

**CISCO NETWORKING ACADEMY ALUMNI AWARDS
COMPETITION FOR 2024
Official Rules**

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED.

BY REGISTERING FOR THIS CONTEST, YOU AGREE TO COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS BELOW. IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH ANY OF THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS, DO NOT REGISTER FOR THIS CONTEST AND DO NOT SUBMIT AN ENTRY.

This Contest (the "Contest") opens on May 2, 2024, at 12:00AM Pacific Time and ends on May 23, 2024, 10:00PM Pacific Time. Entry into this Contest is acceptance of these Official Rules. This Contest is sponsored by Cisco Systems, Inc., 170 West Tasman Drive, San Jose, CA 95134 USA ("Sponsor" or "Cisco").

ELIGIBILITY.

This Contest is open to participants ("Participants" or "you") in all countries where Cisco Networking Academy participates and an academy is located, and age twenty-one (21) years or older at the time of entry. Other eligibility criteria include:

- Must be a Cisco Networking Academy student or alumni;
- Must fully complete and submit Nominee Questionnaire application between May 2, 2024, and May 23, 2024;
- Must have completed at least two Cisco Networking Academy courses (one of which is a career course such as CCNA or Security course);
- Must be able to speak English fluently;
- Must provide two high-resolution images of yourself upon submission (images must be taken against two different backgrounds);
- Must be available on the following dates: June 27, 2024 for the Virtual Awards Ceremony, and if selected as the Break Free prize recipient available on September 27-29, 2024 for the Global Citizens Festival;
- Must be available in person for Global Citizen Festival in New York City on September 27 – 29, 2024 if selected as the Break Free prize recipient (possible international travel required);
- Must have passport or Visa with 18 months validity and able to travel to New York City, New York, USA; and
- May be required to sign additional documentation by Cisco for Global Citizens Festival.

This Contest is open to participants ("Participants" or "you") in all countries where Cisco Networking Academy participates and an academy is located, and age 21 years or older at the time of entry. This Contest is not open to: (1) employees or internally contracted vendors of Sponsor or its parent/subsidiaries, agents and affiliates; (2) the immediate family members or members of the same household of any such employee or vendor; (3) anyone professionally involved in the development or administration of this Contest; (4) employees or internally contracted vendors of governments and government-affiliated companies or organizations; or (5) any employee whose employer's guidelines or regulations do not allow entry in the Contest or acceptance of the prize(s).

HOW TO ENTER.

Step One – Go to Application Site: Review the Award Description, Award Criteria and submit your Nominee Questionnaire application via official Sponsor website: www.cisco.com/go/networking-academy-alumni-awards. The application will require you to provide certain information and click to accept these Terms and Conditions.

Step Two – Complete your Essays and Submit your Images: Follow the instructions to submit your Nominee Questionnaire application. Participants are required to answer questions in essay/narrative form. Word count guidelines are provided and must be followed.

Each Award Nominee Questionnaire has the following requirements for submission:

- Six essays and a multiple-choice question to answer.
- Essay answer requirements vary in length from 100 - 500 words per essay. Follow the instructions to complete each essay carefully.
- Two (2) different high-resolution images of yourself with different backgrounds
- The names of the two (2) different Cisco Networking Academy courses that you have completed. At least one course must be a career course like CCNA or Security.
- Your name, email address, and full mailing address. This will be used to contact you and to deliver prizes if you are selected as a winner in the competition.
- Your agreement to Cisco’s publicity release form and permission for Cisco to promote your story and image if you are selected as a winner in the competition.

Step Three – Confirmation of Entry: After completing the Award Nominee Questionnaire, participants will be asked to agree to the following General Conditions before submission. Sponsor, in its sole discretion, may review your Submission, to help ensure that it complies with these Official Rules. While your Submission is undergoing review, it is not yet considered a valid entry into the Contest.

