

# Member Engagement Women In Engineering Affinity Groups

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# What is Women In Engineering?



- IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to promoting women engineers and scientists.
- The mission of IEEE WIE is to inspire, engage, encourage, and empower IEEE women worldwide.
- IEEE WIE envisions a vibrant community of IEEE women and men innovating the world of tomorrow.



# What is WIE?

- All IEEE members are eligible to join WIE
  - Approximately 30% of WIE members are men
- Benefits include:
  - IEEE WIE electronic membership directory
  - a monthly electronic newsletter
  - The award-winning Women in Engineering Magazine **NEW!**
- Affinity Group Benefits include:
  - Start up and other funding
  - Promotional materials for events

# What is a Women In Engineering Affinity Group?



- An Affinity Group is a local unit of an IEEE organizational unit or standing committee, established by petition to the parent organizational unit to fulfill the purposes of the IEEE.
- May be members, student members or a combination.
- All IEEE members are eligible to join WIE

# How to form an WIE Affinity Group



- Forming a group is the best way to interact and share information with others with similar interests in your local area.
- To form an Affinity Group you must:
  - Recruit six IEEE members willing to be part of the founding affinity group. (**NOTE: These may be new members.** )
  - Select someone to be responsible for the affinity group until the first meeting is held and the Officers are formally appointed.
  - Obtain your Section or Student Branch's Executive Committee's approval. An Affinity Group depends administratively and financially on the Section.
  - Submit a petition to IEEE MGA
    - Affinity Group Petition Form
    - Student Branch Affinity Group Petition Form
  - For more information, visit [www.ieee.org/women](http://www.ieee.org/women)

# Funding



## ■ What funding is available for WIE Affinity Groups

- Newly established WIE Affinity Groups are eligible to request up to \$200 US in start up funding the first year they have been established.
- Established WIE Affinity Groups are eligible to request up to \$300 US for special projects.
  - Such requests must be submitted at least 3 months prior to the activity. The WIEC will review the request at their next scheduled meeting. The WIE Affinity Group will be advised if the request has been approved.

## ■ How to find funding

- The IEEE Women in Engineering Committee (WIEC) encourages development of local activities that are of educational and professional value to IEEE members and that increase the visibility of the WIE Affinity Group. To assist WIE Affinity Groups the WIEC has a limited amount of funding available to support such activities.
- To apply for this funding, a [Funding Request Form](http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/women/affinity/funding.html) must be submitted <http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/women/affinity/funding.html>

# WIE Goals



- organize local group activities and promote IEEE WIE at technical conferences, public events and local meetings.
- encourage networking between local IEEE WIE members and with other professional women from the industry and facilitate discussions about issues which are relevant to women in the sciences today.
- address important issues for the retention and advancement of women in engineering through the development of special programs and the fostering of co operative relationships with other Victorian non-IEEE WIE organizations.
- to be the leading resource and advocate for women in engineering by providing information, trends, and best practices to all who are interested in advancing women in engineering fields.
- advocate women for leadership roles in IEEE, and promote career advancement for women in the profession.
- energize women engineers in Victoria to get involved in IEEE WIE.
- recognize women's achievements in electrical and electronics engineering through IEEE Awards nominations.
- carry out outreach activities to encourage young girls to study engineering.
- recruit, develop and nurture volunteers.

# WIE Affinity Group Suggestions



- Look for someone to start the group. They may bring in new IEEE section members, especially if the AG focuses on outreach activities
- Help the AG fund and find funding for their activities
- Have a good succession plan for leadership
- Encourage all members to join WIE
- In surveying WIE members, many went into technical fields because they had good role models, so highlight good role models you may have in Section Newsletters, Awards, etc.
- Carry out outreach activities to encourage young girls to study engineering. Many men join because of these activities
- Recruit, develop and nurture volunteers

# For More information



- [www.ieee.org/women](http://www.ieee.org/women)
- Staff: [Keyana.tennant@ieee.org](mailto:Keyana.tennant@ieee.org)
- Committee Chair: [KarenPanetta@ieee.org](mailto:KarenPanetta@ieee.org)
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