



Welcome to Tau Beta Pi The Engineering Honor Society Winter 2025

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 and honors 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 255 active collegiate chapters across the United States and Puerto Rico, and has initiated over 600,000 members so far.

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!

Wei-Lun Huang
Graduate Student Vice President (GVP)
Tau Beta Pi, MI-G
tbp.gradvicepresident@umich.edu



Graduate Electee Packet — Winter 2025

Tau Beta Pi, MI-G

Make sure your packet has the following items:

1. Information Sheet
2. Graduate Electee Requirements
3. Service Project Descriptions
4. Character Evaluation
5. Graduate Electee Checklist
6. Graduate Electee Advisor Form
7. Minors on Campus Policy

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 2025

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

Executive Team	Monday	11:30 am – 12:30 pm
	Tuesday	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Events Team	Thursday	4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Chapter Team	Monday	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
	Tuesday	10:00 am – 11:00 am



Information Sheet — Winter 2025

Tau Beta Pi, MI-G

Important Dates

Date	Event	Time	Location
Jan 21	First General	6:30 pm	1013 DOW
Feb 4	Second General	6:30 pm	2505 GGBL
Feb 5	Interviews	By Appointment	1120 DUDE
Feb 6	Interviews	By Appointment	1120 DUDE
Feb 7	Interviews	By Appointment	1120 DUDE
Feb 11	New Initiatives I	6:30 pm	1013 DOW
Feb 25	Third General	6:30 pm	2505 GGBL
Mar 11	New Initiatives II	6:30 pm	1060 FMCRB
Mar 25	Fourth General	6:30 pm	2505 GGBL
Apr 1	New Initiatives III	6:30 pm	1013 DOW
Apr 8	Elections	6:30 pm	2505 GGBL
Apr 15**	Fifth General	6:30 pm	2505 GGBL
Apr 19	Initiation	3:00 pm	1500 EECS
Apr 19	Banquet	6:00 pm	Zingerman's Greyline

* Interviews will take place in the Duderstadt conference rooms 1120A, 1120B, and 1120D.

** Deadline to complete all electee requirements

General Information

TBP Office: 1226 EECS

Email: tbp.officers@umich.edu

Website: tbp.engin.umich.edu

Advisors (tbp-advisors@umich.edu)

Leland Pierce	EECS	lep	Faculty Advisor
Kyle Lady	EECS	kylelady	Chief Advisor
Michael Benson	EECS	mlbenson	Advisor
Drew Boughton	ME	drbought	Advisor
Kate Giammalvo	CEE	kgiamm	Advisor
Kevin Masel	MSE	kmasel	Advisor
Ranadeep Mitra	EECS	ranadeep	Advisor
Hunter Muench	EECS	hmuench	Advisor

Officers (@umich.edu)

Executive Team

President	Karen Jin (tbp.president)
Vice President	Paco Haas (tbp.vicepresident)
Graduate Student Vice President	Wei-Lun Huang (tbp.gradvicepresident)
Secretary	Jennifer Wang (tbp.secretary)
Treasurer	Jacob Bell (tbp.treasurer)
External Vice President	Sabrina Chun Yan Wong (tbp.externalvicepresident)
External Vice President	Katherine Shih (tbp.externalvicepresident)

Events Team

Service Coordinator	Michael / Cap Capitani (tbp.service)
Activities Officer	Allison Li (tbp.activities)
Professional Development Officer	Nihar Ogale (tbp-corporate)
Campus Outreach Officer	Manikandan Pandiyan (tbp.campusoutreach)
K-12 Outreach Officer	Evelyn Lee (tbp.k12outreach)
K-12 Outreach Officer	Aidan Shores (tbp.k12outreach)

Chapter Team

Chapter Development Officer	Aiden Ascoti (tbp.chapterdevelopment)
Membership Officer	Alyssa Fodale (tbp.membership)
Publicity Officer	Kate Alcalde (tbp.publicity)
Historian	Jimmy Samson (tbp.historian)



Graduate Electee Requirements — Winter 2025

Tau Beta Pi, MI-G

The following is a detailed list of the requirements involved in the TBP electing process. Later in this packet you will also find a quick checklist that summarizes the important deadlines mentioned here. Please note the dates of the meeting and requirements on your calendar.

