

Membership Department

## IAS STUDENT THESIS CONTEST 2026

### Procedure Manual

#### Purpose

The IAS Membership Department is pleased to announce the 2026 Student Thesis Contest to recognize the best emerging academic work on the scope of the Industry Applications Society.

The scope of the Industry Applications Society is the *advancement of the theory and practice of electrical and electronic engineering* in the development, design, manufacture and application of electrical systems, apparatus, devices and controls to the processes and equipment of industry and commerce; the promotion of safe, reliable and economic installations; industry leadership in energy conservation and environmental, health, and safety issues; the creation of voluntary engineering standards and recommended practices; and the professional development of its membership.

More information relating to the IAS technical scope can be found in the IAS website at the following link: <https://ias.ieee.org/about/mission-vision-core-values-2/>

#### Eligibility

To be considered as a recipient of the IAS Student Thesis Contest Award, the candidate's thesis must have successfully been defended within two calendar years prior to the submission date and be relevant to the scope of the IAS. The candidate should be an IEEE IAS student or a higher-grade member for at least 1 year prior to the contest submission. The following two categories will be considered:

- a) PhD
- b) Non-PhD

#### Nomination

The nomination will be processed on the basis of application/self-nomination. Each entry should contain the following documents:

- a) **Signed endorsement letter** from the thesis advisor/supervisor stating the significance of the thesis and the candidate's eligibility for this award.
- b) **Summary** with the author's name and thesis title on the top, with **not more than 5 pages** of a clear description of the task, the method of the solution, and the results, including explanatory figures with English captions and legends. The digest should explain from the candidate's perspective, the impact on professional knowledge, applicable technologies or industry processes/products, and highlight at least one outstanding contribution made by the candidate.
- c) Only for the PhD category: **1 best selected publication and a list of 5 selected publications**
- d) PDF copy of the **original thesis work**

Only documents a)-c) must be submitted in English (even if the thesis was originally written in another language). I.e., there is NO need to translate the whole thesis. Submission file type is PDF.

Submissions must be made using the IAS Thesis Contest online form at the following links:

[IAS Thesis Contest Application Form 2026 – Non-PhD](#)

[IAS Thesis Contest Application Form 2026 – PhD](#)

## **Due Date**

The nomination documents must be submitted on or before **May 10, 2026**

## **Evaluation**

The Thesis contests will be evaluated by a panel led by the Thesis contest subcommittee chair.

The evaluation committee will evaluate the thesis work based on the following criteria:

- Relevance of the thesis work to the scope of the IA-Society
- Quality and form of the documents
- Clarity of the abstract and figures
- Creativity
- Scientific/technical merit

The final recipient(s) will be notified in due time after the submission has been closed. If, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, none of the candidates sufficiently meets the criteria for the contest, the award will not be given for that year.

## **The Prize**

The first-, second-, and third-prize recipients in each category will receive a certificate and cash prizes of \$600, \$500, and \$400, respectively. The first-place winners in each category also receive a guaranteed Graduate Student Poster Competition Program Travel Grant to attend the IAS Annual Meeting and present a poster. Second- and third-prize recipients will be invited to apply for the same program. The travel grant is subject to IEEE travel regulations and the modality of Membership Department activities at the IAS Annual Meeting.

For any queries regarding the contest, please contact the Membership Department Thesis Contest Subcommittee Chair:

- Dr. Richárd Cselko, [richard.cselko@ieee.org](mailto:richard.cselko@ieee.org)