

Dear attendees of the 2017 US-CA IEEE PES Student Congress,

The congress is just two weeks away and we are so excited to welcome you to Boston, which is also known as the “Athens of America” because of its influence on the country’s cultural, intellectual, and political life. This letter contains some basic information about transportation, housing, meals, the conference, and field trips around Boston.

### **Transportation**

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (known to Bostonians as “the T”) is the most economical, reliable, and environmentally friendly way to travel to and from the airport from Boston. The cost of a one-way trip on the T is \$2.25 and the IEEE PES Society will reimburse your fares. You can take the Silver Line bus from the airport terminals to the blue line and then the orange line to the Midtown Hotel or you can take the Airport Shuttle bus to the blue line and then the orange line to the hotel. Your smart phone and/or google maps can give you more details. The trip will take about 40 minutes.

### **Housing and Meals**

You will be housed at the Midtown Hotel located at 220 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02115, which is experienced in housing students who attend schools or conferences in Boston, in rooms with two or three other students of the same gender. The hotel has an outdoor pool, so you may want to bring a bathing suit. The hotel is a 15 minute walk from the conference venue, the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology (BFIT), 41 Berkeley St, Boston, MA 02116. You will be eating all of your conference meals at BFIT. The meals will have several options including vegetarian. Please contact us [2017ieeepesstudentcongress@gmail.com](mailto:2017ieeepesstudentcongress@gmail.com) for any questions or concerns about the meals; we will try to accommodate dietary restrictions if possible.

### **The Conference**

As we had mentioned, the conference is at the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, which has a unique and historic feel of Boston, and which is welcoming its first freshman electrical engineering class in the fall of 2017 (with curriculum that emphasizes electric power!). Summer attire is suitable and comfortable clothing such as shorts and t-shirts are appropriate to wear.

As you can see from the [congress’ program schedule](#) you will be hearing from industrial leaders, engineers, academics, and fellow electric power engineering students about careers in electric power, innovative technologies, running successful IEEE PES student chapters, and more.

We ask that you bring posters describing your student chapter and its activities for a poster session. You can find examples of student posters at [this google drive file from a previous student congress](#).

### **Field Trips around Boston**

Boston played a key role in the American Revolution and our first field trip is the Freedom Trail, guided by experts in the history of the American Revolution (wearing the costumes of the period!)

Our second field trip will be to the Museum of Science, one of the world's largest science centers and Boston's most attended cultural institution. After viewing the exhibits, you will be attending a gala dinner, with speaker Christopher Root, Chief Operating Officer at the Vermont Electric Power Company Velco. We will travel by T, to and from the museum.

The third day will consist of tours of: the MIT campus, as well as its nuclear fusion or fission reactors; Doble Engineering, a leader in the electric power industry; and National Grid's solar energy farm in Shirley, MA. We will be traveling by bus to these locations and closed-toe shoes as well as government-issued ID's are required to tour MIT's nuclear reactor.

More information about the congress can be found at <http://2017ieeepesstudentcongress.org/>. Please do not hesitate to contact us at [2017ieeepesstudentcongress@gmail.com](mailto:2017ieeepesstudentcongress@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

The 2017 US-CA IEEE PES Society Student Congress Organizing Committee