Call for Papers

Abstract and Summary Submission Deadline:
21 October 2025

OFC

The future of optical networking and communications

Technical Conference: 15 – 19 March 2026
Exhibition: 17 – 19 March 2026
Los Angeles Convention Center
Los Angeles, California, USA

OFCConference.org

IEEE ComSoc IEEE Communications Society
IEEE Photonics Society
OPTICA

Letter from the Chairs

We are proud to present a world-class technical program comprised of over 100 invited and 15 tutorial speakers and technical content ranging from symposia to new events on datasets and machine learning (ML).

OFC 2026 will traverse four technical tracks encompassing the latest research in devices, components and fibers, subsystems and systems, networks and services and quantum devices, systems and networking. Explore the complete descriptions of the topic categories and their subcategories on the website.

There will be 12 interactive workshops and ten panel sessions assembling academic and industry leaders in focused areas of expertise. Over 50 short courses are being offered on Sunday and Monday, providing an opportunity for extended and focused instruction from experts in their fields.

In addition to traditional oral presentations and poster sessions, Demo Zone will provide an opportunity to showcase your research projects and proof of concept implementations on the latest technologies, live.

In 2026, OFC will also introduce two new events: Dataset Submission and ML Challenge. These two events aim to solicit datasets and to establish a collaborative platform for researchers, scholars and practitioners from academia and industry to develop, evaluate and showcase ML techniques applied to diverse datasets collected from real-world optical devices, platforms and networks. Find the latest information on the OFC website.

The deadline is Tuesday, 21 October 2025 and that date will be here before you know it, so prepare now to send in your latest work. The committee is looking forward to receiving and reviewing your submissions.

OFC provides an outstanding opportunity for participants throughout the technical community to gather, network and stay updated on the latest developments throughout optical communications. So, mark your calendar and we will see you in Los Angeles.

Sincerely,
Your OFC Program Chairs
Lidia Galdino, Takashi Matsui and Qiong (Jo) Zhang

Key Dates

Abstract and Summary Submission Deadline
21 October 2025, 12:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time (UTC -04:00)

Demo Zone and Dataset Submission Deadline
18 November 2025

Author Notifications
Week of 22 December 2025

Advance Registration Deadline
13 February 2026

Postdeadline Paper Submission Deadline
03 March 2026

Technical Conference
15 – 19 March 2026

Exhibition
17 – 19 March 2026

View submission guidelines
OFCConference.org

Submit Your Research

This high-caliber, prestigious scientific program gives you the ideal stage to showcase your work to a highly relevant and influential audience. As a presenter, you will receive global exposure when you participate in OFC's comprehensive technical program alongside distinguished experts in your field from the finest institutions and industry-leading companies worldwide.

Peer-Reviewed Assessment

Paper submissions are high-quality technical papers that undergo a blinded peer review, conducted by the members of the Technical Program Committee. Papers will be evaluated thoroughly. If submitted to a track's subcommittee that does not represent a good fit for a paper's technical content, OFC reserves the right to recategorize the paper to a better-matching subcommittee.

Your Work: Published

Accepted and presented papers are published in the prestigious IEEE Xplore Digital Library and Optica Publishing Group's platform, two of the world's leading collections of peer-reviewed research. OFC further enhances the visibility of your paper by indexing it in Ei Compendex, Scopus and Google Scholar.

Two Ways to Present

The program committee schedules both oral and poster sessions. The abstract and summary of both oral and poster papers are published in the conference program and the Technical Digest.

Topic Categories

D-TRACK Devices, Components and Fibers	S-TRACK Subsystems and Systems	N-TRACK Networks and Services
D1 Advanced Prototyping, Packaging and Integration	**S1** Datacom Subsystems and Systems	**N1** Advances in the Development of Networks, Systems and Services
D2 Photonic Integrated Circuits, Micro-optics, Nanophotonics and Switching Devices	**S2** Subsystems for Transmission	**N2** Optics and Photonics for Data Center and Computing Applications
D3 Active Optoelectronic Components	**S3** Transmission Systems	**N3** Architectures, Control and Management of Optical Networks
D4 Fibers, Connectivity, Characterization and Propagation Physics	**S4** Fiber-Sensing and Microwave Photonics	**N4** Optical Access Networks for Fixed and Mobile Services
D5 Fiber Devices, Fiber Lasers and Amplifiers and Nonlinear Waveguides	**S5** Wireless Optical and THz Communications	**N5** Market Watch, Network Operator Summit and Data Center Summit (Invited Program Only)

Subcommittee Q (SC-Q): Quantum Devices, Systems and Networking

SC-Q: Quantum Devices, Systems and Networking track focuses on photonic-based quantum systems with particular focus on quantum communication, quantum information generation, distribution and processing. Topic categories include:

- Quantum Communication Systems and Quantum Key Distribution
- Entanglement Routing and Quantum Networking
- Multipartite Entangled States for Quantum Networking and Quantum Computing
- Quantum Computing and Quantum Computing Interconnects
- Photonic Integrated Circuit Implementations of Quantum Subsystems, Systems and Networks
- Quantum Random Number Generators
- Quantum Single or Entangled-Photonic Sources and Detectors
- Photonic Devices in Support of Qubit Modalities (ions, defects in solids, single atoms, others)
- Optics for Quantum Transduction and Cryogenic Optical Interconnects
- Quantum Memories, Photonic Quantum Gates and Quantum Repeaters
- Hybrid Quantum and Classical Systems/ Networks and Teleportation
- Lab Demonstrations, Field Trials, Use Cases, Certification and Standardization
- Quantum Protocol Implementations
- Free Space and Satellite-Based Quantum Communications

2026 Chairs

Demo Zone

The Demo Zone features live demonstrations of research projects and proof-of-concept implementations related to novel, non-commercial, optical communication devices, systems and networks. This interactive tabletop mode of presentation has separate deadlines and submission requirements. For a full list of Demo Zone topic categories and submission guidelines visit OFCConference.org

Student and Early Career Prize Opportunities

Students, recent graduates and early-career professionals are encouraged to present their research. This invaluable experience gives you the opportunity to get your name and research in front of an esteemed, international audience – at a stage in your career when building professional relationships is crucial for future success. When you submit your paper don't forget to opt in for these prize opportunities.

The **Corning Outstanding Student Paper Competition** recognizes innovations in optical communications, research excellence and presentation capabilities. The winner will be awarded USD 3,500.

Enter your paper for the **Tingye Li Innovation Prize** – the grand prize recipient will receive USD 3,000, an invitation to the Chairs' Reception and recognition during OFC.

General Chairs

Jiajia Chen
ByteDance, USA

Johannes Fischer
Fraunhofer Heinrich-Hertz Institute, Germany

Tetsuya Hayashi
Sumitomo, Japan

Program Chairs

Lidia Galdino
Corning, UK

Takashi Matsui
NTT, Japan

Qiong (Jo) Zhang
Amazon Web Services, USA

Start preparing your paper submission today.