



Welcome to Tau Beta Pi!

Fellow classmates and colleagues,

Congratulations on your outstanding academic achievements! Your drive to succeed in scholarship has made you one of the top performers of your class, and earned you an invite to Tau Beta Pi, the Engineering Honor Society!

Tau Beta Pi (TBP) is the oldest engineering honor society in the United States that recognizes engineering students who have demonstrated distinguished scholarship and exemplary character. It is the second oldest collegiate honor society in the country, and the only one that represents the entire engineering profession. Founded in 1885 at Lehigh University by Professor Edward H. Williams Jr, TBP has grown leaps and bounds to 257 active collegiate chapters across the United States, Puerto Rico, and even Qatar. In total, over 600,000 engineers have been initiated to Tau Beta Pi as lifelong members. We are also unique as an honors society in that we encompass all majors within engineering.

The Michigan Gamma chapter of Tau Beta Pi was founded at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 1906, and has since grown to be the second largest TBP chapter. Michigan Gamma brings together the great minds of the diverse engineering fields in the College of Engineering, and has initiated over 10,000 members to-date, including notable personalities like American astronaut Edward H. White II, and Google co-founder and CEO Larry Page. Michigan Gamma is also one of the most active TBP chapters, organizing dozens of service, social, and professional development events each semester. Some of our notable events include co-hosting the Fall SWE/TBP Career Fair which is one of the largest academic career fairs in the country, and Cub Scouts Day where we help local Cub Scouts earn their Engineering Pin by organizing various engaging modules, such as the famed Egg Drop Project. We also offer free one-on-one tutoring, and organize fun social and inter-society events, all aimed to bring a strong community that fosters academic excellence, professional and personal integrity, and a spirit of liberal culture in the field of engineering.

By participating in Tau Beta Pi, you will have the opportunity to meet fantastic peers from across the field of engineering who, like yourselves, are driven towards achieving academic excellence and enthusiastic to engage with the community. In this first general meeting, you will learn of the various benefits that come from being a member of TBP, including opportunities for community service, networking, professional development, scholarship and leadership. You will also learn of the requirements to be completed in order to gain membership into TBP—and though they may seem daunting at first, you can be assured that we are here to help you achieve these goals. Included in this packet is the information you will need in order to elect into TBP. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask!

We hope you will choose to elect into membership for Tau Beta Pi. And remember—membership in Tau Beta Pi is lifelong, so once a member, always a member!

Lexie Barnard-Davignon
Graduate Student Vice President (GVP)
Tau Beta Pi, MI-G
tbp.gradvicepresident@umich.edu



Graduate Electee Packet - Winter 2026

Tau Beta Pi MI-G

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If you are missing something, please stop by the office (1226 EECS, also known as the Bullpen) or visit the Electee Resources page on the website (tbp.engin.umich.edu) for a PDF version of this document. Also, feel free to contact the Graduate Student Vice President (tbp.gradvicepresident@umich.edu). **Sign up for interviews** and **create a website profile** at tbp.engin.umich.edu.

Officer Chats - Winter 2026

Please come visit us during our Officer Chats located in the Bullpen (1226 EECS). We can answer any questions or help you with your electing process! You can see any updates to the Officer Chats schedule at tbpmig.org/oh. The current schedule for Officer Chats is as follows:

Executive Team	Monday	11:30 am - 1:30 pm
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Events Team	Monday	4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
	Thursday	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Chapter Team	Monday	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
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Tau Beta Pi
The Engineering Honor Society

Information Sheet - Winter 2026

Tau Beta Pi MI-G

Important Dates

January			
27	First General	6:30 pm	1013 DOW
February			
10	Second General	6:30 pm	1013 DOW
11-13	Interviews	All Day*	Duderstadt
17	New Initiatives II	6:30 pm	1610 IOE
March			
10	Third General	6:30 pm	1610 IOE
17	New Initiatives III	6:30 pm	1610 IOE
31	Fourth General	6:30 pm	1610 IOE
April			
7	Elections	6:00 pm	1610 IOE
14	Fifth General**	6:30 pm	1610 IOE
18	Initiation	3:30 pm	1500 EECS
18	Banquet	6:00 pm	TBD

* Interviews will take place in Duderstadt 1120A and 1120D from 9am-9pm. You can schedule a 30 minute interview slot on the website.

