

2026 Call for SMC Chapters and Student Branch Chapters Start-up and Initiative Grants

**2026 SMC CHAPTER AND STUDENT BRANCH CHAPTERS
START-UP AND INITIATIVE GRANTS**

<https://www.ieeesmc.org/chapters-communities/support-for-chapters/>

AVAILABLE GRANTS:

- Start-up Grant – Up to \$500 for newly formed Chapters
- Initiative Grant – Up to \$2000 for ongoing activities

DEADLINES:

- April 15, 2026
- June 15, 2026

APPLY NOW

Overview

The **Membership and Student Activities Committee** of the IEEE SMC Society provides funding to Chapters and Student Branch Chapters to support local programming, encourage volunteerism, and promote society involvement. Eligible activities include workshops, chapter meetings featuring industry speakers, outreach events at schools, design competitions, and more.

Available grants

Two types of grants are available:

- **Start-up Grant (up to \$500):** Available once to newly formed Chapters and Student Branch Chapters, within 12 months of their formation. Requests are accepted at any time and approved automatically.
- **Initiative Grant (up to \$2,000):** Awarded competitively to support chapter activities and initiatives planned for 2026.

Evaluation criteria

Start-up Grants are awarded upon request to all eligible newly formed chapters.

Initiative Grant applications are evaluated based on:

- The quality of the planned activity for which funding is requested.
- The track record of events organized by the Chapter in previous years. Only events reported through IEEE vTools Events will be considered.

Grant Disbursement

Please note that to access the grant, recipients must choose one of the following options.

- Option 1: Funds reimbursed **after the event**, upon submission and approval of eligible receipts, in accordance with IEEE financial rules.
- Option 2: Direct fund Transfer to an IEEE OU (IEEE Section, Chapter, or Student Branch Chapter). Applicants are responsible for identifying and coordinating with the appropriate unit. Information on IEEE OU is available through the **IEEE Organization Roster**. Funds can be transferred to the Chapter's bank account **only if it has an IEEE-approved account**. When no eligible Chapter exists or when the Chapter does not have an approved bank account, funds can be transferred to the Section's IEEE-approved bank account. The Section then redistributes the funds to the Chapter, Student Branch Chapter, or, where permitted, supports the individual initiative. Coordination with the Section is the responsibility of the grant recipient. For Student Branches and Student Branch Chapters **outside India**, funds **must be routed through the IEEE Section**, unless the Student Branch Chapter has an IEEE-approved Concentration Banking (CB) account.

Reporting Requirements

Funding recipients must submit a final **Activity Report** within 30 days of the event's completion. The report should be an article including photos and videos of the event, as well as a detailed description of the activities and their impact on collaboration and community engagement.

The report will be published in the **SMC magazine, website, and/or eNewsletter**. More info about the eNewsletters are available here: <https://www.ieeesmc.org/publications/enewsletter/>

Submission deadlines

Proposals can be submitted twice a year:

- **April 15, 2026** – Submission deadline #1
- **June 15, 2026** – Submission deadline #2

If funds remain available, a third deadline may be set for **September 15, 2026**.

Submit your proposal here: <https://forms.gle/ro56tNTD9SPjNbbv8>

For any inquiries, please get in touch with mariagrazia.dotoli@poliba.it or paolo.scarabaggio@poliba.it