- You agree to allow Cisco to use the information provided to evaluate, contact, and award nominees. Your information will not be sold or shared. For more information, see the [Cisco Online Privacy Statement](#).
- You represent and warrant that you are over the age of twenty-one (21) years.
- If chosen as a Winner, you agree to grant Cisco Networking Academy permission to release and promote your story and image in conjunction with the Cisco Networking Academy Alumni Awards, and agree to the terms and conditions set forth in Cisco’s Right of Publicity Release, which follows:

I hereby grant to the Sponsor and its authorized representatives the absolute right and permission to use my name, likeness, biographical information, voice, content of any interview, image and/or photograph and any other indicia of persona ("Persona") or to refrain from doing so, in any manner or media whether existing now or hereinafter developed (including without limitation the World Wide Web and the Internet), worldwide, for trade, advertising and/or promotional purposes. I agree I shall have no rights of review or approval, no Claim to compensation, and no Claim arising out of or resulting from the use, alteration, blurring, distortion or illusionary effect (whether intentional or otherwise) or use in any composite form of my Persona and agree to release and hold Sponsor and its authorized representatives harmless for any and all such use(s).

- You acknowledge that Cisco is the sole and exclusive owner of all right, title, and interest in all copyrights, trademark rights, and any and all other intellectual property rights, worldwide, in any videos, photographs or other content it produces, which contain my Persona, and I shall take no action to challenge or object to the validity of such rights or Cisco’s ownership or registration thereof.

Submission Format and Content Requirements.

Technical Requirements:

Your essay must comply with all “Additional Conditions” described below (e.g., regarding originality, third party rights, and permissions and releases, etc.).

Essays and videos not meeting the requirements as set forth in these Official Rules or the instructions on the application, or that contain prohibited, inappropriate, or irrelevant content, as determined by Sponsor in its sole

discretion, will not be eligible for judging and will be disqualified. All videos suspected by Sponsor of violating the proprietary rights of any third party (including intellectual property rights and rights of privacy/publicity), or any local, state, or federal law(s) will be disqualified, at Sponsor's discretion. Submitting your video to the application does not mean the video has been deemed by Sponsor to be in compliance with these Official Rules.

The Sponsor's clock is the official time keeping device for this Contest. Submissions must be received by the date and time listed above to qualify. No hand, mail or email deliveries will be accepted.

Once you register and complete your application for the Contest, you may not further modify or edit your Submission. The person named on the Contest application form for the Submission will be deemed the Participant. In the event of dispute regarding the identity of a Participant, the dispute will be resolved in favor of the individual who is the "authorized email account holder" of the email address provided on the application. "Authorized email account holder" is defined as the natural person assigned an email address by an Internet access provider, online service provider, or other organization (i.e., business, education institution) responsible for assigning email addresses for the domain associated with the submitted email address. Neither Sponsor nor any of its agents or affiliates will be liable for any disputes between collaborators related to a Submission.

Entries must be received during the Contest Period. Sponsor is not responsible for late, lost, delayed, damaged, misdirected, incomplete, void, corrupted, garbled, illegible, and/or unintelligible entries, or for any problems, bugs or malfunctions Participants may encounter when submitting their entry. Only complete valid entries will be accepted. Sponsor will not verify receipt of entries. Participants must provide all information requested to be eligible to win. Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify false entries or entries suspected of being false. Incomplete, unreadable, or unintelligible entries, in the sole discretion of Sponsor, will be disqualified. All entries submitted become the sole property of Sponsor and will not be acknowledged or returned.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Judging occurs in three stages: Stage (1) all submissions reviewed and scored by a diverse group of Cisco reviewers; Stage (2) all submissions who make it through round one is reviewed and scored by a judging panel of Cisco executives. For both rounds, reviewers and judges use the following criteria to select Five (5) Winners. Scoring is based on a possible 70 points:

1. 5 points – Is submission clear and easy to understand?
2. 10 points – Did candidate describe pivotal role Networking Academy played toward a career?
3. 10 points – Did candidate select one Greek philosopher quote and explain how they can relate?
4. 45 points – Did candidate provide specific details, examples—and examples of impact where asked in the essays that aligned to an Award Category described in the application website?

Stage (3) the selected (5) Winners (one for each Award Category) are reviewed a second time by judging panel to determine at Cisco's sole discretion One (1) Break Free prize recipient. The candidate who showed amazing determination while venturing beyond their comfort zone to reach new heights. In the event of a tie, the applicant who submitted their Award Nominee Questionnaire first will be deemed the winner.

- **PRIZES.** Subject to the terms of these Official Rules, and once confirmed by Sponsor, each of the 5 winners will receive the following prize package. Based on the highest total score on Submissions for each award category, the winner will receive:
 - A Cisco-engraved champion gold medal in a rosewood box;
 - Apple AirPods;
 - Revo sports sunglasses;
 - Iconic Nike Legacy 91 Cap;
 - And a keychain.The prize package is valued at approximately \$800 USD.