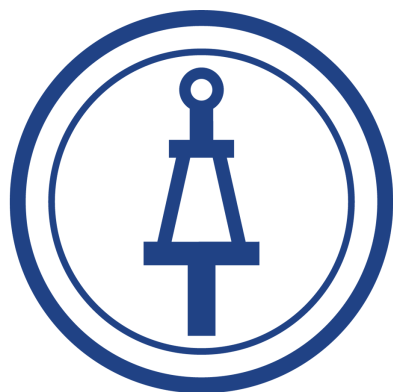
** Deadline to complete all electee requirements

General Information

TBP Office (Bullpen)
1226 EECS

Officers Email
tbp.officers@umich.edu

Website
tbp.engin.umich.edu or tbpmig.org



Tau Beta Pi
The Engineering Honor Society

Officers (@umich.edu)

Executive Committee

President	Katherine Shih (tbp.president)
Vice President	Aidan Shores (tbp.vicepresident)
Graduate Student Vice President	Lexie Barnard-Davignon (tbp.gradvicepresident)
Secretary	Moon Hazarika (tbp.secretary)
Treasurer	Cate Costew (tbp.treasurer)
External Vice President	Michael (Cap) Capitani (tbp.externalvicepresident)
External Vice President	Anushka Acharya (tbp.externalvicepresident)

Events Team

Service Coordinator	Vasiliki (Valia) Tsirikis (tbp.service)
Campus Outreach Officer	Yagho Franco Grossi Mota (tbp.campusoutreach)
Activities Officer	Jacob Bell (tbp.activities)
Professional Development Officer	Kaushal Kumar (tbp-corporate)
K-12 Outreach Officer	Natalie Garvey (tbp.k12outreach)
K-12 Outreach Officer	Ava Martin (tbp.k12outreach)

Chapter Team

Chapter Development Officer	Nicholas Frieler (tbp.chapterdevelopment)
Membership Officer	Catherine Liang (tbp.membership)
Publicity Officer	Chaison Stuart (tbp.publicity)
Historian	Peak Shinawatra (tbp.historian)

Advisors

Leland Pierce	EECS	lep	Faculty Advisor
Kyle Lady	EECS	kylelady	Chief Advisor
Michael Benson	EECS	mlbenson	Alumnus Advisor
Kate Giammalvo	CEE	kgiamm	Alumnus Advisor
Hunter Muench	EECS	hmuench	Alumnus Advisor
Drew Boughton	ME	drbought	Alumnus Advisor
Alyssa Fodale	ChemE	afodale	Undergrad Student Advisor



Graduate Electee Requirements

Winter 2026

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The following is a chronological list of the requirements involved in the TBP electee process. Please note the dates of the meetings and requirements on your calendar.

1. **Attend First General*** (January 27th, 6:30pm in 1013 Dow) or the alternate First General (January 30th, 6:30pm in DOW 1013).
2. **Log into tbp.engin.umich.edu, create an account, and start signing up for events.**
If you are unable to sign up for events, please let us know. Use the "Event List" link under the "Calendar" Menu to sign up for events and the "Track my Progress" link under the "Membership" menu to keep an eye on which requirements you have completed.
3. **Make sure that the following are completed before Monday, February 9th.**
 - (a) Sign up for a 30-minute interview (https://tbp.engin.umich.edu/calendar/event_list/)
 - (b) Complete the Electee Questionnaire (https://tbp.engin.umich.edu/members/electees/electee_groups/)
 - (c) Upload a copy of your resume to your website profile.
4. **Make sure the following forms are completed before February 10th.**
Turn in all physical forms at Second General or to any officer during officer chats. Officer chats schedule at: (tbp.engin.umich.edu/oh).
 - (a) Graduate Electee Advisor Form (copy included in this packet)
 - (b) Online Graduate Education Form (OGEF) (http://tbp.engin.umich.edu/members/electees/submit_education_form)

If you are a Ph.D. student but will also be receiving a Master's degree along the way (check with your program's Graduate Coordinator!), please circle "Master's" in the "Graduate Electee Advisor Form" and list both Master's and Ph.D. under the Degrees section of the OGEF.

 - (c) In order to volunteer at any of the K-12 events that involve minors, you must complete various forms at tbp.org/k12-paperwork. We recommend you have this done by **February 10th (Second General)**. Please contact the K-12 Officers (tbp.k12outreach@umich.edu) if you have any questions.
5. **Attend Second General*** (February 10th, 6:30pm in 1610 IOE).
6. **Attend interview with Active Grad Student Member(s)** (scheduled February 11th-13th).
Grad Vice President, Lexie Barnard-Davignon, will arrange graduate interviews separately from undergraduate interviews. (See Requirement 3)
7. **Complete Catalog Card Online** (Will receive email from secretary)
8. **Attend Third General*** (March 10th, 6:30pm in 1610 IOE).
9. **Attend Fourth General*** (March 31st, 6:30pm in 1610 IOE).
10. **Membership fee of \$105 to treasurer Cate Costew (tbp.treasurer@umich.edu) before April 14th.**
This is a one-time fee to be a member of Tau Beta Pi that pays for electee supplies, the banquet, your bent, certificates, your lifetime membership, etc. You can turn it in at a meeting or to Cate Costew during office hours via checks (made out to Tau Beta Pi), cash, or virtual wallets. Payment is preferred via Venmo or PayPal. Additional information will be provided by the Treasurer later. If the fee poses a significant financial burden, please reach out to the Graduate Vice President for more information.

