

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

The IEEE SA Standards Fellowship Program

These Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) are intended to address questions that prospective or current program participants in the IEEE Standards Association (IEEE SA) Standards Fellowship Program may have. It will be updated, as relevant.

Q1: What is the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program?

A1: The IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program offers national and regional standards bodies as well as affiliated government ministries the opportunity to observe the IEEE standards development process during the IEEE SA Standards Board (SASB) meeting series (typically held at IEEE headquarters, an international meeting location or virtually).

The IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program usually runs in parallel with an IEEE SASB meeting series.

The meeting series is held over a period of approximately 7-10 days, where IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants can focus on technical areas of interest, make connections with IEEE experts and standardization communities, attend customized program sessions that are held alongside the SASB meetings.

Program participants are able to exchange their technical and standards development experience at roundtable sessions, and they have the opportunity to get involved in IEEE standards development work and related programs.

Q2: Who is the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program for?

A2: The IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program is aimed at professional staff from national and regional standards bodies as well as affiliated government ministries from around the world.

Q3: What will participants gain by partaking in the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program?

A3: IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants will have the opportunity to:

- Receive introductory tutorials about IEEE/SA and on relevant areas of interest

- Meet experts in their organization's areas of interest
- Meet colleagues from other national or regional standards bodies, or government bodies
- Explore means for cooperative activities
- Attend meetings of the IEEE Standards Association Standards Board (SASB)
- Present their organization to an international audience of standardization experts
- Get involved in the IEEE standards development work
- Participate in IEEE standards working groups
- Strengthen relationships with IEEE and other national or regional standards bodies or ministries

Q4: Why should national/regional standards institutions or ministries participate in the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program?

A4: Professional staff from national and regional standards bodies or ministry bodies are invited to participate in the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program where they have the opportunity to:

- Get exposed to and gain a deeper understanding of standardization-related topics, developments and issues
- Learn more about how IEEE SA is empowering the world's innovators to shape and improve technology through its standard development and related programs and initiatives
- Network with industry and standardization experts as well as with peers from national and regional standard bodies
- Strengthen relationships with IEEE and other standards bodies or ministries
- Gain knowledge about the IEEE standards ecosystem, from standards incubation and development to conformity assessment
- Observe the IEEE SA Standards Board and its committees

Q5: What are the requirements for being considered as an IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program candidate?

A5: To be considered, an applicant must:

- Be currently employed by a national or regional standards body or by an affiliated government ministry
- Have a thorough understanding of the national/regional standards work program
- Have an understanding of standards development processes
- Be capable of appropriately representing their employer and their standards-related issues and information

- Be willing to continue to engage with IEEE after the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program
- Speak and read English

Q6: What is expected of the participants during an IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program (in-person or virtual)?

A6: IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants will be expected to attend all sessions per the posted program schedule consisting of the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program track and the IEEE SA Standards Board (SASB) track.

The IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program track includes tutorials on the latest IEEE standards development discussions on cutting-edge technology. Roundtable discussions with experts from their field of interest.

The SASB track offers the opportunity to observe and learn about the open, global, and market-driven IEEE standards development process by observing the IEEE SA Standards Board New Standards Committee (NesCom), the IEEE SA Standards Board Standards Review Committee (RevCom), and the IEEE SA Standards Board (SASB) meetings, as relevant.

At an in-person IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program, program sessions will take place between ca. 08:00-17:00, whereas at a virtual IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program, program participants will be expected to join sessions remotely for ca. 2-3 hours per day via a teleconferencing system.

IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants are invited to shape a roundtable session on a topic of their choice around cutting-edge technology and standards development. This option may be driven by program participants wishing to deliberate and exchange on their chosen topic with a small group of like-minded participants from national or regional standards institutions or government bodies.

IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants will give a brief presentation that includes information about their specific responsibilities; an overview of their organization and its engagement with other standards bodies responsibilities; and an overview of possible future activities where potential IEEE involvement may be beneficial. The audience will be fellow IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants as well as IEEE SA governance volunteers, standards and technical experts, and IEEE SA staff. The date and time of this session will be confirmed on the program schedule.

IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants will be asked to provide feedback and to share a quote summarizing their IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program

experience, which may be featured in an IEEE SA blog post.

Q7: How big is an IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participant class?

A7: Depending on whether the program will be held in person or virtually, one class of IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants may count between 5-8 individuals.

Q8: Is there a financial commitment involved in participating in the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program?

A8: There are no fees or membership requirements for individuals to partake in the program. For participants who are invited to and have been accepted to participate in an in-person program, IEEE SA will cover the costs of the participant's travel and lodging accommodations, and participants will also receive a daily spending amount deposited into their personal bank accounts for meals and incidentals, per the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program agreement.

If program participants are invited to participate in a local IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program where the program will take place alongside an IEEE SA Standards Board (SASB) meeting series in the program participants' country or surrounding region, and per the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program agreement, program participants are expected to pay for their own travel and accommodations to participate in the meetings of the local IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program and SASB.

In the event of a virtual IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program, there are no costs involved and attending the SASB meeting series is free of charge.

Q9: Do I need to register for the IEEE SA Standards Board meetings (SASB), and if so, how?

A9: Yes, all IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants will need to be registered for the SASB meetings that they will be joining as part of their participation in the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program. The program team will take care of this for you.

Q10: What are the responsibilities of the IEEE SA Standards Board (SASB) and its committees?

A10: The IEEE SA Standards Board (SASB) is responsible for:

- Encouraging and coordinating the development and revision of IEEE standards,
- Approving the initiation of IEEE standards projects,

- Reviewing standards projects for consensus, due process, openness, and balance,
- Giving final approval to IEEE standards prior to publication,
- Processing all necessary appeals.

SASB has established committees to do some of this work:

- Audit Committee (AudCom): This committee reviews policies and procedures of the technical standards working groups with the goal that all IEEE standards committees follow fair and open processes and procedures, and that they comply with them.
- New Standards Committee (NesCom): This committee reviews Project Authorization Requests (PARs) before a new standards activity can start to ensure the activity is within the scope and purpose of IEEE, and that it is assigned to an appropriate technical standards committee.
- Standards Review Committee (RevCom): This committee reviews the process documentation (votes on a standard, comment resolution, etc.) for the development of a proposed standard. Committee recommendations to approve a standard for publication are based on an assessment that all procedural requirements have been satisfied.
- Patent Committee (PatCom): This committee recommends updates to the IEEE SA patent policy, provides educational material related to the patent policy, and reviews conformity with the patent policy procedures.
- Procedures Committee (ProCom): This committee is responsible for recommending to the SASB improvements and changes in procedures to promote efficient discharge of responsibilities by the SASB, its committees, and other IEEE committees engaged in standards activities.

As part of the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program, program participants will have the opportunity to observe meetings of SASB, NesCom, and RevCom.

Q11: When will the next IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program take place?

A11: The IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program runs in parallel with the IEEE SA Standards Board (SASB) meeting series. To access the SASB meeting calendar, please click [here](#).

Q12: How can national or regional standards bodies or ministry bodies submit their application for participation in the next IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program?

A12: Eligible organizations interested in participating in the next IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program are invited to submit their expression of interest [here](#).

Q13: Who can be contacted for more information?

A13: For more information, please complete the form [here](#) or email: stds-fellowship@ieee.org.