Create a Profile on the website by Feb 3: In order to successfully elect in to TBP, you must first create a profile on the website (tbp.engin.umich.edu), as it will allow you to sign up for events, receive important notifications, and track your progress throughout the semester. More step-by-step information on navigating the website will be provided to you via email, but briefly, you can use the “Event List” link under the “Calendar” Menu to sign up for events and the “Track My Progress” link under the “For Members” menu to keep an eye on which requirements you have completed.

I. REQUIRED MEETINGS

Attend all the General Meetings (5), Elections (1), and Initiation (1). All meetings (except Initiation) will begin at 6:30 pm (check the INFORMATION SHEET section of this packet for dates and venues). If you are unable to attend one or more of the General Meetings, please inform the Graduate Vice President, look over a copy of the meeting agenda at tbp.engin.umich.edu, and make up for the missed meeting by completing an extra service hour. Attendance at Elections **cannot** be made up by extra hours, so if you cannot make it, please contact the Graduate Vice President. **Attendance at Initiation is required by the national organization to become a member of Tau Beta Pi. If you have an unavoidable conflict, please inform the Graduate Vice President ASAP!** Though not required, you are welcome (and encouraged) to attend the New Initiatives meetings—these meetings will count towards service hours.

II. TEN SERVICE HOURS

Complete at least TEN* service hours before Apr 15. You can schedule service events via the website (tbp.engin.umich.edu), and signing up is a commitment to go! Hours will be provided only after attendance at the event is confirmed. If you cannot attend an event for which you have signed up, you must drop your sign-up at least 24 hours in advance. We recommend making sure the website accurately displays what you have completed. If you find any discrepancies, please contact the website officer (tbp.website@umich.edu).

***At least FIVE of these service hours must be completed before Mar 18.**

III. TWO SOCIAL EVENTS

Complete at least TWO* social events before Apr 15. Social events include Happy Hours, ice cream socials, and game nights to name a few. **At least ONE of these socials MUST be a Grad Social.** The Graduate Vice President, Graduate Student Activities Chair(s), and others will be scheduling a number of Grad Socials this semester, possibly including coffee hours and hikes. If you have an idea for a Grad event, please contact the Graduate Vice President.

***At least ONE of these social events must be completed before Mar 18.**

IV. TWO GRADUATE ELECTEE TEAM MEETINGS

Attend at least TWO* Graduate Electee Team Meetings before Apr 15. The team aims to serve as a peer mentor group for the electees, and the meetings provide opportunities to interact with each other and the TBP graduate actives. The Graduate Vice President will be scheduling a number of Grad Electee Team Meetings this semester with the Grad Electee Team Lead(s). More information on the schedule of these meetings will be provided later.

V. CHARACTER QUESTIONNAIRE & INTERVIEW

These tasks need to be completed by Feb 5.

- (a) **Complete the online electee questionnaire regarding exemplary character.**

The electee questionnaire can be found under Electee Resources on the website (tbp.engin.umich.edu).

- (b) **Upload a copy of your resume.**

Your resume needs to be submitted to your website profile.

- (c) **Sign up for ONE in-person interview on the website.**

The in-person interview is designed to be a low-pressure interaction with an active member that lasts about 25 minutes and starts no later than 5 minutes after the start time. **Interviews will be held between Feb 5 and Feb 7, so please ensure that you sign up for a slot by Feb 3.**

More information on the Electee Questionnaire and Interview can be found in the CHARACTER EVALUATION section of this packet.

VI. FORMS & PAPERWORK

- (a) **Submit the following completed forms before Feb 3:**

i. Graduate Electee Advisor Form (copy included in this packet)

ii. 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.

- (b) **Complete the Youth Protection Training by Feb 4.** Please see the "MINORS ON CAMPUS POLICY" section of this packet for more details.

VII. MEMBERSHIP DUES

Pay the membership fee of \$100 to the Treasurer (Jacob Bell) before Apr 15.

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 lifelong membership, etc. You can turn it in at a meeting or to Jacob Bell during office hours via cheques (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.**

Remember, this is only what you *have* to do — there are no limits on what you can do! In the end, TBP is what you make of it — the more you give, the more you get out of it!