11. **Complete at least ten* hours of service projects before April 14th.**

(a) **At least 50% of these service hours completed before March 24th.**

Events are scheduled via the website (tbp.engin.umich.edu). Signing up is a commitment to go! You must un-sign up at least 24 hours in advance or you will need to complete an extra service hour. We recommend making sure the website (under the "Track my Progress" tab) accurately displays what you have completed. If not, please contact the website chair (tbp.website@umich.edu).

12. **Complete at least TWO TBP social events before April 14th and complete at least ONE social event before March 24th.** Socials include Happy Hours, ice cream/game nights, sports, Rock 'n' Bowls, Engineering Futures, and many more.

13. **Attend at least ONE grad social before April 14th.** The Graduate Student Vice President and others will be scheduling a number of Grad Activities this semester, possibly including movie nights, a TG at Buffalo Wild Wings, and many more. If you have an idea for a grad event, please contact the Grad Vice President at (tbp.gradvicepresident@umich.edu).

14. **Attend Elections*** (April 7th, 6:30pm in 1610 IOE). Staying to the end of elections counts for **extra service hours** (the total number depends upon the length of elections). Attendance at Elections **cannot** be made up by extra hours, so if you cannot make it, please contact the Graduate Vice President.

15. **Attend Fifth General*** (April 14th, 6:30pm in 1610 IOE).

16. **Attend Initiation** (April 18th, 3:30pm in 1500 EECS) and **Banquet** (April 18th, 6:00pm location TBD). **All requirements above must be completed by the April 14th to be eligible for initiation!** Attendance at Initiation is required by the national organization to become a member of Tau Beta Pi. If you have an unavoidable conflict, talk to us ASAP.

Remember, this is only what you *have* to do — there are no limits on what you can do!

*If you must miss a meeting (due to class, travel, etc.):

- Email Graduate Student Vice President, Lexie Barnard-Davignon (tbp.gradvicepresident@umich.edu)
- Obtain an agenda for the missed meeting (on tbp.engin.umich.edu).
- **Make up the meeting with one extra hour of service.**



Graduate Electee Checklist - Winter

2026

Tau Beta Pi MI-G

Use this quick checklist to stay organized with all the requirements and deadlines for the TBP electing process!

Done	Due Date	Event/Activity
_____	January 27 th	First General Meeting**
_____	Monday, February 9 th	Create profile on website
_____	Monday, February 9 th	Online Electee Questionnaire
_____	Monday, February 9 th	Sign-up for interview (February 11 th -13 th)
_____	Monday, February 9 th	Submit Advisor and OGEF forms
_____	February 10 th	Second General Meeting**
_____	February 10 th	UofM Background Check
_____	February 11 th -13 th	Complete Interview
_____	February 24 th	One grad electee team meeting
_____	February 24 th	3 service hours in total (recommended)
_____	March 10 th	Third General Meeting**
_____	March 24 th	≥ 5 service hours in total (required)
_____	March 24 th	≥ 1 social event in total (required)
_____	March 31 st	Fourth General Meeting**
_____	April 7 th	Elections**
_____	April 14 th	Fifth General Meeting**
_____	April 14 th	Complete ≥ 10 service hours in total
_____	April 14 th	Complete ≥ 2 social hours in total (≥ 1 grad social)
_____	April 14 th	Attend ≥ 2 grad electee team meetings
_____	April 14 th	Pay \$105 dues to the Treasurer (Cate Costew)
_____	April 18 th	Initiation** and Banquet

** REQUIRED MEETING: Please inform the Graduate Vice President (tbp.gradvicepresident@umich.edu) if you cannot attend.



Character Evaluation - Winter 2026

Tau Beta Pi MI-G

Exemplary character is one of the requisites for membership in Tau Beta Pi. In addition to being active members of the engineering community, Tau Beta Pi members must meet the **highest standards of moral character**. Our chapter will assess your character through written essays and an interview.

