

2024 WE LOCAL BENGALURU: CALL FOR PARTICIPATION (CFP) GUIDELINES

*In April 2024, the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) will offer a [WE Local conference in Bengaluru, India](#). We at SWE are committed to making this WE Local conference – like all our programming – a safe, welcoming, and productive learning environment for all participants. Our goals in this **WE Local Bengaluru Call for Participation (CFP)** are: to ensure effective programming and speaking opportunities are provided, and to empower attendees to succeed at every stage of their professional development.*

IMPORTANT DATES FOR WE LOCAL BENGALURU

- CFP Opens: **18 October 2023**
- CFP Closes: **8 December 2023**
- Review: **13 December 2023 - 15 January 2024**
- Speaker Notifications: **5 February 2024**
- Speaker Acceptance Due: **26 February 2024**
- Backup Session Notifications: **13 March 2024**
- Backup Acceptance Due: **20 March 2024**
- Speaker Updates Due: **29 March 2024**
- **WE Local, Bengaluru, India: 18-19 April 2024**

CONTENTS OF THIS CFP GUIDELINES DOCUMENT:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Intro; Important Dates | page 1 |
| Scoring Rubric; Tips and Best Practices | page 2 |
| How to Submit a Session Proposal | page 3 |
| Speaker Notice; FAQs | page 8 |

SCORING RUBRIC

Sessions submitted to the WE Local Bengaluru Call for Participation (CFP) are scored as follows:

| SCORING RUBRIC | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| TITLE – CONCISE & INTRIGUING | 5 POINTS |
| DESCRIPTION – FOCUSED & CONCISE | 5 POINTS |
| DESCRIPTION – RELEVANT & INTERESTING | 5 POINTS |
| LEARNING OUTCOMES | 5 POINTS |
| SPEAKER QUALIFICATIONS | 5 POINTS |
| OVERALL CLARITY | 3 POINTS |
| UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE | 3 POINTS |
| RELEVANT TO SWE'S MISSION | 3 POINTS |
| CORRECT FORMAT | 1 POINT |
| TOTAL | 35 POINTS |

TIPS & BEST PRACTICES

TIPS & BEST PRACTICES

- **PREPARE YOUR SUBMISSION IN ADVANCE** – Read this guide in its entirety and collect all your session information and speaker information before beginning the submission process.
- **AVOID THE NUMBER ONE COMPLAINT** – The number one complaint from session attendees is that session content does not match the description and learning outcomes. Therefore, take time to finalize session content before submitting your proposal.
- **SWE PRIORITIZES DIVERSITY** – We encourage participation by speakers from backgrounds that are underrepresented in engineering and technology.
- **SEEKING INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED TOPICS** - SWE is actively looking for and encourages you to submit intermediate and advanced level content.
- **MERGE SESSIONS** - It is common for SWE to receive multiple proposals on the same topic, so be sure your session has a unique perspective. If not, speakers may be asked to merge their session with another session with the same topic.
- **SUBMIT SESSION IN FINAL STATE** - Changes cannot be made once the CFP closes.
- **BIAS-FREE LANGUAGE** - Use [bias-free language](#) as articulated by the American Psychological Association; See the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association style, 7th edition, Chapter 5 for tips about how to reduce bias.
- **ASK FOR REVIEWERS** - Ask an experienced person to review your proposal to ensure it is clear, concise, and enticing.
- **PRESENTER LIMITS** - To provide a diverse exposure to speakers, a speaker will only be selected for one session (panel discussions may present special cases).
- **NO SALES PITCHES** - Proposals are more likely to be selected if they do not include organization names because it flags the session as a “sales pitch.”

HOW TO SUBMIT A SESSION PROPOSAL FOR 2024 WE LOCAL BENGALURU

Access the [online Cadmium submission portal](#) to submit your session proposal. The sections and questions below closely mirror the application content within the Cadmium portal.

CFP submission deadline = 1 December 2023, 11:59pm IST (India Standard Time).

