IEEE policy for Senior grade elevation

https://www.ieee.org/membership/senior/

Become an IEEE Senior Member

Senior member is the highest grade for which IEEE members can apply. IEEE members can self-nominate, or be nominated, for Senior Member grade.

To be eligible for application or nomination, candidates must:

- Be engineers, scientists, educators, technical executives, or originators in IEEE-designated fields
- Have experience reflecting professional maturity
- Have been in professional practice for at least ten years (with some credit for certain degrees)
- Show significant performance over a period of at least five of their years in professional practice

Review complete Senior member requirements

Prospective members who would like to apply directly for Senior Member grade must first join IEEE and then submit the Senior Member application form. An IEEE Member Number is required on the Senior Member application. The Senior Member portal may not be accessible for 24 hours if you have joined or renewed your IEEE membership. There is no additional fee to apply for Senior Member grade. For applications or nominations to be considered, they must be received completed, with all required references and resume, at least seven days prior to the meeting date.

Begin Senior member application process

Please note, for the best experience, please use the latest version of Chrome or Firefox to complete your application. The platform does not support Internet Explorer.

Also note: Applications and attachments, such as resumes and CVs, must be written/submitted in English.

Apply Now

Please note that "Draft" and "Submitted Pending References" applications not completed within one year will need to be restarted, as your information may be out of date.

Benefits of Senior membership

- **Recognition:** The professional recognition of your peers for technical and professional excellence.

- **Leadership eligibility:** Senior members are eligible to hold executive IEEE volunteer positions.
- **Ability to refer other candidates:** Senior members can serve as a reference for other applicants for Senior membership.
- **Review panel:** Senior members are invited to be on the panel to review Senior member applications.
- **Letter of commendation:** A letter of commendation on the achievement of Senior member grade will be sent to your employer (upon request). Request a letter of commendation.
- **Announcements:** Announcement of your elevation can be made in section/society and/or local newsletters, newspapers, and notices. Please contact your Section Chair for more information.

In addition to your new benefits, the following rewards are sent to you via postal mail:

- **Complimentary Society Membership:** You may join one **new** IEEE Society for one year.
- **Senior Member plaque:** An engraved plaque you can proudly display to colleagues, clients, and employers. The plaque, an attractive fine wood with bronze engraving, is mailed at least twelve weeks after elevation.

https://www.ieee.org/membership/senior/

Requirements for IEEE Senior Member Grade

IEEE Bylaw I-104.3 sets forth the criteria for elevation to Senior Member grade as follows:

- A candidate shall be an engineer, scientist, educator, technical executive or originator in IEEE-designated fields
- Candidates shall have been in professional practice for at least ten years
- Candidates shall have shown significant performance over a period of at least five of those years

In addition, candidates for Senior Member grade must supply three references from current IEEE members holding the grade of Fellow, Senior Member, or Honorary Member.

Review example cases below

On this page:

- IEEE-designated fields
- Ten years of professional experience
- Five years of significant performance
- References
- Examples

IEEE-designated fields

- Engineering
- Computer sciences and information technology
- Physical sciences
- Biological and medical sciences
- Mathematics
- Technical communications, education, management, law and policy

Ten years of professional experience

The ad hoc Admission and Advancement (A&A) Review Panel, that is evaluating your application, will count the years you have been in professional practice.
Time working and attending school at the same time will be counted either as work experience OR education experience.
Your educational experience is credited toward that time as follows:

- Three years if you hold a baccalaureate degree or equivalent in an IEEE-designated field

or

- Fours years if you hold a master's degree or equivalent in an IEEE-designated field

or

- Five years if you hold a doctorate or equivalent in an IEEE-designated field

 Please note, the maximum number of years for education that may be counted toward professional experience is five years.

Five years of significant performance

Many prospective applicants make the mistake of assuming that "significant performance" requires special awards, patents, or other extremely sophisticated technical accomplishments, but this is not the case. Substantial job responsibilities such as team leader, task supervisor, engineer in charge of a program or project, engineer or scientist performing research with some measure of success (papers), or faculty developing and teaching courses with research and publications, all are indications of significant performance. The following are also indications of significant performance:

- Substantial engineering responsibility or achievement
- Publication of engineering or scientific papers, books, or inventions
- Technical direction, or management of important scientific or engineering work, with evidence of accomplishment
- Recognized contributions to the welfare of the scientific or engineering profession

- Development or furtherance of important scientific or engineering courses that fall within the IEEE designated fields of interest
- Contributions equivalent to those of the above in such areas as technical editing, patent prosecution, or patent law, provided these contributions serve to advance progress substantially in IEEE designated fields

Significant performance that would serve to qualify an individual for elevation to Senior member need not have occurred in the years immediately prior to the application. Thus, Life and Retired members are eligible for elevation.

