

The AIA Canada Student Design Awards recognize students demonstrating excellence in architectural design, technical understanding, and the integration of sustainable and inclusive design concepts. The program provides an opportunity to showcase work nationally and gain industry recognition.

## Schedule

<b>Submissions Due</b>	April 30, 2026 — 5:00 PM ET
<b>Jury Deliberations</b>	May 1, 2026
<b>Awards Announcement</b>	May 5, 2026

## Downloads

<b>Entry Form — Part A</b>
<b>Entry Form — Part B</b>
<b>AIA Framework for Design Excellence</b>
<b>Award Guidelines (this document)</b>

## Eligibility & Instructions

### Who may enter

- Open to students in Canadian post-secondary architectural or architectural technology programs
- Projects must be part of the school curriculum
- Individual or team submissions permitted — all team contributors must be listed

### Submission limits

- Each student may submit one individual project and one team project
- Review of the AIA Framework for Design Excellence is strongly encouraged
- Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted

## Anonymity Requirements

### **Part B must be fully anonymous.**

Do not include names, school, professor, or any identifying metadata in Part B.  
Part A contains identifying information and is confidential — it is not shared with the jury.

## Submission Requirements

Each complete submission must include all three components below.

### 1 — Entry Forms (Part A & Part B)

#### Part A — Submission & Identification

Internal use only · Confidential · Not shared with the jury

- Student and professor contact information
- School name and professor approval
- Architectural credits for publication
- Copyright declaration and signatures

#### Part B — Project & Media Submission

Jury review document · Must be fully anonymized

- Project information (name, address, type, size, year)
- Project Summary — (max. 200 words)
- Community-Engaged Design Description — if applicable (max. 200 words)
- Project Presentation Portfolio (PDF)
- Image and video file submissions (see Section 2 below)
- No student names, school names, or identifying information anywhere in Part B

### 2 — Image Requirements

A minimum of 3 images is required. Up to 5 images may be submitted. Image #1 is used for announcements and publicity.

<b>Format</b>	.jpeg only
<b>Dimensions</b>	3200 × 1800 pixels
<b>Resolution</b>	Minimum 72 dpi
<b>File naming</b>	ProjectName_01.jpeg (e.g., Glass_Pavilion_01.jpeg)
<b>Announcement</b>	Image #1 is used for all announcements and publicity

Images that do not meet the format, size, or naming requirements may not be displayed.  
Videos and additional supporting drawings or diagrams are permitted as supplemental materials.

### 3 — Project Information and Documents To Be Submitted

<b>Project Summary - Entry Form B</b>	Describe design intent, program, and key design decisions (max. 200 words)
<b>Community-Engaged Design - Entry Form B</b>	If applicable — describe community consultation or engagement (max. 200 words)
<b>Project Presentation Portfolio - PDF</b>	The Project Presentation Portfolio is submitted as a separate PDF document alongside Part B. No size limit. It must be fully anonymized.
<b>Anonymity</b>	Do not include student name, school, professor, or any identifying information

### How to Submit

**Submit all of the following in a single email by April 30, 2026 at 5:00 PM ET:**

1. Entry Form — Part A (PDF or Word)
2. Entry Form — Part B (PDF or Word, anonymized)
3. Project Presentation Portfolio PDF (anonymized)
4. All image files (.jpeg, named correctly)

**Submit via Website Portal Button**

Submissions may be updated until the deadline. Incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

### Judging Criteria

<b>Design Excellence</b>	<b>75%</b>	Design quality and technical solutions Construction and code understanding Sustainability integration Inclusive and equitable design Creativity
<b>Presentation</b>	<b>20%</b>	Clarity of communication Technical skill Composition
<b>Project Description</b>	<b>5%</b>	Clarity of narrative Understanding of design intent

*Evaluation is aligned with the AIA Framework for Design Excellence. Final selections are made through collective juror discussion.*

### Prizes & Recognition

<b>First Place</b>	<b>\$3,500 CAD</b>
<b>Second Place</b>	<b>\$2,250 CAD</b>
<b>Third Place</b>	<b>\$1000 CAD</b>

*Group prizes are distributed equally among all team members.*

## Additional Recognition

- One-year AIA Canada membership (awarded post-graduation)
- Publication in the AIA Canada Journal and Canadian Architect
- Feature on the AIA Canada Society website
- Invitation to present at an AIA Canada webinar

## Contact

<b>General inquiries</b>	<a href="mailto:rommy@aiacanadasociety.org">rommy@aiacanadasociety.org</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://aiacanadasociety.org">aiacanadasociety.org</a>