Questions with an asterisk () are required*

BASIC INFO ("SESSION ABSTRACT" PAGE)

1. * **TITLE** (5-points) - The title is evaluated on being concise and capturing interest (limit to 10 words).
2. * **FORMAT** (1-point) - Select the session format that provides the appropriate time and number of speakers, and the best learning experience to achieve the learning outcomes.
 - **LISTEN & LEARN LECTURE** (30-minute lecture plus 15-minute audience Q&A): Lectures are the standard conference session type where subject-matter experts present to attendees with minimal on-stage group discussions. Must have minimum 1 and maximum 2 speakers.
 - **ENGAGED EXCHANGE PANEL** (45-minute panel discussion plus 15-minute audience Q&A): This format is ideal for panel discussions. Panels provide opportunities to learn from multiple subject-matter experts. Must have 1 moderator + 2-4 speakers, i.e., 3-5 presenters total.
 - **SNAP SESSION** (15-minute presentation plus 5-minute audience Q&A): Snap Sessions are short and thought-provoking. SWE typically schedules 2-3 snap sessions in a row, arranged according to themes. Must have minimum 1 and maximum 2 speakers.

SESSION SPECIFICATIONS

1. * **TRACK** (0-point) - Select the track that most closely relates to the subject matter of your session.
 - 1. **CAREER & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:** This track examines tools and best practices to assist in managing and advancing careers, growing personally, and developing leaders to shape the performance and success of organizations in engineering and technology. Examples include:
 - Resume and interview best practices and salary negotiations.
 - Techniques to manage professional transitions and develop successful professional relationships.
 - Developing wellness strategies (personal care, balancing work and personal schedules).
 - Self-reflection and assessment techniques to recognize strengths and opportunities for improvements, seeking feedback from others, and learning from failure.
 - Techniques to develop a greater capacity to grow and support people and teams.
 - Recognizing the importance of mentoring, sponsorship, strategic thinking, and building alliances.
 - 2. **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, & BELONGING (DEIB):** Based on SWE's vision of a world with gender parity and equality in engineering and technology, topics within this track focus on removing barriers, biases, and obstacles within the profession and promoting inclusive environments. Examples of topics include:
 - Tools to be inclusive leaders and team members. Techniques to build and promote a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion.
 - Approaches for global diversity practices.
 - Leveraging intersectionality in the workplace.

- 3. **TECHNICAL INNOVATIONS:** Sessions in this track are given by technical experts and include topics on cutting-edge technologies and emerging techniques in diverse engineering specialties. See the below keywords for examples of technical content included in the conference.
2. * **KEYWORDS (required for sessions within the Technical Innovations track only)** (0-point) - Select 1-2 keywords that most closely describe your session topic.
- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additive Manufacturing & 3D Printing ▪ Advanced Mobility Solutions ▪ Generative Artificial Intelligence ▪ Augmented Reality / Virtual Reality ▪ Automation ▪ Block Chain ▪ Cloud Computing ▪ Cyber Security ▪ Data Analytics ▪ Deep Learning ▪ Embedded Systems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emerging Technologies and Innovation ▪ Energy Transition & Sustainability ▪ Internet of Things ▪ Machine Learning ▪ Mobile & Smart Devices ▪ Quantum Computing ▪ Robotics ▪ Semiconductor ▪ VLSI ▪ Wearables / Drones |
|---|--|
3. * **LEARNING LEVEL** (0-point) - Select the learning level most appropriate for your session based on your level of experience with the content.
- 1. **FOUNDATIONAL:** appropriate for those with limited experience (0-2 years) with the subject matter and often introduces subject matter; content focuses on awareness and factual recall.
 - 2. **INTERMEDIATE:** builds on existing knowledge, appropriate for those seeking to expand upon existing knowledge or experiences. Appropriate for audiences with 3-9 years of experience.
 - 3. **ADVANCED:** for those with nearly ten years of experience applying foundational and intermediate concepts and looking to implement new content and programs. Advanced level content is often appropriate for audiences with 10-20 years of experience.
4. * **SESSION PRESENTED BEFORE** (0-point) - Has this session been presented at any previous WE Local or WE Annual events? Select all that apply.
- WE23
 - WE Local 23
 - WE22
 - WE Local 22
 - WE21
 - WE Local 21
 - WE20
 - WE Local 20
 - WE19
 - WE Local 19
 - WE18
 - WE Local 18
 - Session has not been presented at previous WE events

