



Wisconsin SMS

Stock Market Simulation

Economics *Wisconsin*

2016-2017 *Teacher Kit*

Fall Trading Dates:

October 10, 2016 through December 16, 2016

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2016

Spring Trading Dates:

February 6, 2017 through April 14, 2017

Registration Deadline: February 28, 2016

School Year Challenge Dates:

October 10, 2016 through April 14, 2017

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2016

Thank you for registering for the Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation on (SMS), brought to you by EconomicsWisconsin. The SMS helps students learn the costs and benefits involved in investing in the stock market without the fear of using real money. Student teams manage hypothetical \$100,000 investment portfolios as they compete against students from across Wisconsin for a cash prize. Ten-week games are offered each semester. A separate year-long program runs from October through April.

Please see page 3 for important awards update.

Please see pages 6-8 for important information regarding trading updates.

2016 - 2017 game dates are as follows:

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NYSE 2016 Holiday Schedule

Normally the hours for the New York Stock Exchange are from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. However, the stock market does close for certain holidays and occasionally for other extraordinary events.

NYSE Holidays	2016
New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	January 18
Washington's Birthday/ Presidents Day	February 15
Good Friday	March 25
Thanksgiving Day	November 24
Christmas Day	December 25

Staying Informed

- School e-mail systems often block e-mail from our office. As many important messages regarding the SMS are delivered via e-mail, ask your school net-work administrator or computer technician to allow messages from: EconEd@EconomicsWisconsin.org and registrations@stocktrak.com

- You can find the answers to frequently asked questions at www.EconomicsWisconsin.org/SMSFAQ.html
- Find us on Facebook – Find relevant lesson plans and news stories.

Wisconsin SMS Awards 2017

(Please review the pages that follow for award details)

Eligibility for Awards and Prizes:

SMS Advisors with outstanding balances or owing payment to EconomicsWisconsin will not be eligible for competitions and contests associated with the Stock Market Simulation on program until the outstanding amount is paid. Debts must be paid one week prior to the end of the game. Awards will be forfeited if debts are not paid by this date.

10 Week SMS Awards	
Recognition on at SMS Awards Banquet, certificates, medals, and T-shirts	Top 10 Elementary, Middle School and High School teams Division Rankings
Trophies	1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the state <i>Overall Rankings, all ages competition on</i>
Cash prize of \$1,200 Framed certificate signed by the Governor	Top team in the state <i>Overall Rankings, all ages competition on</i> <i>Cash prize limited to five students</i>
School Year Challenge	
Recognition at SMS Awards Banquet, certificates, medals, and T-shirts	Top 3 teams (Overall Rankings)
Travelling Trophies	1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the state <i>Overall Rankings, all ages competition on</i> <i>Travelling trophies are collected at the end of each game and passed onto the next winner.</i>
Cash Awards	1st place in the state: \$500.00 2nd place in the state: \$400.00 3rd place in the state: \$300.00 <i>Overall Rankings, all ages competition on</i>
Teacher/Adult/College/Tech. College	
Cash Awards	1st place in the state: \$100.00 2nd place in the state: \$50.00 3rd place in the state: \$25.00
Department of Corrections	

Travelling Trophy and Certificates

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the state

Travelling trophies are collected at the end of each game and passed onto the next winner. The President of Economics Wisconsin will visit your class to present the awards.

Teams must make at least one trade by the last day of registration on for the session (October 31 or February 28).

Teams must invest at least \$75,000 of their initial \$100,000 in the market throughout the trading session. Teams must also comply with all official rules. Accounts will be reviewed at the end of each game to ensure accuracy.

Rankings will be adjusted accordingly if any team(s) is found to have violated the rules or a technological error is discovered. Official results will be announced on www.EconomicsWisconsin.org once the review is complete. If your team suspects an error at any time during the trading period, please submit an email to

EconEd@EconomicsWisconsin.org or call 414-221-9400

as soon as possible. Students and advisors may use the Contact Us form located on the WisconsinSMS Website. This form on the SMS website goes to StockTrak and **not** EconomicsWisconsin.

