National Association of
Active Investment Managers

Founders Award

FOR ADVANCES IN
ACTIVE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Call for Papers

2027

Whitepaper Competition

The National Association of Active Investment Managers (NAAIM) was formed in 1989 as a non-profit association of registered investment advisers who provide active money management services to investors. The goal of the NAAIM members is to promote active investment management strategies as an alternative to passive allocation. NAAIM includes more than 130 member firms nationwide, managing an estimated $22 billion. Associate members include mutual fund companies, ETF providers and a variety of other firms that provide professional services to RIAs.

FINAL PAPER (up to 30 pages) together with a required 750-1000-word abstract **must be submitted electronically to:info@naaim.org by Monday, March 8, 2027,** to qualify for the competition.

The submission of a paper for review means that the author certifies that the manuscript is not copyrighted, and consents to NAAIM's non-exclusive use of the paper.

www.naaim.org

$5,000 Cash Prize to be Awarded for Best Paper

Paper Topics: The papers should cover an innovative topic in the area of active investing. This can be either a documented investing approach, an exploration into the validity of active investing, or research in other issues related to active investing such as making investment decisions using technical analysis, quantitative analysis, etc. Papers can also address related topics such as position sizing techniques, money management approaches, scaling into and out of trades, exit strategies, tax harvesting, execution, etc.

Who may submit: The competition is open to all investment practitioners, academic faculty and doctoral candidates in the field.

Selection Criteria: Papers must be of practical significance to financial professionals and must discuss a strategy or idea that is realistically executable in current financial markets. The prize will be awarded to a paper resulting from research into active investment management, which NAAIM broadly defines as investment strategies and techniques that improve upon the risk-adjusted return obtainable from a passive, buy-and-hold investment strategy. Many NAAIM members strive for consistent outperformance and focus on quantitatively or technically oriented investing. However, papers that explore other types of active investment management or issues germane to active investment management will also be considered.

A jury of scholars and investment professionals will review entries and award the prize.

Submissions: All submitted papers should be recent, unpublished and of a quality appropriate for publication in a peer-reviewed academic journal. **Inquiries and submissions should be electronically submitted to info@naaim.org** and the subject line should indicate "2027 Paper Submission." Papers should be numbered, double-spaced and readable in a PDF format and filed prior to the deadline.

Intent to Submit a Paper: You are encouraged to complete an "Intent to Submit" form and return it to NAAIM by Monday, February 8, 2027. This will allow us to contact you if needed if there is a change to the competition, clarification of rules, or in the event that your paper does not arrive by the competition deadline at NAAIM headquarters.

Online "Intent to Submit" form Link:
2027 Intent to Submit Form

NAAIM Founders Award

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Competition Rules

The National Association of Active Investment Managers (NAAIM) sponsors the Founders Award annually to seek out papers of academic quality that cover an innovative topic in the area of active investing. The following rules govern the submission, judging, ownership and awarding of the papers.

1. All decisions of the NAAIM Founders Award committee are final. Any occurrence that arises that is not covered in these rules will be adjudicated by the committee.
2. Papers will be judged by a panel selected by the NAAIM Founders Award committee. The prime criteria used in judging the papers are:
    1. Practical significance to practitioners of active investing
    2. Quality of exposition
    3. Analytical rigor and transparency
    4. Novelty of results
3. **Papers should be submitted electronically in PDF format to info@naaim.org and the subject line should indicate "2027 Paper Submission." Please submit TWO copies of the paper: 1) Anonymous – with no reference of the author(s)' name or their affiliation with a company or university; 2) The paper should include the author(s) and affiliation with a company or university.**
4. Papers must be 30 pages or less and include a separate required 750 –1000-word abstract within the paper. Papers must be numbered, double-spaced, with a minimum font size of 14, and filed prior to the deadline. Papers failing to adhere to these requirements are subject to disqualification.
5. By virtue of submission, the author certifies that the manuscript is not copyrighted, consents to NAAIM's non-exclusive use of the paper and abstract and agrees to be bound by the rules set forth herein. NAAIM will request approval of the author prior to any publication of the paper.
6. Delivery of papers to NAAIM is the sole responsibility of the participants. Therefore, it is encouraged that they complete an "Intent to Submit" form that will allow NAAIM to contact them, if needed.
   NAAIM will attempt to do so if the situation arises, such as a change to the competition, clarification of the rules, and in the event that their paper does not arrive by the deadline at NAAIM headquarters to the specified email address, etc. An email confirmation of receipt of the paper will be sent by NAAIM within three days of submission. It is the author's responsibility to contact NAAIM at info@naaim.org prior to **Monday, March 8, 2027**, in the event a confirmation is not received by the author in the 3-day time period.
7. **Papers are due at NAAIM on or before midnight EST on Monday, March 8, 2027.**
8. The winning paper will be announced prior to the NAAIM 2027 Uncommon Knowledge conference May 3-5, 2027
9. The author of the winning paper will win a $5,000 Cash Prize and the opportunity to present at the annual NAAIM conference. Domestic coach airfare, one night of lodging and conference registration is included for one author per winning paper only.

Founders Award

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Intent to Submit

Please submit your intent by Monday, Feb. 8, 2027

Please place me on the list to participate in the
FOUNDERS AWARD Competition

ONLINE FORM – INTENT TO SUBMIT 2027

The following information will only be used for the purpose of contacting participants with reminders or information about the contest. If more than one author, please include additional author(s)' names and emails, as well.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name _____

Title _____

Company, University or Organization

_____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Phone _____ Cellphone _____

How did you hear about the NAAIM Founders Award?

- ☐ Past Competitor/Winner
- ☐ NAAIM Email/NAAIM News
- ☐ LinkedIn Post
- ☐ NAAIM Event
- ☐ NAAIM New Member
- ☐ Academic Faculty
- ☐ Internet Blog/Bulletin Board
- ☐ Other:

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