

## DEADLINES

Early Bird Deadline: June 30, 2025 11:59PM PST

Normal Registration: July 28, 2025 11:59PM PST

Submission Deadline: August 11, 2025 11:59PM PST

[Register Here](#)

[Submit here](#)

## FEES & ELIGIBILITY

All fees are non-refundable. Please review eligibility prior to registering for the awards. 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.

Early Bird Registration	Amount	Normal Registration	Amount
AIA Member Fee	\$275.00	AIA Member Fee	\$325.00
AIA Member Small Project Fee	\$175.00	AIA Member Small Project Fee	\$205.00
Non Member Fee	\$450.00	Non Member Fee	\$525.00
Non Member Small Project Fee	\$250.00	Non Member Small Project Fee	\$315.00

- All members of AIA California and California Architects may submit unbuilt or built projects located anywhere in the world while all AIA members and Architects licensed in other states may only submit unbuilt or built projects or projects in California
- Submissions for built projects must be completed on or after January 1, 2018
- Cannot have received an **AIA California 2024 Design Award** for the same project
- Submit a Project Portfolio
- Submit a Common App

## CATEGORIES\*

- Single Family Residential
- Multi-Family Residential
- Accessory Dwelling Unit
- Affordable

*\*AIA does not award based on category, please choose the category that aligns closest with your project. Categories are used by the jury for review purposes.*

## FOR PROJECTS SUBMITTED TO 2025 DESIGN AWARDS OR URBAN DESIGN AWARDS

Please wait to register until notified if the project was selected in those programs.

- ALL Residential Projects submitted to 2025 Design Awards or Urban Design Awards program will have an opportunity to submit at Early Bird Pricing after the normal registration closes for the public.

- If you choose to submit prior to receiving results, you will follow the same fee structure as the public and are assuming the risk of being ineligible due to the project being selected in another award program. (Please note this only applies to recipient projects)
- This only applies to projects submitted into those programs. Other projects submitted must follow general guidelines.

## PORTFOLIO GUIDELINES

Submitted in PDF format, 8.5x11 landscape orientation. No more than 8MB and 12 pages. No firm name.

- Page 1: Cover page with a **photo**, **project name** and **location** (Do NOT include firm name anywhere in PDF or common application)
- Page 2: A readable site plan with North arrow indicated clearly
- Page 3: At least one floor plan, but no more than two
- Page 4: Project sections and elevations
- Page 5: Include at least one sustainable design strategies diagram with a brief description of strategies used
- Pages 6 – 12: Project Photos (Renderings or drawings for unbuilt)
  - Must be clear and concise, with a high resolution
  - Limit of 4 photos per page
  - Include one picture of the project within the surrounding area for context

## ADDITIONAL NOTES:

- Please include project name when naming files
- If you list the firm name in your submission package/Common App or do not meet all the requirements, your project will be disqualified
- Give yourself plenty of time to fill out the Common App
  - [Use the resources on the AIA CA Residential Design Awards webpage](#)
  - [Check out this Webinar](#)
- **If your project is submitted for the 2025 Design Awards program, please wait to register until notified if the project was selected**
  - Projects submitted for 2025 Design Awards will be offered the early bird discount and a set period to register and submit projects
- For unbuilt projects, please project the common application data and estimate to the best of your ability
- Common Application - Fill the application out to the best of your ability, use the narratives to explain areas with missing or limited data. Blank measures and incorrect information will negatively affect a project more than simple answers and explanations.

## COMMON APPLICATION

AIA California is aligned with AIA's [Framework for Design Excellence](#) with the integration of 10 key principles into our Residential Design Awards requirements. The framework identifies specific metrics to evaluate buildings that illustrate progress towards a zero carbon, equitable, resilient, and healthy built environment.

AIA California Residential 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. In addition to the Residential Design Awards Jury, each project will be reviewed by a Common Application Review Jury; several panelists will review each project's Common Application before rating it. The average score, along with comments, will be given to the Residential Design Awards Jury. Providing incorrect information or failing to provide information will result in a lower technical review score.

When filling out the Common App, pay particular attention to Measure 6, Design for Energy and be sure that you are providing 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](#) for calculating site EUI from T 24 compliance documentation.

The Common App must be filled out for each individual project. The common application can be found on the AIA California [Residential Design Awards Page](#).