

# EIC Accelerator Collaboration Charter

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This document represents a draft Charter for the EIC Accelerator Collaboration. The document will be reviewed by the EIC partner labs and EIC project and will be presented at the kick-off meeting of the EIC Accelerator Collaboration Institutional Board Meeting in May of 2026.

## I. Background

The Electron-Ion Collider (EIC) will be a discovery machine for unlocking the secrets of the “glue” that binds the building blocks of visible matter in the universe. It will be constructed at Brookhaven National Lab on the basis of the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) and consist of two intersecting accelerators: one producing an intense beam of electrons, the other one a high-energy beam of protons or heavier atomic nuclei, which are steered into collisions.

The EIC was conceived as an international project from the very beginning and attracted larger number of collaborators from all around the world, both for experimental detector and accelerator facility. The EIC accelerator workshops since 2020, which attracted hundreds of participants from more than 20 countries, as well as numerous technical meetings with representatives from national and international institutions, are examples of such collaboration.

The Electron-Ion Collider (EIC) partner host labs, Brookhaven National Laboratory and Jefferson Lab, are now establishing a formal international collaboration, with the purpose, structure, and operating principles as defined below.

The EIC Accelerator Collaboration functions will be largely defined and conducted through the activities of its Institutional Board and Working Groups. This Charter describes the purpose, structure, principles, operations, and outputs of the EIC Accelerator Collaboration.

The EIC Accelerator Collaboration Charter is:

- A living document to be maintained and modified by the Institutional Board and the Accelerator Collaboration Co-Chairs.
- A procedural guide, describing the operation of the EIC accelerator collaborative work and how EIC accelerator collaboration members commit to interact constructively in good faith, and which is accompanying the EIC Accelerator Collaboration Expression of Mutual Interest (EMI), that can optionally be signed.
- An informal agreement among EIC Accelerator Collaboration members that does not have any legal standing.

- A public document, available for anyone to read and review. Comments about this document should be addressed to the Co-Chairs of the EIC Accelerator Collaboration.

## II. Purpose of EIC Accelerator Collaboration

The EIC design, construction, and future upgrades have many exciting scientific and technical challenges, creating opportunities for a worldwide accelerator collaboration to become part of this exciting endeavor. The EIC Accelerator Collaboration will benefit the EIC project, collaborating partners, and the wider community of accelerator experts. The EIC Accelerator Collaboration will also enhance the developments of the evolution, upgrades, and the ultimate performance of the EIC facility.

## III. Accelerator Collaboration Structure

The EIC Accelerator Collaboration consists of individuals from the partner institutions interested in EIC. Representatives of participating institutions form the Institutional Board. Individuals can join Working Groups. The meeting of Accelerator Collaboration and Institutional Board are coordinated by the Co-Chairs of the Accelerator Collaboration.

**The Institutional Board (IB)** consists of representatives appointed by the institutions. The initial membership of the IB was established at the Accelerator Collaboration kick-off meeting in 2024, from the institutes willing to join the Accelerator Collaboration, and updated from time to time. Further expansion of the collaboration and acceptance of the new institutional partners will be done via a simple majority vote by the IB representatives. The meetings of IB are coordinated by Co-Chairs of Accelerator Collaboration. The IB meets at least once per year.

**Working Groups (WGs)** are topical groups that are established to cover variety of activities related to EIC. Activities of the Working Groups are coordinated by leaders, who are appointed by Co-Chairs of Accelerator Collaboration in coordination with IB and EIC project Technical Director. The Working Groups are meeting frequently, as defined by their leaders. The following WGs are active:

1. Beam-beam effects
2. Beam polarization generation, preservation and diagnostics
3. EIC commissioning

Further WGs could be established for:

1. Beam dynamics, beam optics
2. Beam cooling at collisions
3. Second IR

#### 4. EIC upgrades

The list of working groups will evolve as needed for EIC and its partners.

**Co-Chairs of Accelerator Collaboration** are initially appointed, at the formation of the collaboration, for a period of one year, and once the Collaboration and IB are established, will be elected by IB. A staggered approach to their appointment will be chosen and their term likely extended to two years as standard.

### IV. Operating Principles

The EIC Accelerator Collaboration will strive to create open and inclusive environment where all talents will flourish, and decision making process will be collegial and aimed at reaching consensus.

### V. Operating Timeline

The EIC Accelerator Collaboration is intended to function during the EIC project construction, and also after, during EIC commissioning, operation for science, and during possible upgrades.