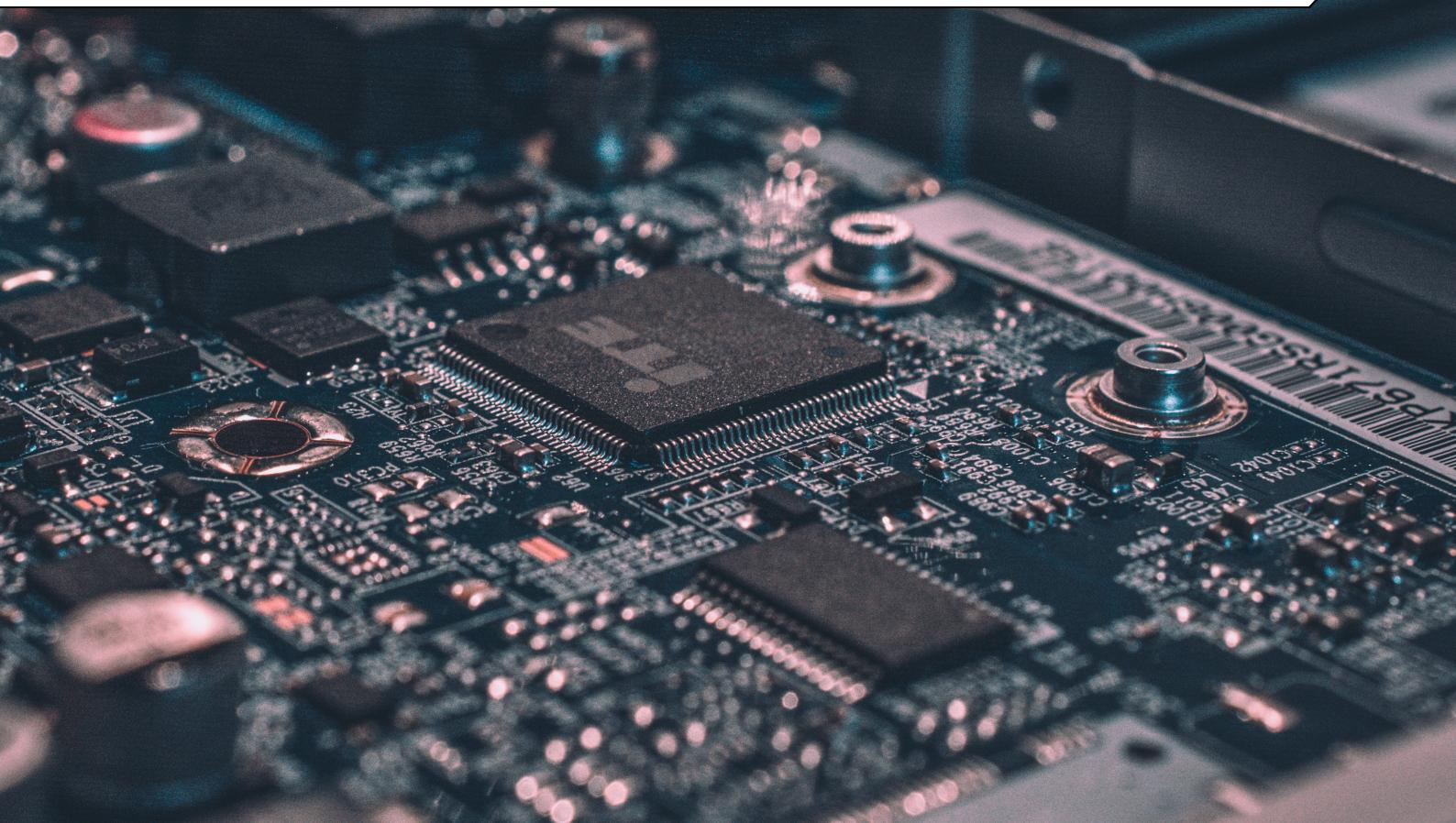


# IEEE QP++

# Winter 2020 Entry Packet



Welcome to the next iteration of Quarterly Projects!

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Quarterly Projects - 1

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# Introduction

Welcome to QP++: Winter 2020!

In this document, you will find everything you need to know about competing – project specifications, expectations, guides to getting started, and the how the whole process works.

## What is QP++?

QP++ is an intermediate to advanced level project building program intended to give teams a more advanced project building and learning experience than Quarterly Projects cannot provide. Each quarter, QP++ will develop a themed challenge that will teach participants more advanced skills, encourage them to break free from hobbyist microcontrollers such as Arduino and Raspberry Pi, and encouraging them to use their past experience from Quarterly Projects or elsewhere to take advantage of technologies present in industry. QP++ participants will use this program to build a project with their teammates that could land them advanced internships, giving them an additional stepping stone over the initial Quarterly Projects program to advance their skills and career. With QP++ you get far more resources, and more advanced workshops to make the best project that you could!

# Why Participate?

Projects take time, and college students have no excess of that. So why compete in QP++?