References

The applicant must also provide three references from current IEEE members holding Senior Member, Fellow, or Honorary Member grade. Your professional colleagues are your best source of these references. If you have difficulty in locating Senior members or Fellows to serve as references, you have **three options.**
PLEASE NOTE: It is the responsibility of the applicant to follow up with their references regarding the completion of the reference form.
Option 1
Follow these simple steps to search for qualifying members using IEEE Collabratec.

1. Sign in to Collabratec.
2. Enter your user name and password.
3. On the top of Collabratec, click on "People."
4. Under the "IEEE Membership Directory" on the lefthand side, use "Member Status" to filter "Senior Member," "Life Senior," "Fellow," and "Life Fellow."
5. Use the remaining Filters on the lefthand side to narrow your search as you please.
6. Click on any of the profiles listed that you wish to message.
7. Click the "Message" tab to message the member.

Option 2
Contact the Section or Chapter chair for assistance in finding qualified references. More information about your Section chair can be found under the "References" tab of your application.
The applicant is responsible for contacting your Region/Section Chair. Tell them you are applying for Senior membership and require three references. Your Section Chair may ask you a few questions and ask to see your resume. You will need names and membership numbers that will be entered into the reference tab of the application process.
If you are working with your Society or Region, they may offer to endorse (be a nominator) on your application. IEEE Sections/Societies can receive a rebate of $10 for each successful nomination as part of the Nominate a Senior Member Initiative. If they wish to serve as a nominator they should begin the application process for you and then the applicant will finish the remaining tabs of the application.
Please note: If you have a nominator, they serve as a reference as well; therefore, you will only require two additional references.
Option 3
Attend Section meetings and network with Senior members and Fellows in your area.

Examples

The following are examples of significant performance that would serve to qualify an individual for elevation to Senior member. In each case, assume that three qualified references were provided:

Case 1 An applicant/nominee has a bachelor's degree and seven additional years of professional experience beyond graduation in an area encompassed by one of IEEE's technical Societies, which meets the requirement of ten years of professional experience. Significant performance can be demonstrated by describing substantial job responsibilities (e.g., team leader) for a period of at least five years. Result: All criteria are satisfied and the application is approved.

Case 2 Same as Case 1, except that the applicant/nominee worked in industry for one year following graduation with the bachelor's degree and then was a full-time graduate student for two years, obtaining a master's degree. The applicant demonstrates significant performance during another five years in industry. Result: Approved.

Case 3 An applicant/nominee has bachelor, master's, and doctoral degrees in an IEEE-designated field. Five years of significant performance in academia, industry, or government beyond the doctoral degree are demonstrated (e.g., a faculty member with five years beyond the doctorate and promotion to associate professor). Result: Approved.

Case 4 An applicant/nominee has no degree and has worked for many years in the electric industry as a technician. Ten years ago, the applicant/nominee accepted an engineering-level position and continued with it since that time. Included was a period of at least five years with demonstrated significant performance. Result: Approved.

Case 5 An applicant/nominee retired some years ago and has not been active recently in the profession. Prior to retirement, the applicant/nominee had at least ten years of professional experience, including five years of significant performance. Result: Approved.

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Susan Delafuente | Sign Out

IEEE Senior Member Application

◆IEEE

Applicant: Susan Delafuente

Status: Draft

| Applicant Information | Professional Experience | Significant Performance | Attachments | References |

Applicant Information

Name: Susan Delafuente
State/Province: CA
Country/Region: USA

Section: Santa Clara Valley Section
IEEE Region: R6 - Western USA
Grade: Member

Preferred Name: Susan Delafuente   SAVE

Enter your Preferred Name, if needed, and click the Save button.

Education (Required)

Your educational experience in an IEEE Designated Field is credited towards the 10 years of professional experience requirement as follows:

- Three years if you hold a baccalaureate degree or equivalent in an IEEE-designated field
- Four years if you hold a master's degree or equivalent in an IEEE-designated field
- Five years if you hold a doctorate or equivalent in an IEEE-designated field

Note: Time working and attending school at the same time will be counted either as work experience OR education experience.

Please ensure your IEEE Profile is updated with your Education information.

