant and multicultural environment, to which more than 4000 international students, comprising 167 nationalities, contributes each year. Learn more at [www.up.pt](#).

About the City of Porto

Porto is one of the oldest cities in Europe. Unique, hospitable and cosmopolitan, the city of Porto is situated in the north of Portugal. It is the second largest city in the country, with approximately 237,000 inhabitants and, in total, the district of Porto has 1,300,000 inhabitants. It lies in a very special geographical setting, between the river and

the sea, and can easily be described as the amphitheatre overlooking the Douro River, beside which it was born and presides. It is impossible to consider Porto's history without referring back to prehistoric times. Paleolithic Age engravings over twenty thousand years old found on the rock faces in the city of Foz Côa, a city bathed by the Douro River and located in the highland winemaking region of Alto Douro, attest to human settlement in this area. These findings led to the creation of the largest open-air rock face engraving museum in this city, the Museu do Côa, at the site of the crossing point between the Douro River and Côa. However, historical reports allege that the city of Porto dates back to Roman times, more specifically to the 8th Century B.C., at a time when it was named Cale or Portus Cale, the origin of the name of Portugal. Celtic ruins have also been found in Porto, proving that the city attracted a variety of settlers, each different group contributing to the city's development on the granite hillsides, along the river banks. Thanks to its fierce resistance during two battles and sieges in history, it has earned the epithet of 'Cidade Invicta' (Invincible City).

Baylor University's Commitment

Baylor University has been the home of the ICPC since the late 1980s, where it has been managed under the direction of Executive Director and Professor, Dr. William Poucher, with global enterprise technology development headed by Dr. Jeff Donahoo, Deputy Executive Director. The ICPC contributes to Baylor's global mission to encourage the next generation to develop and apply their problem-solving talents to the challenges that face the world today and the world to come. Chartered by the Republic of Texas, Baylor is the oldest institution of higher learning in the State of Texas. You may find more about Baylor at baylor.edu.

Upsilon Pi Epsilon's Commitment

The Upsilon Pi Epsilon International Computer Science Honor Society recognizes the best students of computer science and engineering in the world. Since its earliest participation, the UPE has provided support and scholarships to the World Finals teams. The UPE boasts the longest continuous relationship to the ICPC, dating back to 1970 with the first event held at Texas A&M by members of the Alpha Chapter of the UPE. For more information about other UPE activities, its chapters, and its membership click on upe.acm.org.

About the ICPC Foundation

The ICPC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to advance the art and sport of competitive programming for the benefit of society. The foundation is responsible for ICPC sponsorship, fundraising, outreach, and operational matters. The ICPC Foundation strives to provide ample opportunity for the underserved, to create a tier of regional championships to recognize far more star performers and showcase emerging talent, and to bring ICPC alumni together, assuring future generations paths of excellence to being great problem solvers. The ICPC Foundation is actively engaged in creating equal opportunities for women or other underrepresented groups to pursue excellence within a culture of global inclusion and authenticity. For more information about the ICPC and the ICPC Foundation visit icpc.foundation.