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# Rescuing the SKY130 MPW Program for the Next Generation of Innovators

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DAC BOAF 2025

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# A Successful Tapeout Matters to Prospective Hiring Companies

- 1000's of schools and educators have access to EDA tools but PDK NDA's are a barrier that limit academia from gaining tapeout experience
- The lack of robust open-source PDKs was negatively impacting learning

Cadence now provides a robust (NDA-free) SKY130 PDK built from scratch!

Since the SKY130 (NDA-free) is based on the S130 (NDA) process, Cadence, with SkyWater's support, is updating the SKY130 DRM to ensure that it aligns with the tapeout requirements.

# SKY130 MPW Program

Following the announcement of the mid-semester eFabless closure, Cadence agreed to provide the SKY130 MPW for 2025.

- Open to all (academic, research, startup, etc.) for \$10k per block
- No limit/restrictions to I/O or IP included/used
  - Bounding box was selected to align with the previously designed Caravel and OpenFrame rings
- Open to designs created in any tools (open-source or commercial)

The Fall 2025 SKY130 MPW will be gathering designs for final submission:

**December 5, 2025.**



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