## Project Experience

Even the best students can't sit down and physically build something their first time. Inventing is a whole realm of skills separate from academics, and is equally necessary for becoming an engineer – arguably more necessary, since there are countless Jeffersonian engineers who self-taught and wrote those great Instructables that we students follow. Building experience creates engineers, and QP gently introduces beginners to the world of building. You can list projects like these on resumes, LinkedIn, and your project portfolio.

## Preferential selection for annual projects and future QP Programs

Our branch hosts four annual competitions – Grand PrIEEE, Micromouse, Project Drive, and RoboCup Soccer. While we want to support as many students as possible, we don't have the resources to fund enough teams for every student who applies, making placement highly competitive. Participating in QP shows us that you possess the kind of character we want on our teams, and helps you develop skills that we look for in annual team members. We record all participants and keep an eye out for you on annual applications – it's not an assurance that you'll be selected, but it provides a "leg up." On the other hand, should you not complete your project, it may make us inclined to double think accepting your application.

# The Challenge: Sustainability

## [The Theme](#)

To start off the new decade, we are going to tackle one of the most challenging problems facing humanity in the contemporary world. As the human population continues to skyrocket, Earth's natural resources will eventually run out. We, as engineers, must do our part to find technological solutions for sustainable development.



[Just a few project areas to get some ideas from:](#)

**Work in progress. Thank you for your patience!**

# Timeline

Week	Events and Deadlines
1	IEEE Winter GBM
2	Kickoff
3	Project Proposals Due + First Workathon/Workshop
4	
5	Milestone 1 - Second Workathon/Workshop
6	
7	Milestone 2 - Third Workathon/Workshop
8	
9	Showcase + Final Workathon
10	<a href="#">Go study!</a>

**These times are subject to change. Use this to gauge your progress, and ensure that you have enough time to make a great project.**

# Proposing Your Project

Proposing your project will be the first stage of your journey in QP. Planning your project is one way to ensure that This proposal will include 4 parts:

## **1. Project Description**

This is a general description of your project. You can describe what it does, what you will use, and maybe even some drawings in assisting those reading your proposal. This should be 3-5 sentences.

## **2. Bill of Materials (BOM)**

This is a chart including all of the parts you are going to buy, the link to buy the parts, the quantity, and the total price of the parts, including shipping and tax. This is what the QP staff will use to buy your parts so make sure to have this in order.

## **3. Milestones**

In your proposal you will set up your two milestones of major progress that you want to complete in order to arrive at creating your project that is described by the project description.

Have your first milestone as completing the setup of your project and hopefully have a good amount of progress done, while your second milestone should be a lot closer to your finished project. And of course, you should have your full project completed by the Showcase, and maybe even add more!

For these milestones you will have milestone meetings with your mentors to let them know your progress and also have some deadlines that could help you keep better track of your progress.

**These meetings will be at the 2 workathons of your choosing, your mentors will contact you about making these milestone meetings in the weeks before. Try to have your milestones completed by your meetings!**

## **4. Confidence**

The easiest part of the proposal should be the confidence section. Just collect a sentence from each team member stating why you are confident you will succeed in making this project and put it at the end of your proposal!

**And remember, you can always change aspects of your project barring issues of budget or time, just ask the chairs or your mentor!**

# Ordering Parts and Materials

One major part of the project proposal process ordering your parts and materials. **Before you buy any parts, make sure to check the Parts stock** to save your team and the Quarterly Projects Program some money. **You have a 100 dollar budget.**

## Approved Vendors

This list is ordered in terms of the vendors you should use i.e. if your part is not available on amazon go to spark fun, etc.

- 1. Amazon (Make sure your part has amazon prime)**
- 2. Sparkfun**
- 3. Adafruit**
- 4. Digikey**

If your parts are not from these 4 sites, we cannot order them, as shipping times may be unpredictable and it is honestly a pain ordering from so many sites.

**Just a reminder that Shipping Cost and Tax is included in your budget, so make sure to either order with Amazon Prime or account for this when finding parts.**

Your team does have the option to go over budget if necessary, you just have to buy the parts that put you over budget yourself, so make sure not to order more than what you need just in case you need to re-order parts.

# Parts Stock

Although 100 dollars is still plenty for many projects, that money can go away very quickly if you buy too many parts.

We have set of drawers that you can take parts from. The drawers include parts such as sensors, motors, and cables. This box will sit outside during workathons so you can get whatever sensors and parts that you need.



We also have a set of drawers that includes all of our expensive parts, including Arduinos and Raspberry Pi's. **Ask us if you need any of these parts, as this box will be locked up.**



# Project Guidelines

These project guidelines aim to not only give you what you need to make a project that can win the competition at the end of quarter showcase and what the judges will subsequently judge you on, but also give you a guideline for completing projects in the future.

## 1. Prompt Fulfillment

Does the project assess the problem given and provide a solution to the problem?

Make sure your project is relevant to the theme, ask if you are unsure.

## 2. Polish

Does the project look like it is complete and made with care, or does it look rushed and poorly planned?

Finish your project early and put a lot of work into it to ensure that your project looks great for the showcase.

