Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

The IEEE SA Standards Fellowship Program
alongside the IEEE SA Standards Board (SASB) Meeting Series

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

Q*1:   What is the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program?

A**1:   The IEEE SA capacity-building Standards Fellowship program is an annual program of the IEEE Standards Association (SA) that offers national and regional standards bodies as well as affiliated government ministries from around the world the opportunity to observe the IEEE standards development process during the IEEE SA Standards Board (SASB) meeting series (held at IEEE headquarters, an international meeting location or virtually). The IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program typically runs in parallel with an IEEE SASB meeting series.

Over a period of approximately 7-10 days, program participants learn about technical areas of interest and make connections with IEEE experts and standardization communities through customized program sessions held alongside the SASB meetings, which address standardization-related topics and related developments. 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:   By participating in the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program, 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
- Contribute to IEEE working groups
- Strengthen relationships with IEEE and other national or regional standards bodies or ministries

Q*4: **Why should national/regional standards institutions or ministries participate in the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program?**

A**4: Professional staff from national and regional standards bodies or ministry bodies are invited to participate in the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program if they are interested in:

- Meeting and sharing experiences with fellow standards development professionals and the IEEE standardization community
- Observing and learning about the open, global, and market-driven IEEE standards development process
- Receiving information and tutorials on the latest IEEE standards development discussions in cutting-edge technology

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

A5: Applicants 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
- Speak English

Q*6: **What is expected of the candidates 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 IEEE SA Standards Fellowship 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 comprises tutorials on the latest IEEE standards development discussions in cutting-edge technology and roundtable discussions. 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. 2.5 hours per day via a teleconferencing system.

Furthermore, IEEE SA 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.

Additionally, IEEE SA Fellowship program participants are expected to give a 5-10-minute presentation about their organization, their responsibilities, their organizations' engagement with standards organizations, and an overview of certain future activities where potential IEEE involvement may be helpful. The audience will be fellow IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program participants as well as IEEE SA staff and experts. The date/time of this session will be confirmed on the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program schedule.

On the last day of the IEEE SA Fellowship program, 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 be between 5-8 individuals.

Q*8: **Is there a financial commitment involved in participating in the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program?**

A**8: If program participants are invited to join the IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program alongside the IEEE Standards Association Standards Board (SASB) meetings in person, IEEE SA will cover program participants' travel and accommodation, and provide a daily amount to the program participant for meals and incidentals.

If program participants are invited to participate in a local IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program - where the program will take place alongside a SASB meeting series in the program participants' country - program participants will be expected to pay for their own travel to join the meetings of the local IEEE SA Standards program and the SASB.

In the event of a virtual Fellowship Program, there is no cost involved.

Attending the SASB meeting series is free of charge.

Q9: **How do I register for the IEEE SA Standards Board meetings (SASB)?**

A9: The IEEE SA Standards Fellowship Program team will register all program participants for the relevant SASB meetings that they will be joining as part of their participation in the upcoming IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program.

Q10: **What are the responsibilities of the 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.

Q*11:   When will the next IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program take place?

A**11:   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 a national or a regional standards body, or ministry bodies submit their application for participation in the next IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program?

A12:   Eligible candidates interested in participating in the next IEEE SA Standards Fellowship program are invited to submit their application online here. Please check your eligibility here.

Q13:   Who can be contacted for more information?

A13:   Please sign up here for more information, or email: stds-fellowship@ieee.org.

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