

Student Steel Bridge Competition

Faculty Advisor Expectations

The ideal faculty advisor will likely be a member of the engineering faculty or staff at your school who has a strong commitment to working with students.

Required Duties

- Verify that all team members are students enrolled at your school for part or all of the current academic year.
- Complete ASCE's *2026 Intent & Eligibility Form* to indicate your team's plans to participate and to request the team participation stipend. The form link will be in the first mailer for your region's ASCE Student Symposium and on the symposium website.
- Verify that your school's ASCE student chapter is in good standing with ASCE at the start of the regional competition, including paying annual dues and submitting the full annual report (refer to the *Rules* for more information).
- Verify that your school's ASCE student chapter has good faith participation in the annual Student Conference Business Meeting and the Student Symposium Paper Competition (refer to the *Rules* for more information).
- If your school does not have an ASCE student chapter and is competing as a guest through an AISC Student Club, you should still complete ASCE's *2026 Intent & Eligibility Form* and select "Guest team" in the symposium dropdown. Verify that the club is established for the current academic year by December 31.
- Promote an inclusive and positive environment for all students participating in the program and ensure that learning is the desired outcome.
- As the team's faculty representative, fulfill all duties required by your school.

Other Recommended Activities

- Encourage students to make design decisions and fabricate their bridge on their own as much as possible in order to maximize learning.
- Attend the regional competition with the team or send a substitute faculty member in their place.
- Ensure that students exhibit good sportsmanship and professional behavior at regional and national levels of the SSBC in order to give the team the opportunity to participate in future competitions.
- Encourage students to complete relevant safety training and follow all applicable campus safety guidelines. Refer to the [SSBC Safety Awareness Guide for Fabrication](#) for some general guidelines.
- Help students connect with a professional mentor through alumni networks, the [National Council of Structural Engineers Associations \(NCSEA\)](#), or other avenue.
- Assist students in fostering relationships with industry professionals through local fabricator introductions, the [Ironworker Management Progressive Action Cooperative Trust \(IMPACT\)](#), and if applicable, AISC seminars, networking events, and [NASCC: The Steel Conference](#).
- Pass along all pertinent communication to the students.
- Help maintain the history of the team from year to year.
- If your school is participating as an ASCE student chapter, follow all faculty requirements.
- Recognize team members for achievement and commitment.

If the SSBC team advisor is also the AISC Student Club Faculty Advisor, please see additional expectations at aisc.org/studentclubs.