Electee Interview Questionnaire:

The first component of the character assessment in Tau Beta Pi is the Electee Interview Questionnaire. You will be required to complete a questionnaire with a couple fun questions, four short answer questions, and one essay question. Please note that this questionnaire (and a copy of your résumé) are due by **Monday, February 9th** by submitting them through the website. The questionnaire can be found under Members → Electee Resources while your résumé should be submitted to your website profile. Submit your **essay and résumé** by **Monday, February 9th**.

Some of the short answer will provide you with the opportunity to share a part of your personality with us. Others will ask for your opinion on topics related to academic integrity. While not a direct question on character, these question will allow us to better understand you, your thinking, and grasp your personal character.

As an organization that stresses the importance of exemplary character in our electees and our active members, the essay is a **crucial** part of character assessment. This (one page) essay is a rather open-ended assignment, and we encourage you to get creative with your description. Nevertheless, exemplary character is not an arbitrary concept, and we are looking for specific evidence that you know what this important quality means. Tau Beta Pi members should meet the highest standard of moral character. The quotes on the following page may help inspire you on the subject of exemplary character, but don't limit yourself to those ideas.

The questionnaire can be found and completed under **Members → Electee Resources at tbp.engin.umich.edu**. Be ready to discuss your answers during your interviews.

Interviews:

The interview is the most important part of character assessment. Interviews will be held **February 11th-13th** in Duderstadt 1120A and 1120D. Each interview should last about 25 minutes and starts no later than 5 minutes after the scheduled start time (to allow for travel from classes). Dress is casual — you don't need to wear a suit. Electees can be denied membership on the basis of a negative interview, so take the process seriously. Interviewers will review the résumé and the answers to the Electee Interview Questionnaire you submitted by **Monday, February 9th**. Sign up for a graduate electee interview on the website (tbp.engin.umich.edu).

Interview Dates: **February 11th-13th**

Location: **Duderstadt 1120A and 1120D**

Requirements: **Dress is casual**

Sign up for a graduate electee interview under **"Events" at tbp.engin.umich.edu**.

Submit your questionnaire answers under **Members → Electee Resources at tbp.engin.umich.edu** and your résumé to your **website profile** by Monday, February 9th.

The interview information will be re-addressed before Second General. However, if you have any questions or scheduling issues, please contact the Graduate Vice President (tbp.gradvicepresident@umich.edu).

Quotes about Character

“Character, not circumstance, makes the person.”

– Booker T. Washington, American educator and civil rights activist (1856-1915)

“Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.”

– Abraham Lincoln, 16th U.S. president (1809-1865)

“It is with trifles, and when he is off guard, that a man best reveals his character.”

– Arthur Schopenhauer, German philosopher (1788-1860)

“Weakness of attitude becomes weakness of character.”

– Albert Einstein, Swiss-American mathematician and physicist (1879-1955)

“Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, vision cleared, ambition inspired, and success achieved.”

– Helen Keller, American author, activist and lecturer (1880-1968)

“When the character of a man is not clear to you, look at his friends.”

– Japanese Proverb

“The right way is not always the popular and easy way. Standing for right when it is unpopular is a true test of moral character.”

– Margaret Chase Smith, American Senator (1897-1995)

“The best index to a person’s character is (a) how he treats people who can’t do him any good, and (b) how he treats people who can’t fight back.”

– Abigail Van Buren, American columnist (1918-2013)



Graduate Electee Advisor Form

Winter 2026

Tau Beta Pi MI-G

To: Lexie Barnard-Davignon
Graduate Student Vice President
Tau Beta Pi – Michigan Gamma
1226 EECS

From: _____
(Advisor's Name)

Re: Tau Beta Pi Candidacy of

(Applicant's Name)

I certify that the above named graduate student in Engineering at the University of Michigan has completed or will complete prior to induction (April 18th) at least 50% of his/her

Master's Ph.D. (please circle one)

degree requirements including both coursework and research. Based upon the student's academic performance, I recommend his/her induction into Tau Beta Pi – The Engineering Honor Society.

(Advisor's Signature)

Return this form to Lexie Barnard-Davignon, MI-G Graduate Student Vice President, at 1226 EECS, or via email (tbp.gradvicepresident@umich.edu) by February 10th.



Service Project Descriptions

Winter 2026

Tau Beta Pi MI-G

The following projects and descriptions are examples of some of the service projects that our chapter has carried out in the past. The complete list of service projects that will be done this semester is uncertain due to the constantly evolving opportunities our members discover. However, this list should give you a good sense of the different types of service projects that we undertake. If you see an event you'd like to participate in that hasn't been scheduled, you may also take the lead on it yourself. This semester is a great time to have creative ideas and take advantage of TBP resources for service events. Also, if we have a large amount of electees and general motivation to do larger scale community service, we have a community outreach plan set up that consists of a lot of groundwork/direct interaction with the Michigan/Ann Arbor community. If you are interested in any of this please contact Vasiliki (Valia) Tsirikis(tbp.service@umich.edu); it is never too early to start getting involved in leadership. Note that the list below is only a taste of the service projects we have carried out.

Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Stewardship Workdays: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation (NAP) is a section of the Ann Arbor Government that specializes in the preservation of public parks and nature reserves. NAP hosts weekend Stewardship Workdays that welcome groups of volunteers to help remove invasive plant species to preserve biodiversity.

Ann Arbor Probity Marathon: TBP has had the opportunity to volunteer with set-up and awards for the large Ann Arbor Probity Marathon.

Cub Scouts Day: Cub Scouts Engineering Day is a TBP-organized event for local Cub Scouts troops to receive their engineering badges. Activities include bridge building, egg drop, circuits, and floor plan. Volunteers are needed to help run these stations and to lead groups of Cub Scouts through the stations.

Engineering Day for Detroit: Engineering Day for Detroit is a full day K-12 event that targets Detroit school districts. Previous modules include bridge building, egg drop, and sphero coding.

FIRST Robotics with FAMNM: TBP, in association with the FIRST Alumni and Mentors Network at Michigan (FAMNM), has become involved with volunteering for local FIRST robotics competitions.

Hands-On Musuem: The Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum aims to inspire people to discover the wonder of STEM. Have fun with kids while learning cool science facts! Past events include helping children make their own microbes, exploring unique musical instruments, and celebrating DNA day.

Kiwanis Thrift Sale: Kiwanis Thrift Sale is one of the largest thrift sales in Ann Arbor and is run completely by volunteers. They are always looking for more help with sorting, transporting, and the sale of donated goods.

KnitWits: KnitWits helps the less fortunate during the cold winters by creating warm clothes from donated material. We tie together scraps of fleece to make blankets, hats, and scarves for the homeless here in Ann Arbor. No experience is necessary; instructions and materials all provided!

Maize & Blue Cupboard North Campus Food Distribution: Maize & Blue Cupboard is a free food pantry located on Central Campus that holds bi-weekly North Campus distribution events. The goal of these events is to supply students on North Campus with fresh produce and combat food insecurity.

Merit Badge Day: Merit Badge Day (MBD) is a TBP-organized event for Scouting troops to receive their merit badges with an emphasis on engineering and technology. Activities include learning binary, arduino, soldering, and more. Volunteers spend the day in small groups guiding Scouts through the activities.

MindSET: MindSET is a K-12 program where we invite students from local school districts to come learn about engineering concepts through rotating modules. Previous modules include: making ice cream, sphero robot coding, and cardboard guitar.

NEST: NEST (New Engineering Futures For Tomorrow) is a yearly TBP competition where teams of students work together to present "Engineered for the Greater Good Solutions" at convention. Previous topics include waste management and resource insecurity.

University of Michigan Science Olympiad: University of Michigan Science Olympiad (UMSO) provides an excellent opportunity for both middle school and high school science olympiad teams to compete in a variety of STEM activities. TBP has provided dozens of volunteers to help grade and supervise events.

Zooniverse: Zooniverse is a completely virtual service opportunity that sees volunteers classifying elements for large-scale data sets. Topics include cosmology, biology, history, and many more!



Graduate Electee Trivia - Winter 2026

Tau Beta Pi MI-G

INSTRUCTIONS:

This exam will cover the history and organization of Tau Beta Pi at a national level as well as the history and organization of our chapter, Michigan Gamma. This exam is not meant to be difficult, and you should not stress about it. **It is also not required to be completed by graduate students though it is strongly encouraged.** Please complete this exam and turn it in to the Graduate Student Vice President, Lexie Barnard-Davignon, or the TBP office (1226 EECS) by April 14th.

Name: _____ **Uniqname:** _____
(Please print)

1. When and where was Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society founded?
2. Who was the founder of Tau Beta Pi?
3. Where is the national headquarters of TBP located?
4. With what other organization did TBP merge in 1974, and why?
5. What is the original Tau Beta Pi yell?
6. Where are the 3 brass bents (permanently mounted) located throughout campus?
EXTRA CREDIT: Where is the fourth?
7. What is the symbol of the TBP motto?
8. What are TBP's colors?

9. Talk with 10 graduate student members of the Michigan Gamma Chapter. For each member, list their department and ask them for two fun facts about themselves. Have each graduate student member sign next to their name and facts.

10. Get at least five signatures from Tau Beta Pi undergraduate actives from Michigan Gamma who are not officers. Have them draw a picture of their favorite outdoor activity next to their signature.