

MEDIA RELEASE
(For Immediate Release)

**Trinidad and Tobago
Securities and Exchange Commission
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22 Secondary School Teams to Compete in TTSEC National Investing Debate Competition

The Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission (TTSEC) has launched its National Investing Debate Competition, an investor education initiative designed to strengthen financial literacy, critical thinking and investment awareness among secondary school students across Trinidad and Tobago.

The competition brings together 22 teams of secondary school students from across Trinidad and Tobago, representing North Eastern, Port of Spain and Environs, St. George East, Victoria, Caroni and St. Patrick Education Districts, as well as Tobago. The competition provides students with an opportunity to research, debate and critically examine issues related to investing, investor protection, financial literacy and the wider financial sector.

Through the competition, the TTSEC aims to make investor education more engaging and accessible to young people, while developing important skills in research, critical thinking, public speaking and informed decision-making.

The competition will take place over three rounds:

- **Preliminaries – September 28, 2026**
- **Semi-Finals – October 16, 2026**
- **Finals & Prize-Giving – October 30, 2026**

The preliminary round will see the 22 participating teams of secondary school students competing, with six teams advancing to the Semi-Finals. The competition will culminate with two teams competing in the Final.

The TTSEC views early financial education as an important component of investor protection. By engaging secondary school students before they enter the workforce and begin making significant financial decisions, the Commission aims to equip young people with the knowledge and critical-thinking skills needed to assess financial information, understand investment risks and make more informed decisions.

To support a fair and credible competition, the debates will be adjudicated by a panel of experienced professionals drawn from the fields of finance, investment, education and related areas. The adjudicators will assess participating teams based on established judging criteria, including the quality of arguments, research and evidence, rebuttal, presentation and overall debating performance.

Finalists will be awarded a range of exciting prizes, including book vouchers and internship opportunities with the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (CBTT) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), among other prizes and opportunities.

The TTSEC acknowledges the invaluable support of the competition's sponsors and partners: the **Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange; Securities Dealers Association of Trinidad and Tobago; Mutual Funds Association of Trinidad and Tobago; Bankers Association of Trinidad and Tobago; Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago; Inter-American Development Bank; Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies; and RIK Services Trinidad.**

The National Investing Debate Competition will be livestreamed on the TTSEC's Facebook and YouTube pages, giving secondary school students, teachers, families and members of the public across Trinidad and Tobago the opportunity to follow the competition live.

Members of the public are encouraged to stay tuned to the TTSEC's social media pages for competition updates and to support the participating secondary school students throughout the preliminary, semi-final and final rounds.

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About the TTSEC: The TTSEC is governed by the Securities Act Chapter 83:02 and is responsible for overseeing the securities market and ensuring that fairness, equity and transparency remain common values in the marketplace. Our vision is to be an innovative regulator of a thriving securities market, enabling economic development for the benefit of all.

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