## 3. Impressiveness

Does the project make you say "wow"? Did the team overcome an extra obstacle to complete their project?

Take a chance on your project, try something that you haven't done before and experiment to make something that you are proud of.

## 4. Presentation

Was everyone involved in the presentation? How much work did they put into the presentation, does it look well practiced and professional? Did the team make sure that the project would be presentable?

Ensure that your project is ready for the presentation, wear business casual if possible, and make sure to rehearse your presentation or slideshow.

## 4. Documentation

Is the documentation thorough and complete? Is the documentation ready to be sent to Quarterly Project affiliates or is prepared poorly?

# Resources

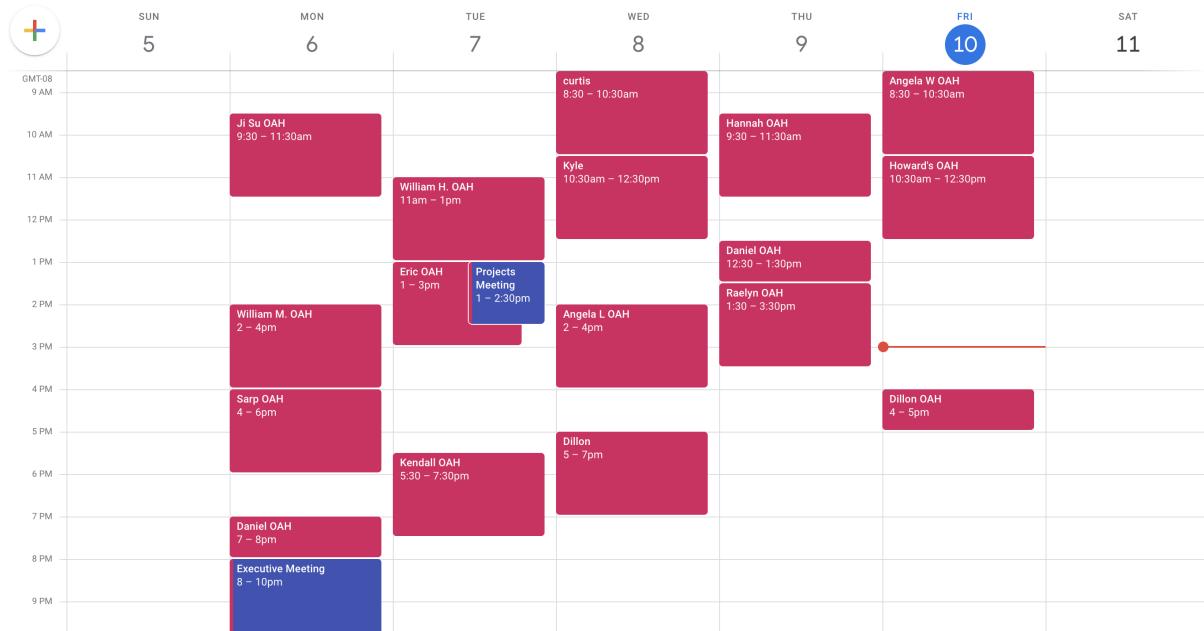
## Discord

**Discord is the main method of communication that you should use to message us and the mentors, but to also communicate with your teammates to coordinate time to work on projects.** You can ask for help directly to us, your teammates, or make a message in the general channel to get help from others in QP. This is our first quarter using Discord for QP, and we hope that by moving to this platform, we can foster a friendly and collaborative community for all participants.

## IEEE Project Space

PS is IEEE's workspace, located in EBU1 4710. You can store materials here, work on your project, and use the soldering stations. It is only available when officers are in the room, so be sure to make arrangements with us or another IEEE officer in advance.

**QP Hours are Tuesdays 1:00PM-3:00PM or Fridays 10:30AM-12:30PM.** Here you should find me and other QP mentors to help you on your project, or if you just want someone to hang out with. You can also come any time on the below schedule, but your chances of finding a member of QP staff might be hard.



# Events

## Kickoff

You are probably here right now! The kickoff is the event that we use to start it all. Here you will meet your team and find out what Quarterly Projects is all about. Also you will learn the logistics of the project, meet your teammates, and brainstorm your project.

## Workathons

At each workathon, you can come and get materials, work on your project with your group, or even get some help from us and some staff members in IEEE. You can also use some of the equipment at Project Space such as soldering irons for your projects. These events will have refreshments, so make sure to come and get work done on your project! **You are required to come to at least two workathons for the milestone meetings.**

## Showcase

At the showcase, each team will set up their project and have a couple minutes to talk about it to judges walking around to each booth. Be prepared to talk about what your project is and why you chose it, challenges and victories while developing it, and how each person contributed. Also, for the showcase, your team is required to fill out documentation explaining the stages of your progress. You must submit to us documentation for your team before the showcase. Further instructions on how to submit documentation will be announced as we approach the showcase. We will invite guests to judge your projects, and we often have notable people such as the department chair at these events, so it's important to come and network, perhaps even win the competition and some prizes. **This event is mandatory.**