Service Project Descriptions — Winter 2025

Tau Beta Pi, MI-G

The following are examples of the service projects carried out by our chapter 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 we undertake. If you see an event that you would like to participate in and that has not 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 projects. If you have any such ideas, please contact Michael / Cap Capitani (tbp.service@umich.edu); it is never too early to get involved in leadership. Again, the list below is only a taste of the service projects we have carried out.

Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation (NAP) Stewardship Workdays: NAP is a section of the Ann Arbor Government specialized in preserving public parks and nature reserves. It hosts weekend Stewardship Workdays that welcome volunteers to help remove invasive plant species and preserve biodiversity. These events will become more frequent as the weather improves.

Campus Outreach Events: TBP organizes various tutoring opportunities for students within and outside the University of Michigan. TBP also hosts Breakfast Parties and the Hot Chocolate Outreach programs. Please check the website for more information.

Cub Scouts Day: TBP organizes this event for local Cub Scouts troops to receive their engineering badges. It features activities about 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

Knitwits: Knitwits helps the less fortunate during cold winters by creating warm clothes from donated materials. We tie together scraps of fleece to make blankets for the homeless here in Ann Arbor. No experience is needed as instructions and materials are all provided!

Merit Badge Day: In this event, Scouts will explore the world of engineering to earn their Digital Technology, Programming, Electronics, and Engineering Merit Badges. They will learn about programming and engineering in a fun environment through activities like developing programs on Arduino and designing simple websites. They will also learn from engineering students across several disciplines about what it means to be an engineer and what topics are essential in engineering.

MindSET: MindSET is a STEM education initiative started by TBP. It engages K-12 students in science and mathematics via hands-on & design-based learning modules and mentoring from UMich engineering students. The modules relate to physics, chemistry, and mathematics and appear as engineering applications such as bridges, circuits, and water rockets. Each module requires the collaborative effort of 4-5 students (per group). TBP organizes these modules on weekends, and each module is unique in a given semester. More information is in tbp.engin.umich.edu/outreach/mindset.

Zooniverse: Zooniverse is a fully virtual service opportunity where volunteers classify elements in large-scale datasets. The topics behind these datasets span cosmology, biology, and history to name a few.



Character Evaluation — Winter 2025

Tau Beta Pi, MI-G

Exemplary character is one of the requisites for membership in Tau Beta Pi. Besides staying active in 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 need to complete a questionnaire with a couple fun questions, a few short answer questions, and one essay question. Please note that this questionnaire (and a copy of your resume) should be submitted to the website by **Feb 3**. The questionnaire can be found under “For Members” → “Electee Resources” while your resume should be submitted as part of your website profile. Submit your **essay and resume** by **Feb 3**.

Some of the short answers will give you an opportunity to share your personality with us. Others will ask for your opinions on topics related to academic integrity. While not direct questions on character, these questions will enhance our understanding of you, your thinking, and your 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 an open-ended assignment, and we encourage you to get creative with your submission. 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 do not limit yourself to those ideas.

Let us emphasize again that the questionnaire can be found and completed by clicking **For Members** → **Electee Resources** at tbp.engin.umich.edu. Be ready to discuss your answers during your interview.

Interviews:

The interview is the most important part of character assessment. Interviews will be held on Feb 5, Feb 6, Feb 7 at 1120 DUDE (1120A, 1120B, 1120D). You must sign up for one interview slot. Each interview should last about 25 minutes and will start no later than 5 minutes after the scheduled start time (to allow for travel from classes). Dress is business casual — you do not need to wear a suit but should dress professionally. While the interview intends to be low-pressure, electees can be denied membership on the basis of a negative interview. So, take the process seriously. Interviewers will review the resume and the answers to the Electee Interview Questionnaire you submitted by **Feb 3**. Sign up for a graduate electee interview on the website (tbp.engin.umich.edu/calendar/event_list).

Dates & Time: **Feb 5, Feb 6, Feb 7: 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

Location: **1120 DUDE (1120A, 1120B, 1120D)**

Requirements: **The dress code is business casual.**

Sign up for a graduate electee interview under “Event List” at tbp.engin.umich.edu.

