



2019 Call for entries »

## Accessible Design Awards

Deadline: April 26, 2019

Co-sponsored by: BSA Access Committee; Massachusetts Architectural Access Board

The Accessible Design Awards program recognizes design excellence in buildings or facilities that are accessible for persons of all abilities. Successful projects include the integration of accessibility requirements and exceed the legal requirements with features that anticipate diverse user needs and benefits.

### What projects are eligible?

Creative solutions are sought that include effective accessibility as part of well-designed, responsive architecture in these categories:

- A. Public Architecture projects are buildings and facilities to which Massachusetts statute 521 CMR applies.
- B. Private Residential projects address an individual's personal accessibility needs.
- C. William D. Smith Memorial Award projects integrate accessibility with historic preservation.

In private residences, and public and commercial buildings, entries may be for entire facilities or site-specific solutions. Project types might include exteriors (ramps, signage, campuses, landscape); interiors (entries, bathrooms, hardware, lifts, details); or buildings. Entries will be judged in part on effectiveness in integrating the specific access solution into the overall project design.

Projects that have been honored by prior Accessible Design Awards juries are ineligible, as is work by jurors or by their firms.

***Submissions in which materials refer in any way to the submitters or associated parties will be disqualified.***

### Who is eligible to submit?

Anyone is eligible to submit—designers, building officials, citizens, community groups, building owners, and public agencies. Massachusetts AIA member firms receive special pricing.

Associate AIA members and other unlicensed design professionals, including interior architects or interior designers, may submit projects that do not require the stamp of a licensed professional.

### Where must eligible projects be located?

Projects must be located in Massachusetts.

### When must have eligible projects been built?

Projects must have been completed between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2018.

### How do I submit my project?

Visit the [BSA Design Awards submission page](#), create an account, and submit.

### How much is the nonrefundable entry fee?

Massachusetts AIA member firms pay \$100 for their first submission and \$75 for subsequent submissions.

Nonmembers pay \$125 for their first submission and \$100 for subsequent submissions.

### How are projects judged?

The judging criterion is design excellence as defined by the jury.

The jury will meet in May or June 2019. The jury may view projects independently on a computer screen; the jury will view projects as a group on a projector screen.

### Other questions?

Visit [architects.org/awards](http://architects.org/awards), or email [awards@architects.org](mailto:awards@architects.org).

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## What do I need to submit?

- Project information
  - › Submit as text input or selection in digital submission platform fields
- At-a-glance project description
  - › 50 words or fewer
  - › Submit as text input in digital submission platform
- Full project description
  - › 250 words or fewer
  - › Submit as .doc or .pdf file uploaded to digital submission platform
- Up to 20 images—photographs and annotated site and building plans
  - › Minimum 2000 pixels wide and 300 dpi
  - › Submit as .jpg, .tif, or .png files uploaded to digital submission platform
- Credit list that must include names, locations, and contact information for associated architecture firms, the contractor or construction manager, photographers, and all other consultants
  - › Submit as text input in digital submission platform fields
- Credit list that indicates all associated architecture firms, contractors and construction managers, photographers, and all other consultants that are certified Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs)
- Affirmation of Intern Declaration Policy
- Affirmation of AIA Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct
- Declaration of AIA 2030 Commitment (if applicable)
- Affirmation of the Boston Society of Architects/AIA statement on equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Entry fee
  - › Submit electronically through digital submission platform

## What does my project description need to include?

- Description of site
- Description of the planning, design, and construction processes  
**[Always conceal firm name. Conceal name of client when possible.]**
- Program; your solutions to unique design challenges; special constraints
- Sustainable elements including relevant information about regional climate, measured energy data, and LEED or BREEAM assessment (if applicable)
- Accessible and universal design elements
- Equity, diversity, and inclusion story (in relation to project team, client, project uses, or other stakeholders)
- Urban context (links to public transportation, public facilities, etc.)
- Materials used; innovative building components
- Others involved in the design process (e.g., users, artists, community members)

## About the BSA Design Awards

Each year the Boston Society of Architects/AIA (BSA/AIA), often in collaboration with other organizations, sponsors awards programs to honor design excellence in Massachusetts, throughout New England, and beyond. By recognizing remarkable achievements in architecture, the design community highlights exemplary projects that serve as inspiration for practitioners. Equally important, these awards elevate the potential for positive impact that architecture has on quality of life for everyone.