- The Break Free prize recipient will also attend Global Citizens Festival in person in New York City. The winner will receive funding from Sponsor to cover flight, 3 days and 2 nights accommodation in New York City, One (1) Ultimate VIP ticket to the Global Citizens Festival, including private entrance and access to an exclusive VIP tent behind the main stage; plus, access to Cisco's private lounge. Total prize package valued at \$5,250 USD. The winner will also receive a daily stipend of \$150 USD per day for

expenses, such as meals, during the Global Citizens Festival, not to exceed \$600 USD. The Break Free prize recipient is responsible for obtaining their own Visa and any costs associated prior to travel - this will not be Cisco's responsibility.

Limit one (1) prize per Award category and one (1) Break Free prize. Any approximate retail values are subject to change based on current market conditions at the time of prize fulfillment. Winners are not entitled to any surplus between actual retail value (ARV) of prize and stated ARV and any difference between stated ARV and actual value of the prize will not be awarded. No substitution, assignment, transfer, or cash redemption of any prize is allowed by winners. Sponsor reserves the right to substitute a prize with another prize of equal or greater value should the advertised prize become unavailable for any reason. If applicable, prizes may be awarded in the form of voucher(s), coupon(s) and/or gift card(s) in Sponsor's sole discretion. If a potential winner is unable to participate in or accept the prize or any portion of the prize for any reason, Sponsor shall have no further obligation to such potential winner. Neither Sponsor nor any of its prize suppliers will replace any lost or stolen prizes, gift cards, or certificates after being awarded to winners. In no event will Sponsor be responsible for awarding more than the stated number of prizes.

NOTIFICATION OF WINNER(S). Winners will be notified by phone, mail and/or email, at Sponsor's discretion. Sponsor's decision will be final in all matters. Sponsor may also send potential winner(s) a declaration of eligibility / liability / publicity release ("Release"). Unless restricted by law, potential winners receiving such a Release may be required to complete and return it within the time period specified therein. The prize may be forfeited and, in such case, an alternate potential winner may, in Sponsor's sole discretion, be selected from among the remaining eligible entries (using the criteria described above), if a potential winner: (i) cannot be reached; (ii) fails to obtain all signatures on the Release and to return the documents in a timely manner as required pursuant to these Official Rules; or (iii) cannot accept or receive the prize for any reason. **The Five (5) Winners including the Break Free prize recipient will be announced at the virtual Awards Ceremony June 27, 2024. Awards and prizes shipped to winners in July 2024.**

CONTENT AND LICENSE TERMS.

Originality: By participating in this Contest, Participant warrants and represents that his or her entry:

- is original and has been legally created, and that Participant owns all rights to the entry;
- does not infringe the intellectual property, privacy, or publicity rights or any other legal or moral rights of any third party;
- has not been published or distributed previously in any media; and
- complies in all respects with the requirements set out in these Official Rules.

Third Party Rights. No part of any entry may depict recognizable third-party marks, copyrights, brands, or other property, unless Participant has obtained all proper licenses. The entry must not contain any elements that would infringe upon any third party's rights (intellectual property or otherwise) and must not include any commercial content that: (1) promotes any product or service, other than one owned or branded by Sponsor, or (2) disparages Sponsor, its affiliates, partners, customers, competitors or any third party in any way. Sponsor's determination as to whether Participant's Submission potentially violates the rights of any third party is final.

Permissions and Releases. Participant acknowledge and agrees that he or she is responsible for obtaining any and all documents, policies, and authorizations necessary to submit the entry to Sponsor in connection with this Contest, including but not limited to publicity releases, permits and venue permissions, as may be necessary; and Participant represents and warrants that he or she has done so and can make written copies of such permissions available to Sponsor upon request.

If applicable: Participant represents and warrants that he or she has obtained permission from each person whose name, image, likeness and/or voice ("Likeness") is included in any entry, and that such person(s) has/have granted Participant all necessary rights to use the person's Likeness as described in these rules, and that Participant can make written copies of such permissions available to Sponsor upon request. If the Likeness of a minor is included, such grant of rights must include written permission from the minor's parent or legal guardian authorizing the use of the minor's likeness on behalf of the minor. Participant represents and warrants that he or she has obtained written permission when filming or photographing any part of his or her entry on private property not owned or controlled by Participant, where such permission is required.