Submit your questionnaire under **For Members** → **Electee Resources** at tbp.engin.umich.edu and your resume as part of your **website profile** by Feb 3.

If you have any 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 Checklist — Winter 2025

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	Requirement
_____	Jan 21	First General Meeting**
_____	Feb 3	Create profile on website
_____	Feb 3	Online Electee Questionnaire
_____	Feb 3	Sign-up for interview (Feb 5, Feb 6, Feb 7)
_____	Feb 3	Submit Advisor and OGEF forms
_____	Feb 4	Second General Meeting**
_____	Feb 4	UofM Background Check
_____	Feb 5-Feb 7	Complete Interview
_____	Feb 18	One grad electee team meeting
_____	Feb 18	3 service hours in total (recommended)
_____	Feb 25	Third General Meeting**
_____	Mar 18	≥ 5 service hours in total (required)
_____	Mar 18	≥ 1 social event in total (required)
_____	Mar 25	Fourth General Meeting**
_____	Apr 8	Elections**
_____	Apr 15	Fifth General Meeting**
_____	Apr 15	Complete ≥ 10 service hours in total
_____	Apr 15	Complete ≥ 2 social hours in total (≥ 1 grad social)
_____	Apr 15	Attend ≥ 2 grad electee team meetings
_____	Apr 15	Pay \$100 dues to the Treasurer (Jacob Bell)
_____	Apr 19	Initiation** and Banquet

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



To: Wei-Lun Huang
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 (Apr 19) at least 50% of their

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

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

(Advisor's Signature)

Return this form to Wei-Lun Huang, MI-G Graduate Student Vice President, at 1226 EECS, or via email (tbp.gradvicepresident@umich.edu) before Feb 3.



Minors on Campus Policy — Winter 2025 Tau Beta Pi, MI-G

The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Public Schools, and the Boy Scouts of America require anyone volunteering with children to complete background checks. This means that in order for anyone to volunteer and interact in any way with youth at the TBP events, they must complete a background check form. **Before you can complete the background check, you need to opt-in to the process by filling out the background check opt-in form (<https://tbpmig.org/YPT>). Please do so as soon as you can.** After you do so, the K-12 officers will submit your name to receive a background check, and in the days after, you will receive an email from a third-party system to complete a background check form (do remember to check your spam). **You must submit a screenshot of the end of the survey to K-12 officers (tbp.k12outreach@umich.edu) by Feb 4 in order to volunteer with youth at MindSET, Cub Scouts Day, Merit Badge Days, etc. You will not receive any confirmation email about a successful background check. Emails are sent only when something is flagged.** If you are unable or unwilling to complete the form and submit to the background check, participation in K-12 events will be limited to roles that ensure non-interaction with youth.

The University of Michigan requires that all individuals volunteering with minors also complete training. To fulfill this training requirement, Tau Beta Pi is requiring members to complete Youth Protection Training (YPT), offered through the Boy Scouts of America. This training can be completed online, taking around an hour to complete at scouting.org/training/youth-protection. You will need to create an account before proceeding to take the training online. After completing it, you must save your certificate as a PDF document and send it to the K-12 officers (tbp.k12outreach@umich.edu).

Submission of your YPT certificate, proving that you have completed the online training, should be completed by Feb 4. Upload the YPT certificate using the following link: <https://tbpmig.org/YPT>

If you have any questions about the background check or training, or if you do not wish to complete the background check, please contact the K-12 officers (tbp.k12outreach@umich.edu).

To summarize, please have the following done by **Feb 4***:

- I. University of Michigan background check. **Take a screenshot** of the final page of the survey and send to tbp.k12outreach@umich.edu (you will not receive a confirmation email)
- II. Boy Scouts of America Youth Protection Training (YPT) at scouting.org/training/youth-protection and upload a certificate to <https://tbpmig.org/YPT>

* If you miss this deadline but still wish to participate in these events, you may contact the TBP Service Coordinator (tbp.service@umich.edu) to check if there is enough time to complete the background check prior to the event.

K-12 Event Dates are

[MindSETs] February 9, March 16, March 30

[Science Olympiad] February 15

[Merit Badge Days] February 23, March 29

[STEM Symposium] March 15

[Engineering Day] March 22

[Cub Scouts Day] April 6