5. *** SCHEDULE CONFLICTS** (0-point) – Please enter any times when the speaker(s) are **NOT** available to present this session.
All schedule requests are due at the time of submission. SWE does not guarantee that we will be able to accommodate new schedule requests apart from those submitted here.
- Thursday AM
 - Thursday PM
 - Friday AM
 - Friday PM
 - Speaker(s) available at all times
6. *** RECORDING AGREEMENT** (0-point) - Do you agree to allow SWE to record your session (either in real-time or for future viewing)?
- Yes
 - No

CONTACT EMAIL(S)

Enter 1-5 emails to receive the notification whether this session is accepted for presentation at WE Local. Email address(es) entered below could belong to: speaker, or administrative assistant, or colleague who is assisting with this presentation, etc. These fields represent the **PRIMARY POINTS OF CONTACT** where we will send crucial information regarding this session. Therefore the email address(es) entered should be **functional and actively monitored through April 2024**. For large teams such as those from government agencies or large corporate groups, we **STRONGLY** recommend entering multiple email addresses using questions 1-5 below.

1. *** PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION** (0-point) - **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!** Enter the email address for the Primary Point of Contact for this session. This is who will receive the notification whether this session is accepted for presentation at WE Local 2024. Therefore this email address should be operational through April 2024, and should be actively monitored.
Make note of the email address entered here, and ensure that the person checking this email is monitoring their inbox for the WE Local status notification circa January 2024.
2. Additional Contact (optional) - Enter a second email address to receive the notification whether this session is accepted for presentation at WE Local 2024.
3. Additional Contact (optional) - Enter a third email address to receive the notification whether this session is accepted for presentation at WE Local 2024.
4. Additional Contact (optional) - Enter a fourth email address to receive the notification whether this session is accepted for presentation at WE Local 2024.
5. Additional Contact (optional) - Enter a fifth email address to receive the notification whether this session is accepted for presentation at WE Local 2024.

SESSION DESCRIPTION

1. *** DESCRIPTION** (10 points) – In 150 words or less, describe: (1) What the topic is and why it's important; (2) What is the purpose of the session; and (3) What will be included in the session.

Remember that not everyone works in the same industry. Do not assume that the reader is familiar with all technical terms, acronyms, etc.

The session description is evaluated based on:

- (5-points) Being focused and concise (limit to 150 words)
- (5-points) Being relevant and interesting

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. *** LEARNING OUTCOMES** (5-points) – Learning outcomes are measurable statements that describe what attendees should be able to do after participating in your session. Each session is evaluated based on the learning outcomes being clearly stated and achievable with instruction. Use a verb from the table below to start each of your learning outcomes.

| Bloom's Taxonomy Action Verbs | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| KNOWLEDGE | COMPREHENSION | APPLICATION | ANALYSIS | SYNTHESIS | EVALUATION |
| Define | Classify | Apply | Analyze | Categorize | Assess |
| Describe | Describe | Change | Appraise | Compose | Compare |
| Duplicate | Discuss | Demonstrate | Calculate | Create | Conclude |
| Identify | Estimate | Illustrate | Categorize | Design | Contrast |
| List | Explain | Modify | Compare | Develop | Evaluate |
| Name | Express | Practice | Contrast | Devise | Interpret |
| Outline | Predict | Prepare | Examine | Plan | Relate |
| Recognize | Review | Solve | Outline | Summarize | Predict |

Each learning outcome must **begin with a verb**. Examples of well-written learning outcomes include: "Identify the basic principles of data science" or "Describe useful conflict resolution techniques."

Listen & Learn Lectures and Engaged Exchange Panels require 3 Learning Outcomes.

Snap Sessions must submit minimum 2 and maximum 3 learning outcomes.

- * Learning outcome (1)
- * Learning outcome (2)
- Learning outcome (3) (Required for Lectures and Panels, optional for Snap Sessions)

VIDEO PITCH

1. *** VIDEO PITCH** - Submit a video (maximum 90 seconds) pitching your abstract topic and your expertise on the subject. The video should demonstrate why your proposal should be accepted in the conference program as well as the public speaking expertise of the speaker(s). Videos may be submitted as a file upload only.