Additional Content Limitations. Participant's entry must not include anything in its theme or language that would offend parents whose young children view the entry, and must not include any nudity, sex, explicit activity, violence, or drug use, nor any references to same.

License Grant. By submitting any entry in this Contest, Participant irrevocably grants Sponsor and its affiliates, legal representatives, assigns, agents and licensees, the unconditional, irrevocable and perpetual right and permission, royalty-free, to reproduce, encode, store, copy, transmit, publish, post, broadcast, display, publicly perform, adapt, exhibit and/or otherwise use or reuse (without limitation as to when or to the number of times used), for any purpose, the Participant's entry and ideas and materials contained therein, including, but not limited to, any recordings and performances contained therein (in each case, as submitted or as edited/modified in any way by the Sponsor, in its sole discretion), as well as to use Participant's Likeness, and/or statements regarding his/her participation in this Contest (with or without using the Participant's name) in any and all media without limitation as to time or territory, and without additional compensation or approval from the Participant, or any other party. Participant waives all intellectual property rights, privacy/publicity rights or other legal or moral rights that might preclude the Sponsor's use of the Submission and agrees not to sue or assert any claim against Sponsor for the use of the Submission or Participant's Likeness or statements. The grant of rights under these Official Rules includes all rights of paternity, integrity, disclosure, and withdrawal and any other rights that may be known as or referred to as "moral rights" ("Moral Rights"). If Moral Rights cannot be assigned under applicable law, then to the full extent allowed by law, Participant hereby waives such Moral Rights in favor of Sponsor and consents to any action of Sponsor which would violate such Moral Rights in the absence of such consent.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The Contest is subject to applicable federal, state, and local laws, and these Official Rules.

Each winner will be solely responsible for any local, provincial, country or any other applicable taxes, and any other costs, expenses, and fees in connection with the prize. If applicable, the winner(s) may be issued an IRS Form 1099 or other tax documentation for the approximate retail value of any awarded prize.

Participant grants permission to Sponsor and its authorized representatives to use his/her name, address (city and state/province/territory/country), photograph, voice, and/or other likeness for advertising, trade, and promotional purposes without further compensation, in all media now known or hereafter discovered, worldwide, and on the Internet and world wide web, in perpetuity, without notice, consideration, review or approval.

Following the Contest Period, Sponsor shall not be required to retain records of any entries.

By participating, Participant hereby: (a) agrees bound by these Official Rules, and the decisions of Sponsor, which shall be final and binding; and (b) waives any right to claim ambiguity in the Contest or these Official Rules, except where prohibited by law. Once submitted, an entry cannot be deleted or cancelled.

Participant acknowledges and agrees that Sponsor has neither made, nor is in any manner responsible or liable for, any warranty, representation, or guarantee, expressed or implied, in fact or in law, relative to any prize or the Contest. All warranties are hereby disclaimed; and each potential winner will accept the Prize "AS IS." **All costs and expenses, including support services, not specifically listed above as part of the prize, are solely the winner's responsibility.**

Subject to applicable law, Sponsor reserves the right in its discretion, to (a) cancel, terminate, modify, or suspend this Contest and these Official Rules, for any reason, at any time and without any liability, and (b) limit or restrict participation in the Contest, upon notice.

All Participants are solely responsible for compliance with any applicable laws, rules and regulations, contractual limitations and/or office or company policies, if any, regarding Participant's participation in trade promotions or acceptance of promotional prizes; and by entering this Contest, Participant confirms that he or she is not in violation of any of the foregoing and has obtained the consent of his or her employer to participate, if applicable. If a Participant is not permitted to accept any received prize, then the Participant may return such prize to Sponsor; and Sponsor will refund the cost of shipment, as appropriate.

