

ANSI Student Paper Competition 2019

How Do Standards Help Mitigate Disaster?

From hurricanes, floods, volcanic eruptions, and tornados to industrial accidents, building collapses, or acts of terrorism, natural and man-made disasters make headlines across the world – and cost thousands of lives and billions of dollars every year.

To help foster greater awareness about the importance of standardization, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) 2019 Student Paper Competition asks you to consider the question, “How do standards help mitigate disaster?”

Your paper should consider how standards have contributed to the mitigation, prevention, relief, or recovery of various types of disaster. You may choose to pick a real-life disaster and describe the standards that helped get things back on track, as well as potential standards that could have provided even greater assistance. Or, you may choose to get creative and make up a disaster scenario.

You should refer to specific standards wherever possible. For example, a paper about the 9/11 terror attacks should include a discussion of how the 9/11 Commission [recommended reliance upon the American National Standard NFPA 1600](#), the National Fire Protection Association’s standard for disaster/emergency management and business continuity programs. Papers should include references to multiple types of standards and standards developing organizations.

All entries must be submitted by 5 pm ET on April 30, 2019, to lrajchel@ansi.org and must adhere to the following requirements:

1. Be written and submitted by student(s) (associate, undergraduate, or graduate, in any discipline) enrolled full- or part-time during the period of September 2018 to April 2019 at an institute of higher education (IHE) located in the United States or its territories
2. Include a title and a list of names of all contributing authors, their contact details, and the affiliated IHE
3. Be prefaced with an abstract of no more than 400 words
4. 2,000 words maximum (not including requirements #2 and #3 above, notes, tables, charts, and a bibliography which may not exceed 3 pages)
5. In English and suitable for publication (assistance will be offered for final editing before publication of winning paper)
6. Electronic format only, preferably Microsoft Word or other revisable format, in 12-point type size
7. Be original and not previously published (copyright will remain with the author; winners grant publication rights to ANSI, as well as the right to release entries to other media)

Submissions will be reviewed by top-level industry experts participating on ANSI's Committee on Education (CoE) as well as by ANSI staff. Winning entries will be published on ANSI.org, StandardsBoostBusiness.org, StandardsLearn.org, and potentially in other media outlets. Winning submissions will be shared with and widely read by the domestic and international standards community, including experts in government, industry, professional societies, and academic institutions. Cash prizes will be given to first- and second-place winners; ANSI reserves the right to award no prizes based on the determination of the judges. The winning papers will be announced in June 2019.