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.
Paper Requirements

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

Must 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 in a U.S. higher education institution

Must have a title, a list of names of all contributing authors and their contact details, and affiliated academic institution

Must be prefaced with an abstract of no more than 400 words

2,000 words maximum (not including abstract, notes, tables, charts, and bibliography, which may not exceed 3 pages)

In English and suitable for publication (assistance will be offered for final editing before publication of winning paper)

Electronic format only, preferably Microsoft Word or other revisable format, in 12-point type size

Must 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)