To view rankings: Teams must first login. Select 'Rankings' under the 'My Portfolio' tab. Rankings can be viewed three ways:

- **Overall Rankings** include all teams (3-12) in the state. The winner of the cash prize is based on these rankings.
- **Division Rankings** are based on grade level (three divisions: elementary, middle school, and high school). Division Rankings are used to determine the teams invited to the awards banquet (T-shirts, certificates, and medals are distributed at the banquet).
- **Class Rankings** are based on the teams competing within your class only. You may use these rankings to conduct your own class competition if you so choose. EconomicsWisconsin does not provide awards based on class ranking.

Division Accuracy: *It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that his or her teams are competing in the correct division.* This can easily be determined by viewing the Division Rankings which include the names of the schools. If your team of high school students is ranked among all middle schools, you are most likely in the wrong division. Please notify EconEd@EconomicsWisconsin.org if you feel that you have been ranked in the wrong division. Teams consisting of cross-division students (i.e. a team of 5th and 6th graders or a team of 8th and 9th graders) must compete in the division based on the highest grade level. Any team that is found during the review process to be to be ranked in the wrong division will be moved to the correct division. All rankings will be adjusted accordingly.

Banquets: Winning teams will be invited to a Stock Market Simulation Awards Banquet. Banquet locations will be determined by EconomicsWisconsin and will be announced after the final review process is complete and winners are officially announced. Banquets will be announced at least three weeks in advance. Those planning to attend must pre-register.

Those invited to attend the banquet include:

- Winning team members (up to five students, schools may pay for additional students)
- Advisor of the winning team (Schools may pay for co-advisors, etc.)
- School principal (Assistant Principals or Department Chairs may attend if the Principal is unavailable)
- District Superintendent

- Parents and siblings of the winning team members, and other interested individuals, are welcome to attend but are required to cover the cost of their meals.

Winning team members will receive:

- T-shirt (must attend the banquet in order to receive a shirt)
- Medals (must attend the banquet in order to receive a medal)
- Certificates of achievement

Stock Market Simulation on Rules

1. **Registration on Period** – Registration closes on the last day of the third week of the game. You must add or cancel teams by this deadline. Teachers will be responsible for payment for unused teams if not cancelled by the close of business on the Registration close date.
2. **Cancellation of Teams** – The cancellation of teams must be made through *EconomicsWisconsin* via e-mail or phone call. The email address is at EconEd@EconomicsWisconsin.org and/or the number at the office is 414-221-9400. Cancellations must be made by the last day of the third week of the game.
3. **Trading Period**
Participants may place orders after market close one business day prior to the Trading Start Date. Those orders will execute at the market open on the Trading Start Date.
4. **Teams** - Teams should consist of no more than five students per team. *EconomicsWisconsin* holds the right to limit prizes to five per team.
 - Teams must make at least one trade by the last day of registration for the session (i.e. Spring, March 4). Teams must invest at least \$75,000 of their initial \$100,000 in the market throughout the trading session.
 - Trades placed using the Administrator account will not be eligible for prizes.
 - Teams may NOT hold both long and short positions in the same stock at the same time.
 - Teams can trade up to half of the actual daily volume. Volume is the number of shares traded in a security during a given trading day. It is simply the number of shares that trade hands from sellers to buyers as a measure of activity. Most sites such as Yahoo! Finance will display the volume when you look up a quote.
5. **Initial Cash Balance** - At the beginning of each new challenge, participants will be given an initial cash balance of \$100,000.00 fictitious funds in their Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation Portfolio account that can be used to make simulated buy or sell transactions as described in more detail below. Participants are limited to one Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation account per eligible person.
6. **Eligible Securities** – The Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation offers a wide variety of over 7,000 securities. In order to be considered for the Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation stock list, securities must meet specific criteria, including pricing, market capitalization and average daily volume. In addition, the security must also be traded on a recognized U.S. marketplace system such as NYSE, AMEX and NASDAQ. Mutual funds may also be traded.
7. **Order Types and Trade Execution** -
 - Each account is limited to an aggregate of 150 trades during the Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation.
 - Market, limit, and stop orders will be accepted for stock orders.
 - All orders for North American stocks are executed at the real-time bid/ask prices as provided by our data vendor when placed during market hours.

