



## The Paraplanner of the Year Award 2026 T&Cs

The Paraplanner of the Year Award (the “Competition”) is being conducted by the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment (CISI), 20 Fenchurch Street, London, EC3M 3BY. Entry to the Award is open to all residents of the UK who are currently working as a paraplanner in a Financial Planning firm, in a freelance or outsourced capacity. The 2026 Competition applications (i.e. fully completed entries) must be submitted in accordance with these terms and conditions by the deadlines outlined below.

The stages of the competition are as follows:

1. Complete a multiple-choice test by 11:59pm on Friday 19 June 2026. Those who successfully progress to the next round will be notified by Monday 22 June.
2. Successful applicants will receive a case study to complete. Case study responses should be no more than 2,500 words and answer all questions. These must be submitted by email to [Financial.planning@cisi.org](mailto:Financial.planning@cisi.org) by 11:59pm on Monday 20 July 2026. A panel of judges (“the Panel”) consisting of representatives from the CISI and the paraplanning community will review the applications and select the Winner. Entrants will be judged anonymously according to their response to the case study. Applicants will be notified by Monday 17 August 2026 whether they have progressed to the final stage or not.
3. Third round: The top two shortlisted entrants will be invited to attend an interview with the Panel on Wednesday 09 September 2026 to determine the overall Winner. This will take place via video call.

By entering the Competition, the Winner agrees to participate in publicity activities associated with the Award including interviews and photo sessions requested by the CISI or the award sponsors.

The Winner will receive:

- £750 in cash.
- One free ticket and accommodation for The Financial Planning Conference 2027.
- A feature on the CISI website, in The Review magazine and on the CISI social media channels.
- A trophy to be awarded at the gala dinner as the Financial Planning Conference 2026.

The runner up will receive £250 in cash.

The Winner and runner up must take the prizes as specified above. Where applicable, the prizes cannot be redeemed for cash, exchanged or transferred to another person. The Winner and runner up acknowledges and agrees that all other costs associated with the prize, including taxes and other



ancillary costs, are their own responsibility. The CISI may without notice combine the awards and prize fund if it is deemed that there are insufficient entries.

General feedback by way of comments from The Panel will be made available on request to [Jamie.watt@cisi.org](mailto:Jamie.watt@cisi.org) once the Winner has been announced. The judges' decisions are final, and no judge will enter into conversation or correspondence about decisions that have been made.

Applicants may only submit one entry to the competition. The CISI accepts no responsibility for incorrectly submitted, delayed, misdirected or illegible entries into this Competition. Applicants who submit multiple entries will be judged on their first submitted entry only.

Chance plays no part in this Competition. The Panel's decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. Any applicants or applications not complying with these terms and conditions or involving fraud or any other illegal activity may be disqualified by The Panel and/or replaced by another applicant at any time. The CISI reserves the right to undertake at any time any verification checks of the application submitted.

Your entry will be judged on its merits and principally on the basis of the information provided in your entry. The Panel's decision shall be absolutely final and binding on all entrants. The information entrants provide will be used by the CISI for the purpose of conducting the Competition in accordance with the CISI privacy policy.

By entering the Competition, all applicants confirm and agree that they will abide by these terms and conditions, they are the person who submitted the application, and the application is their own work. Applicants who submit multiple entries will be judged on their first entry only.

The entrant confirms that this submission was conceived, created, and executed by themselves. Generative artificial intelligence tools were not used for ideation, drafting, rewriting, editing, visual creation, audio creation, or enhancement of the work.

The sole permitted use of AI is limited to basic spelling correction that does not alter wording, meaning, structure, or creative intent.

If additional AI use is suspected judges may request supporting evidence such as early drafts, original research, project notes, photos and screen shots of the workings out /your process.

The CISI is not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, either submitted by the applicant, or caused by equipment or programming used in this Competition, or for any technical error that may occur during the administration of this Competition including any omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, network failures, technical problems



or traffic congestion on the internet or on the website, software failure, theft, destruction, alteration or unauthorised access to the applications or any injury or damage to any person's computer related to,

The CISI and its associated companies and agencies shall not be liable in any way (including, without limitation, in negligence) for any loss or damage whatsoever suffered (including, without limitation, indirect or consequential loss) or for any loss or damage or personal injury suffered or sustained in connection with using any prize, except any liability that cannot be excluded by law.