

IEEE R8 Entrepreneurship Week 2024/25

Introduction and key information

Welcome message

Dear IEEE members,

We started the “Entrepreneurship Initiative” in 2018 and have seen huge engagement and momentum. Today, region 8 has an official “Entrepreneurship Committee”, after five editions of the Entrepreneurship Week, more than 100+ events organized, and 180+ ambassadors, we are so happy to launch the sixth Entrepreneurship Week 2023/24.

The program foundations incorporate various backgrounds of industry, academia and entrepreneurial domains obtained through different IEEE Region 8 subunits by CEOs, senior managers, startup initiators, professors, large summit founders and more. However, local entrepreneurship ecosystems largely vary on many factors, which often can only be understood by the local ecosystem participants themselves. This is why we initiate a call for ambassadors every year and ask for you to team up with us.

What is Region 8 Entrepreneurship Week?

Series of tech-entrepreneurship events coordinated by local ambassadors (e.g., YP members, Student Branch members) and taking place between 1st of September this year and 31st January next year.

Events can be anything from panel discussion to a 3 day bootcamp. Every event includes a pitching competition with local start-ups.

What are the responsibilities of an “Entrepreneurship Week Ambassador”?

Ambassadors are representatives of the committee on the ground and should aim to strengthen and expand the entrepreneurship community in their IEEE entity and section. Therefore they have the following responsibilities

- To bring together IEEE and non IEEE members who are interested in entrepreneurship, as fellow ambassadors or volunteers
- To organize one or multiple entrepreneurship focused events in their country
- To organize one pitch competition in their country with the aim of promoting early stage entrepreneurship and recruiting startups
- To ensure continuity of the entrepreneurship spirit by creating a local interest group in entrepreneurship and recruiting future ambassadors for the next year

Similarly, ambassadors’ role continue beyond their term as alumni, to provide support and guidance for current ambassadors

What are the benefits of “Entrepreneurship Week Ambassadors”?

Ambassadors’ benefits include

- Potential access to funding support from IEEE R8 Entrepreneurship, provided the team submits necessary budget and receipts - this is contingent on annual budget
- Recognition as official ambassadors and volunteers of IEEE Region 8 Entrepreneurship
- Potential to be awarded “Best Event” Title and win a monetary prize that goes to the ambassador’s IEEE entity
- Potential to be awarded “Best Ambassador” Title and win a sponsored trip to attend an entrepreneurship summit and the Pitch Finals. This will be open to ambassadors of the “Best Events” and awarded based on ambassador contributions detailed in a cover letter submitted to the committee
- Potential to win “Best Alumni Ambassador” for support provided to current ambassadors
- Potential to join the IEEE Region 8 Entrepreneurship Committee as a corresponding member and later on, member

What happens after you host an “Entrepreneurship Week” event?

After you host your entrepreneurship week event, you will be asked to report on your event and impact.

After reporting, your team and event will be eligible to win the “Best Event” and “Best Ambassador” awards mentioned above.

The startups that win your local pitch competition will go on to compete in the IEEE Region 8 Pitch Competition. Out of all submitted startups, 7-10 will be selected to pitch in a virtual semi-final.

After the semi-finals, 3 startups will be selected to pitch in the in-person final. All 3 finalist startups will be awarded a fully funded trip to one of their members to attend an entrepreneurship / Tech summit, or Flagship IEEE conference, where the finals will take place. Monetary prizes and in-kind mentorship will be awarded at the finals.

How do we become ambassadors?

To become ambassadors, you have to fill a simple form for “call for ambassadors and event proposal”. The form will cover basic questions on your team, and the high level agenda of the event you would like to organize. Within a week, the R8 Entrepreneurship Committee Team will confirm your role as “Entrepreneurship Week Ambassador”.

What are examples of previous Entrepreneurship Week events and Pitch Finals?

[Let's Embark - Egypt 2022](#)



[IEEE Unleash - Jordan 2022](#)



In October 2021, we participated in Techne Summit where the finalist of R8 Pitch 2020 and 2021 showcased their startups

In August 2022, we hosted our 3rd Pitch Final - 5 startups pitched, 2 awarded Founder Institute scholarships



Key Partners



For any further questions, check our FAQ on the website here:
<https://entrepreneurship.ieeer8.org/2023/03/02/entrepreneurship-week/>