- Due to exchange rules, the web page will display a 15- to 20-minute delayed price estimate of the price.
 - The transaction will automatically appear in the Trader's Portfolio and Transaction History.
 - Market orders placed while the markets are closed or before the market opens will be executed as market conditions permit shortly after the market opens.
 - If the security to be transacted has not traded that next day, then the trade will be cancelled.
 - Trades placed after market hours can be viewed in the Pending Orders screen.
 - Pending orders can be cancelled until 9:25 am ET on the day the trade is scheduled for execution.
 - Pending market orders placed on securities whose trading has been halted will be cancelled if trading does not resume by the end of that day.
 - If a participant does not have adequate cash or buying power to process a trade, then the numbers of shares will be adjusted to allow the trade to be filled as best it can.
 - Participants cannot cancel market orders placed during market hours.
 - Participants may invest a maximum of 25% of their simulated Portfolio value in any one stock or mutual fund.
8. **Commissions** - Each trade will incur a broker commission fee of \$10.00 which will be subtracted from the participants Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation cash balance.
9. **Buying on Margin** - Participants can borrow an additional \$100,000.
10. **Splits, Dividends and other Corporate Actions** - Most stock splits, dividends, and other corporate actions reported by the news wires will be accounted for after the markets have closed and prior to the next market opening. These corporate actions may cause account values to be misrepresented unless the reconciliation occurs for next open business day.
11. **Trading Halts** - Halted, restricted, and blocked securities will not be available for trading. Any trade that is confirmed after trading has been halted will be reversed.
12. **Discrepancies** - Participants should report any account discrepancy within one (1) week from the transaction date. The Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation Support Services Group will, at its sole discretion, investigate and adjust any legitimate discrepancy. Discrepancies reported after one (1) week has lapsed may or may not be adjusted. Contact EconEd@EconomicsWisconsin.org or 414-221-9400.
13. **Transaction Limits** – Participants may invest a maximum of 25% of their simulated Portfolio value in any one stock or mutual fund.
14. **Day Trading** – Teams do not have ability to buy and sell the same securities during the same day.
15. **Interest** – You will earn interest on positive cash balances maintained in your account and interest will be charged to your account for margin loans assumed. Interest Earn Rate = 3%. Interest Charge Rate = 8%.
16. **A current list of awards and prizes can found in the teacher kit.**
17. SMS Advisors with outstanding balances or owing payment to EconomicsWisconsin will not be eligible for competitions and contests associated with the Stock Market Simulation until the outstanding amount is paid.

Debts must be paid one week before the end of the trading period. Awards will be forfeited if debts are not paid by this date.

18. SMS advisors must be responsible adults 18 years of age or older associated with an organization and/or school. In no case may they be a matriculated student in grades 3-12. Teams that do not comply will be removed from the Portfolio rankings.
19. The authority to remove a team from the rankings lies solely within the discretion of Economics*Wisconsin*.
20. Trades that result from cases of stolen passwords and/or those submitted by a team member without the consent of his or her team mates will be reviewed by Economics*Wisconsin* to determine the outcome. Registration and other fees due will remain unaffected by any such irregularity.
21. Trades that result due to human error will not be deleted from accounts under any circumstance.
22. Economics*Wisconsin* reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any participating team for any reason whatsoever. One or more participating teams from a particular school or organization could be subject to disqualification by Economics*Wisconsin* based on the participating team, the advisor, and/or the persons within the participating school or organization having engaged , directly or indirectly , in any: (a) fraudulent activity; (b) suspicious behavior; (c) tampering with the participation process or the operation of the Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation web site or any portion of it; (d) action in violation of the Rules; or (e) in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive activity.
23. In the event of an error on the part of Stock Trak and/or Economics*Wisconsin*, their liability to a participant shall be limited to the refund of Registration or other fees paid.

You can find the answers to frequently asked questions at www.EconomicsWisconsin.org/SMSFAQ.html