

To the San Diego Section Executive Committee,

The IEEE Southwestern College Student Branch is seeking funding to provide community college 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 14 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. With the opportunity to go, this would be IEEE at SWC's first time attending a conference, which are typically inaccessible due to the lack of resources in community college.

### Registration Pricing

Attached are the prices for Registration:

- **\$479** Per Person
- **\$1916** For Four Participants

### Student Invoices (PDF)

1. Micko Sotalbo: [PDF angelo-sotalbo-invoice-rsc.pdf](#)
2. Marc Lepe: [PDF marc-lepe-invoice-rsc.pdf](#)
3. Eli Perez: [PDF eli-perez-invoice-rsc.pdf](#)
4. Gabriel Leyva: [PDF gabriel-leyva-invoice-rsc.pdf](#)

### Housing Arrangements

For the duration of the conference, we plan to rent an Airbnb to accommodate the four members attending the Rising Stars Conference. The stay will be for two nights, with check-in on the first day of the conference (**Friday, 01/02/26**) and check-out on the final day (**Sunday, 01/04/26**).

### Lodging Costs

- Estimated cost for Airbnb: \$80 x 2 nights: **\$160**
- Airbnb service fee: **\$22.59**
- Taxes: **\$23.74**
- Total USD: **\$206.33**

Here is the Lodging Receipt (PDF):: [PDF rising-stars-airbnb.pdf](#)

**Cost Summary**

- 4 Registrations: **\$1916**
- Airbnb rental (Fees & Tax included): **\$206.33**

Total Estimated Cost: **\$2122.33**

In the event that there are some additional taxes or fees that show up, we would like to have the section consider a \$2300 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.

We are always thankful for your support,

Micko Angelo Sotalbo  
IEEE at Southwestern College 2025-2026 President