Use of any automated entry device or software is prohibited. Creation or use of multiple accounts for registration or participation in the Contest is prohibited. To the extent the Contest uses or requires functionality of any third-

party website (e.g., social media sites or platforms that enable broad communications, collaboration and/or posting of videos), you understand that the Contest is not sponsored by such third parties, and further agree to follow the policies on such website(s), as applicable. Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify any Participant it finds to be tampering with the entry process or the operation of the Contest or violating these Official Rules, or otherwise acts in an uncooperative, unsportsmanlike, disruptive, abusive, or threatening manner; and Sponsor reserves the right to cancel the Contest should it suspect fraud or for reasons out of the control of Sponsor. Disputes regarding these Official Rules and/or this Contest will be governed by the internal laws of California. CAUTION: ANY ATTEMPT TO DELIBERATELY DAMAGE OR UNDERMINE THE LEGITIMATE OPERATION OF THE CONTEST MAY BE IN VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS AND WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE CONTEST. SHOULD SUCH AN ATTEMPT BE MADE, SPONSOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SEEK REMEDIES AND DAMAGES (INCLUDING ATTORNEY FEES) TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW, INCLUDING CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

Sponsor is not responsible for: (a) lost, late, misdirected, undeliverable, incomplete or indecipherable entries due to system errors or failures, or faulty transmissions or other telecommunications malfunctions and/or entries; (b) technical failures of any kind; (c) failures of any of the equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the Contest; (d) unauthorized human and/or mechanical intervention in any part of the submission process or the Contest administration; (e) technical or human error which may occur in the administration of the Contest or the processing of entries; or (f) other factors beyond Sponsor's reasonable control. Sponsor is not responsible for injury or damage to any Participant's or any other person's computer related to or resulting from participating in the Contest or downloading materials from or use of the Site.

If for any reason the Contest is not capable of running as planned by Sponsor, including infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes which, in Sponsor's sole determination, corrupts or affects the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of this Contest, Sponsor reserves the right at its sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Contest. If Contest is cancelled prior to the end of the Contest Period, for the reasons stated above, notice will be posted on the Contest website; and some or all of the prizes may, in Sponsor's sole discretion, be awarded to potential winners to be selected (using the judging criteria described above) from among all the remaining uncorrupted entries received up until the time of modification or cancellation.

Sponsor shall not be liable to any Participant or other person for failure to supply any prize or any part thereof, by reason of the prize becoming, for reasons beyond the reasonable control of Sponsor, unavailable or impracticable to award, or for any force majeure event, pandemics, epidemics, technical or equipment failure, terrorist acts, labor dispute, or act/omission of any kind (whether legal or illegal), transportation interruption, civil disturbance, or any other cause similar or dissimilar beyond Sponsor's control.

LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY AND RELEASE. PARTICIPANT AGREES THAT SPONSOR, ITS AFFILIATES, DIVISIONS, SUBSIDIARIES, RESELLERS, DEALERS, DISTRIBUTORS, ADVERTISING/PROMOTION AGENCIES, AND ALL OF THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, REPRESENTATIVES AND AGENTS ("RELEASED PARTIES") WILL HAVE NO LIABILITY WHATSOEVER FOR, AND WILL BE RELEASED AND HELD HARMLESS BY PARTICIPANT FOR ANY CLAIMS, LIABILITIES, OR CAUSES OF ACTION OF ANY KIND OR NATURE FOR ANY INJURY, LOSS OR DAMAGES OF ANY KIND INCLUDING DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL OR PUNITIVE DAMAGES TO PERSONS, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION DISABILITY OR DEATH. WITHOUT LIMITING THE FOREGOING, EVERYTHING ON THE SITE AND IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONTEST IS PROVIDED "AS IS" WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. SOME JURISDICTIONS MAY NOT ALLOW THE LIMITATIONS OR EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR EXCLUSION OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES, IN WHICH CASE SUCH LIMITATION OR EXCLUSION SHALL APPLY ONLY TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY THE LAW IN THE RELEVANT JURISDICTION.

PUBLICITY. Participant acknowledges and agrees that Sponsor may use the Contest (including any Submission) for publicity, advertising or other marketing purposes, in any media, and may use the name, likeness, and hometown name and/or prize information of potential winners as part of that publicity, without additional compensation to the potential winners.

PRIVACY. All personal information collected by Sponsor will be used for the administration of the Contest and in accordance with Sponsor's privacy statement. Any questions regarding privacy matters should be directed to the address set out below. Please refer to Sponsor's privacy statement located at <http://cisco.com/web/siteassets/legal/privacy.html> for important information regarding the collection, use and disclosure of personal information by Sponsor.

OFFICIAL RULES AND WINNERS' LIST. For a copy of these Official Rules or the names of winners, please email your request to emreid@cisco.com. Winners will be notified by June 27, 2024. Winner list will be available on June 28, 2024.

