



ELIGIBILITY & CRITERIA

How do I register?

To be eligible, you must register your intention to submit a project and payment for each project by the deadline. ***Projects that are not registered by the deadline will not be considered.***

Each project must be registered, submitted and paid for separately. If you submit multiple projects, remember to select the discounted, additional entry fee after the first entry.

What are the key dates for registration and submission?

Call for Entries – May 15th

Early Registration Incentive – June 19th (*registration fee increases after this date*)

Project Submissions due – July 10th

What projects are eligible?

Any structure or building of any size or project type (including rehabilitations, interior architecture, monuments, unbuilt projects that have no plans for construction, etc.) may be considered. Entrants may submit projects that do not require the stamp of a licensed architect.

Projects that have been honored in this program in past years are not eligible. This includes Honor, Merit, Citation, and other awards.

Who is eligible to submit?

Anyone is eligible to submit. Members of an AIA chapter located in New England (i.e. member of the Boston Society of Architects, AIA Central Massachusetts, AIA Connecticut, AIA Maine, AIA New Hampshire, AIA Rhode Island, AIA Vermont, and AIA Western Massachusetts) receive special pricing.

Associate AIA members and other unlicensed architecture graduates may submit projects that do not require the stamp of a licensed professional.

What types of projects are eligible?

- New Construction
- Renovation/Reuse/Addition
- Unbuilt work (no anticipated construction)



What project use is eligible?

- Single Family Residential
- Multi Fam Residential
- Institutional / Commercial
- Educational
- Healthcare
- Mixed use
- “Other,” for projects that do not fit in any of the above categories

Where must built projects be located?

Projects by New England architects, designers, and firms may be located anywhere. Projects by others must be located in New England.

When must eligible projects have been built?

Projects must have been completed within the last five years.

What information will I need to complete my submission?

In addition to basic project information and a list of consultants/contractors, you will need to provide:

- Brief (50 words) and full (300 words) project descriptions
- Performance statement based on [AIA’s Framework for Design Excellence](#).
- Project images must be submitted in a single PDF file, not to exceed 5MB, and a maximum of 15 pages on 8.5 x 11. Do not include any identifying firm information.

Not adhering to these guidelines may result in disqualification.

How much is the entry fee?

Members of an AIA chapter located in New England (i.e. member of the Boston Society of Architects, AIA Central Massachusetts, AIA Connecticut, AIA Maine, AIA New Hampshire, AIA Rhode Island, AIA Vermont, and AIA Western Massachusetts) pay **\$200** for their first submission and **\$150** for subsequent submissions.

Non-members pay **\$300** for their first submission and **\$250** for subsequent submissions if they register by the Early Bird registration deadline.

Please note: All late registrations beyond the Early Bird Registration deadline of June 19, 2026 will incur a cost of an additional \$100/entry.



How are projects judged?

The judging criterion is based on a demonstration of design excellence over a wide range of building and project types, sizes, and budgets.

Entries will be judged on their own merit, judged individually, and not in competition with each other.

Design excellence is defined by the [AIA's Framework for Design Excellence](#).

Submissions will be asked to explain how their project responds to at least three aspects of the framework.

The jury will consider the entrant's presentation, as well as the clarity of description of functional, contextual, and sustainability aspects in both images and written explanations.

When will the awards ceremony be?

Friday October 2, 2025

Northampton Center for the Arts/33 Hawley Street, Northampton, MA

Please note

All late registrations beyond the Early Bird Registration deadline of June 19, 2026 will incur a cost of an additional \$100/entry.

Each project must be submitted and paid for separately. If you submit multiple projects, remember to select the discounted, additional entry fee after the first entry.

Fees are not refundable and must be paid online via credit card at the time of registration. Once you've registered your project(s), you will receive an email with a link to the submission form.

You can register and then submit as many projects as you'd like, however you must complete each *project submission* before beginning the next one, or your draft data will be overwritten.