University/College Name	University/College City	Field of Study	Degree	Date Started	Date Graduated	Actions
Denver Univ Of	Denver	Engineering	Master of Science	MM-YYYY	May-1992	
San Jose State Univ	San Jose	Engineering	Bachelor of Science	MM-YYYY	August-1987	

Present Occupation (Required)

Employer	Title	Years of Experience	Action
Self Employed	Other Professional/Technical		

If the information is incorrect, please update your IEEE profile.   REFRESH

IEEE Designated Fields (Required)

IEEE Bylaw I-104.3 sets forth the criteria for elevation to Senior Member grade as follows: a candidate shall be an engineer, scientist, educator, technical executive or originator in IEEE-designated fields.

Please select the applicable designated fields below. (If your current position is not in one of the IEEE designated fields, please specify it via "Other".)

- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Computer sciences and information technology
- [ ] Physical sciences
- [ ] Biological and medical sciences
- [ ] Mathematics
- [ ] Technical communications, education, management, law and policy
- [ ] Other

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IEEE Senior Member Application

Applicant: Susan Delafuente

Status: Draft

| Applicant Information | Professional Experience | Significant Performance | Attachments | References |

Professional Experience (Required)

Please list your professional experience. (Limit 5000 characters.)

When your application is reviewed by the Admission and Advancement Review Panel, they will count the years you have been in professional practice and ensure that your work experience plus your education experience credit (described on the Applicant Information tab) total 10 years or greater.

Please DO NOT copy and paste from your CV or resume. You may attach it (on the Attachments Tab) as a backup to the description you enter below.

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IEEE

Applicant: Susan Delafuente

Status: Draft

| Applicant Information | Professional Experience | Significant Performance | Attachments | References |

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Please list demonstrated significant performance over a period of at least five years. Years need not be consecutive. (Limit 5000 characters.)

It is required that your list of achievements include dates.

Be sure to clearly summarize your key significant performance examples. An extensive write up will make the Review Panel have to hunt for the evidence that you qualify.

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Applicant: Susan Delafuente

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Only pdf, png, jpeg, jpg, gif, jpe, and bmp file formats are allowed.

Also Note: Attachments such as resumes and CVs must be written/submitted in English.

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IEEE Senior Member Application

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Applicant: Susan Delafuente   Status: Draft

| Applicant Information | Professional Experience | Significant Performance | Attachments | References |

References

Obtain the IEEE member number of your references before completing this step.

Please note, once you Submit your application, your references will receive an email notification, prompting them to log in, review your application and provide their reference.

If you need assistance with locating references, please reach out to the section chair listed below.

Section Chair
Name: Wreroy Du
Email: wreroy.du@ieee.org

Member No

⊕

BACK   SUBMIT ➤

IEEE Senior Member Application

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Applicant: Susan Delafuente

Status: Draft

Applicant Information	Professional Experience	Significant Performance	Attachments	References

Your Application is not complete. You must correct the following errors before you can submit your Application.

Applicant Information - Please select IEEE Designated Fields
Please complete the Professional Experience tab
Please complete the Significant Performance tab
You must have at least 3 References
Application Information - Please enter Education date started
Application Information - Please enter Present Occupation years of experience

Applicant Information

Name: Susan Delafuente
State/Province: CA
Country/Region: USA
Preferred Name: Susan Delafuente   [SAVE 🖫]

Enter your Preferred Name, if needed, and click the Save button.

Section: Santa Clara Valley Section
IEEE Region: R6 -Western USA
Grade: Member

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Denver Univ Of	Denver	Engineering	Master of Science	mm/YYYY	May1992	🗑
San Jose State Univ	San Jose	Engineering	Bachelor of Science	mm/YYYY	August1987	🗑

Present Occupation (Required)

Employer	Title	Years of Experience	Action
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- ☐ Physical sciences
- ☐ Biological and medical sciences
- ☐ Mathematics
- ☐ Technical communications, education, management, law and policy
- ☐ Other

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State/Province: CA

Country/Region: USA

Preferred Name: SAVEsave

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San Jose State Univ	San Jose	Engineering	Bachelor of Science		August-1987	delete_forever

Present Occupation (*Required)

Employer	Title	Years of Experience	Action

Date Graduated	Actions				
Denver Univ Of	Denver	Engineering	Master of Science		delete forever
San Jose State Univ	San Jose	Engineering	Bachelor of Science		delete forever

How do you find your graduation date?

You can find this date by looking up your official transcript. Many schools provide online access to this, but you can also call the registrar's office to check your status. If you can look at your transcript, it will state if your degree status is still "in progress," "completed," or "conferred" (or "awarded").Jan 19, 2023