SPEAKER INFORMATION

1. *** SPEAKER INFORMATION** - Submit the following information for each proposed speaker. Additional information fields are optional.

(continued below)

(Listen & Learn Lectures must have minimum 1 and maximum 2 speakers.
Engaged Exchange Panels must have 1 moderator + 2-4 speakers, i.e., 3-5 presenters total.
Snap Sessions must have minimum 1 and maximum 2 speakers.)

- First and last name
- Email address
- Role in this Session
 - i. Listen & Learn Lectures and Snap Sessions have only the “Speaker” role available
 - ii. Engaged Exchange Panels require 1 presenter designated in the “Moderator” role, plus minimum 2 and maximum 4 other presenters designated in the “Speaker” role

- Phone number
- City and country
- Title/position
- Company/organization
- Gender (includes Prefer Not To Answer option)
- Racial or cultural group (includes Prefer Not To Answer option)
- Member of the LGBTQ+ community? (include Prefer Not To Answer option)
- Years of experience on session topic
 - i. 1-5
 - ii. 6-10
 - iii. 11-15
 - iv. 16-20
 - v. 20+
- Public speaking level
 - i. Novice: no experience giving presentations
 - ii. Advanced Beginner: limited experience giving presentations
 - iii. Competent: experienced in giving presentations
 - iv. Proficient: experienced in giving presentations appropriate for all attendee levels
 - v. Expert: experience training others on giving effective presentations
- Any accessibility requirements?
- Is this speaker a SWE Member?
- Is this speaker a member of any SWE Affinity Groups? Check all that apply.
- Speaker bio (maximum 75 words) – Bio should be written in third person and should use complete sentences. (e.g., “Jane Doe is an experienced mechanical engineer who currently works as Project Lead at PublicTransit4All in Fictionville, India.” etc.) **IMPORTANT:** Bio should include speaker experience illustrating expertise in the session topic.
- Speaker photo

OPTIONAL EDITS + HOW TO WITHDRAW AN ABSTRACT

While logged into Cadmium, click into your existing abstract submission. Near the top there is a bar that says Home > Abstract > Task List. Click Abstract. There you can edit the Title or Session Type (Lecture / Panel / Snap), or withdraw the session by clicking the Abstract Status Dropdown menu, then selecting Withdrawn.

SPEAKER NOTICE

NOTICE FOR ALL SPEAKERS

- All WE Local speakers are volunteers who provide their expertise and time at no cost to SWE.
- If accepted, speakers will be provided with a discount code for registration.
- For any general questions about the WE Local Bengaluru conference, contact SWE at welocal@swe.org. For any specific questions about the Cadmium portal or how to submit to the 2024 WE Local Bengaluru CFP, contact SWE at cfp@swe.org

FAQs

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **Can I submit more than one proposal?**

Yes. To provide opportunities to as many people as possible, SWE tends not to accept more than one session per person. However, submitting multiple proposals may increase your chances of being selected.

2. **Does WE Local accept speakers who do not identify as women?**

Yes. We accept submissions from all gender identities and encourage submissions from groups that are underrepresented in engineering and technology.

3. **Can an author submit the same proposal under different tracks?**

No. If the proposal is better suited for a different track, the reviewers will notate that recommendation during the review process. Submissions with duplicate titles and descriptions will not be considered.

4. **How do I participate in the Poster Competition?**

The Poster Competition has a different call for participation process. Visit welocal.swe.org or contact us at welocal@swe.org to learn more about the Poster Competition.

5. **Do speakers need to be SWE members?**

Speakers do not need to be a SWE member to submit a proposal or speak at the conference.

6. **How do I submit a keynote presentation proposal?**

Keynote speakers are selected through a separate process – distinct from the CFP process – which usually occurs about one year before the event. Please visit welocal.swe.org to learn more about the keynote speaker nomination process.

7. **Does SWE offer an honorarium to speakers who are selected through the CFP submission process?**

No. Speakers selected through the CFP submission process must self-fund their travel, lodging, and all other expenses. SWE does not reimburse costs or offer any stipends or speaker fees. However SWE does provide a discount code to all speakers selected through the WE Local CFP, which allows discounted registration for their WE Local event.