

Frequently Asked Questions about the ASCE Grand Challenge

What is the ASCE Grand Challenge?

The ASCE Grand Challenge is an initiative from the ASCE and its leaders to spur new solutions to infrastructure challenges. The goal is to reduce the life cycle costs for infrastructure by 50 percent by 2025 and foster optimization of infrastructure investments for society.

The Challenge is an opportunity for each of us, and the industry as a whole, to embrace our unique leadership role transform the way we plan, deliver, operate and maintain our nation's infrastructure to enable us to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Why the ASCE Grand Challenge?

The ASCE Failure to Act Economic Studies and Industry Report Cards have demonstrated the need for infrastructure investments and the benefits provided to society.

These initiatives have identified the problem we face, and the ASCE Grand Challenge aims to provide solutions.

Understanding deteriorating and underfunded infrastructure has impacts on America's productivity, quality of life, future growth, and prosperity, ASCE was in a position to guide the industry forward. Just as President Kennedy challenged the nation to be the first to reach the moon, we have developed a large and aspirational goal to address these issues.

The ASCE Grand Challenge was developed to encourage leadership within the engineering field, to ultimately achieve the goal of reducing life cycle infrastructure cost by 50 percent by 2025.

What is the purpose of the ASCE Grand Challenge?

The purpose of the ASCE Grand Challenge is to ask civil engineers and the industry as a whole to rethink and reinvent every stage of project delivery. We are asking for innovative business solutions to address infrastructure cost issues and to innovate and transform our practice. In order to do so, the ASCE Grand Challenge asks you to say "I'm In!" and take the pledge for the new project approach.

What project approach am I committing to with the ASCE Grand Challenge pledge?

The Challenge launched with a focus on four key areas: Innovation, performance-based standards, life cycle cost analysis, and resilience. Each of these areas is important for achieving the ASCE Grand Challenge goal and are represented on our website with Success Stories — showing you how the industry is already embracing these project approaches.

How is this effort related to the Innovation Contest?

Like the ASCE Grand Challenge, the Innovation Contest was launched in 2015 to offer professionals, educators, students, and others in the industry the opportunity to share their best ideas for transforming the future of our nation's infrastructure.

Many of the same project elements, from life cycle cost analysis to resilience, are honored by the Innovation Contest and by ASCE Grand Challenge Success Stories — there's even some project overlap between the two. However, the ASCE Grand Challenge goes beyond specific projects and acts as a call-to-action for the industry as a whole.

The vision to reduce the life cycle cost of infrastructure is the ultimate goal of the Challenge, and will in part be achieved through the inspiring projects honored as Innovation Contest winners and ASCE Grand Challenge Success Stories.

To learn more about the Innovation Contest, click here:

<https://ascegrandchallenge.com/innovation-contest/>

What about #GameChangers?

In July 2015, ASCE debuted *Infrastructure #GameChangers*, a new report and associated website at ASCEgamechangers.org that shows how communities across the country have developed solutions to challenges that could prove to be "game changers" nationwide.

Again, many of the same project features and some of the same projects are included in #GameChangers and the ASCE Grand Challenge, but the vision, request for industry commitment, and ultimate goal of the Challenge is what sets it apart.

How do I get involved?

You can get involved by taking the pledge, and saying "I'm In!" for the ASCE Grand Challenge. As a next step, we ask you to share your commitment with your peers on social media and through other channels. Finally, we encourage you to submit your projects to be featured as a Success Story on our website.

I'm not ready to commit to the pledge right now, can I still stay informed with updates from ASCE?

Yes, you can choose to [Stay in Touch!](#) Sign up to receive email notifications from ASCE about the Challenge, the Innovation Contest, or both.