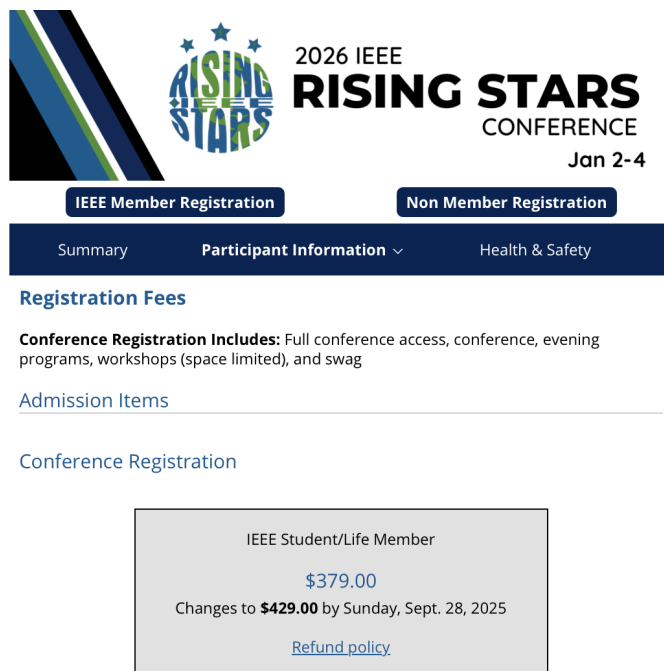To the San Diego Section Executive Committee,

The IEEE at UC San Diego is seeking funding to provide undergraduate students the opportunity to attend the 2026 Rising Stars Conference, which will be held from January 2nd to the 4th at the Luxor Hotel in Las Vegas.

Our student branch currently comprises 28 undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds, majors, and professional aspirations. We aim to support students across the county and collaborate with student branches to advance the IEEE's missions. The Rising Stars conference offers our officers the chance to enhance their professional skills through workshops, networking opportunities, a project showcase, and more. These experiences can be shared with students through various events and serve to promote IEEE to prospective members who are interested in the organization.

Rising Stars is the largest conference in the nation for students and young professionals, attracting attendees from across the country who gather in Las Vegas to provide various opportunities to the aforementioned students and young professionals. IEEE at UCSD has consistently participated in the conference, with many previous officers volunteering or becoming young professionals.

We have submitted a request for funding to the IEEE's University Partnership Program for this year. Following a brief discussion and an in-depth meeting, we were able to secure funding for four students to attend the event. Additionally, UPP will cover the costs of projects, providing us with at least $1810. The four students who will attend serve as the executive committee members of our club. We aim to secure funds for additional students through the IEEE SD Section, IEEE PACE, and various UC San Diego departments to join us and showcase our annual project, Robocup. We intend to send the leads of the annual project to the conference. This will enable us to address any necessary maintenance on the spot and allow the four key members to demonstrate their dedication and hard work over the past two years.

Attached are the prices for Registration:
Cost **until** September 28th, 2025:
          $**379** Per Person
          $**1516** For Four

Cost **After** September 28th, 2025:
          $**429** Per Person
          $**1716** For Four

Additionally Region 6 PACE is currently offering 5 discount codes for rising stars for each section. These codes provide a $100 Discount per registration fee. The offer requires confirmation and approval by the Section Chair and is first come first serve until funding is depleted. There is a potential for increased section funding if the funds are not depleted by October 31st. The primary contact for this discount is the Conference Treasurer, Peijung Tsai, ptsai@ieee.org.

Utilizing this discount reduces the cost before the September 28th cost to be as follows:
$**279** Per Person
$**1116** for 4

Hotel Prices

These Hotel prices are available only to registrants who register and book **prior** to 12/15/2025

Note: Taxes and fees are not included

Day	Price
Wednesday, 12/31/2025	$269
Thursday, 01/01/2026	$85
Friday, 01/02/2026	$85
Saturday, 01/03/2026	$85
Sunday, 01/04/2026	$35

Once you register, you will receive a unique link to book the Hotel at the reduced rate.

Hotel will be for **Thursday** 01/01/2026, **Friday** 01/02/2026 and **Saturday** 01/03/2026, **checkout** on **Sunday** 01/04/2026 **Estimated Cost for Hotel Room**: $85 x3: $**255** Per Room – 4 students per room.
Resort Fee: $45 x3: $**135** Per Room
Subtotal: $**390** Per Room
Hotel Tax(13.38%): $**52.19** Per Room
Total: $**442.19** Per Room

Keeping all 4 universities in mind with these cost breakdowns, we would like to request the following. IEEE San Diego Section funds 8 students from the section to attend rising stars, covering the cost of the 8 registrations and 2 hotel rooms which if done with the PACE discount and completed prior to 09/28/2025 would total the section $**3416.38**.

Cost Breakdown:
5 Registrations with discounted price: $**1395**
3 Registration with Early Bird Price: $**1137**
2 Hotel Rooms + Fees & Tax: $**884.38**

Discussion of how many students from each university can attend the conference shall be conducted during the IEEE San Diego Section September EXCOMM Meeting.

In the event that there are some additional taxes or fees that show up, we would like to have the section consider a $**4000** budget for the conference. Students who are attending the conference and utilizing funds from IEEE San Diego Section will be in charge of finding a means of transportation to the conference along with covering the cost of any meals that are not provided by the conference, the funding from San Diego Section is strictly for registration to the Rising Stars 2026 Conference and the lodging for the conference.

Additionally, I wanted to include the IEEE at UC San Diego Rising Stars Report from this past January:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Y9JJbd58hoorrgHO7oa6hkHA6LmCXnDOcJWJeL_65Bk/edit?usp=sharing

Thank you for your consideration on this matter,

Erik Duarte
IEEE at UC San Diego 2025-2026 President