DEADLINES

Registration Deadline: April 19, 2023 by 11:59pm PST
Submission Deadline: May 17, 2023 by 11:59pm PST

FEES

There is a non-refundable entry fee of $395 per each Design Awards entry and an entry fee of $250 per each Small Project entry. This fee must be paid online at the time of registration. Refunds will not be given for entries that are disqualified, late, or incomplete; credits will not be given for future submissions.

ELIGIBILITY

- Architects with a California license may submit built projects located anywhere in the world
- Architects licensed in other states may only submit built projects located in California
- Submissions must be built projects completed on or after January 1, 2016

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Each completed submission package must follow these guidelines. Your entry will be disqualified if it does not contain the required elements:

- Full Project Portfolio
- Completed Common App
- Do Not Reveal Firm Name or Architect

CATEGORIES

Select which category your built project falls under. While a Design Award is not given based on category, projects with the same category will be considered together.

- Adaptive Reuse, Renovation or Historic Preservation: Renovations of existing buildings, renovations or preservations of existing buildings, historic preservation of building with a historic background, or buildings where the original intent has been transformed for a new purpose
- Mixed-Use: Buildings with commercial and residential properties
- Single Family Residential: Any residential space intended for one family

- Multi-Family Residential: Any residential space intended for two or more families. This category should not include university dorms, hotels, or any other commercial, institutional or education project
- Institutional/Education: Hospitals, medical centers, all types of schools, universities and campuses
- Large Civic Projects: Courthouses, law enforcement facilities, and community centers
- Commercial: Hotels, large corporate offices, and retail spaces
- Interior Architecture: Tenant improvements and any project where the interior of a built project has been updated and enhanced
- Small Project, Object: Projects under $500,000 fabrication and installation budget. This could include an art sculpture or art installation
- Small Project, Structure: Projects under a $1,000,000 construction budget. This could include a pool house or accessory dwelling unit

PORTFOLIO GUIDELINES

- Submitted in PDF format, landscape orientation. No more than 8MB and 12 pages. Project ID numbers are not required. Please keep your project title to a minimum and list the name as you would want it shown in a winner announcement, should your project be selected. Include the correct name and spelling of the Firm and Architect of Record in Submittable with how you want it reflected on the award certificate, should your project be selected.

- Page 1: A readable site plan with North arrow clearly indicated
- Page 2: At least one floor plan, but no more than two
- Page 3: Project sections and elevations
- Page 4: Include at least one sustainable design strategies diagram with a brief description of strategies used
- Pages 6 – 12: Project Photos
    - Must be clear and concise, with a high resolution
    - Limit of four (4) photos per page
    - No renderings or concepts (must be built projects)
    - Recommended to include at least one picture of the project within the surrounding area (for context).
    - For the adaptive reuse/historic preservation category: must include a minimum of one before and one after picture (preferably side by side on one page)
    - For the interior architecture category: must include at least one exterior picture (to provide context to the project's surroundings).

AIA DESIGN EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK/COMMON APP + TECHNICAL REVIEW

AIA California is aligned with AIA's Framework for Design Excellence with the integration of 10 key principles into the award program requirements. While California leads the nation with the implementation of zero carbon standards and codes, the Framework identifies specific metrics to evaluate buildings that illustrate progress toward a zero carbon, equitable, resilient and healthy built environment.

AIA California's Design awards follows AIA's Design Excellence criteria using the Common App. Submittals are encouraged to highlight project performance through narratives and metrics in the Common App.

Prior to the Design Awards Jury, each project will be reviewed by a technical review jury; three (3) panelists will review each project's success in achieving sustainability and building decarbonization goals; the average score, along with technical review comments, will be forwarded to the Design Awards Jury. *(Important note: providing incorrect information or failing to provide information will result in a lower technical review score; jurors are less likely to give awards to lower scoring projects).*

When completing the Common App, pay particular attention to Measure 6, Design for Energy and be sure that to provide the correct EUI information. EUI information can be obtained from energy models or LEED (or similar) documentation. If T24 Compliance documentation was used, see the instructions and calculator for calculating site EUI from T 24 compliance documentation.

AWARDS

The Jury has the discretion to recognize all projects with an honor or merit award. There is also a special award for Climate Action (formerly the Leading Edge award) for projects that excel both in terms of design and performance.

Special commendations may be awarded by the jury to recognize projects that excel in one measure outlined in the AIA Framework for Design Excellence. The jury will have the discretion to award up to 10 total single-measure commendations but are not required to recognize an entry under each measure. No project shall be chosen for a commendation in more than one category or may receive a commendation in more than one year from the same category. Recipients of a commendation will be eligible to resubmit their project for an Award in future years.