Australian Interior Design Awards 2027

Enter Now

Closing 12 February

Entry

There are four simple steps involved in submitting your entries.

1. Create Your Account

To commence your submission, you must first create your account. Refer to MY ENTRIES on the awards site: *australianinteriordesignawards.com*

Once you have commenced a submission, you can log in and out at any time without losing your data, but we do recommend that you first complete the written responses in a Word document, before cutting and pasting into the online entry form.

2. Choose Primary Award Category

There are seven primary categories, which attract entry fees. Projects may be entered into more than one primary category (e.g. Residential Decoration and Residential Design) and each entry requires a separate submission and fee.

There are two optional categories, which are free when entering a primary category. To be considered for these you must submit further information, which will be prompted in Step 3.

There are four automatic categories, which are free when entering a primary category.

3. Create Entry Submission

Before beginning your entry submission, read the Entry Conditions and General Conditions (following). Submitting an entry means that you have read and agreed to all the conditions, including obtaining appropriate releases and authorities in writing from your client, photographer and, where applicable, the principal of the design practice.

You will be prompted to respond to specific written criteria and upload supporting materials (images and floorplan).

Submission requirements

You must submit 6 to 15 images (not visualisations) of your project in high resolution format.

Use the highest JPG quality setting available. Submit images that are at least 3500 pixels wide (max. 8500 pixels wide), with a file size no larger than 20MB. Images of at least 4500 pixels wide are preferred and will enable a higher quality print coverage.

If your images are above the 20MB size limit, try re-saving them in Photoshop and reducing the JPEG compression level to 8.

To maintain anonymity during judging, no design practice names may appear on images, floorplans or written support materials, however client names may be included.

Drawings, plans and elevations

You should also submit one PDF with up to 5 pages of relevant drawings in vector-based PDF format (site plan, floorplan, sections, elevations and/or any other relevant drawings, model or concept diagrams), with a file size no larger than 10MB. Drawings must include a scale bar, key and north point.

Video

You may submit a brief video, to be used for publicity. It won't be viewed by the jury. Upload to Vimeo or YouTube and include the URL where prompted, as part of the entry process.

4. Entry Submission and Payment

Once you have completed steps one to three you may pay and submit your project. Primary categories attract entry fees but additional categories do not.

The first primary category entry is charged at $415, with subsequent primary category entries charged at $295 each. The system will automatically charge subsequent entries (i.e. from the same applicant) at the reduced rate.

Eligible members of the Design Institute of Australia receive a 33% discount on entry fees (i.e. first primary category entry reduced to $278.05, subsequent primary category entries reduced to $197.65 each). Refer to General Conditions for membership eligibility criteria. Non-members entering multiple projects may find it more cost effective to apply for membership so they can access the discounted entry fee option.

If entering the same project in multiple primary categories (e.g. Installation Design and Retail Design) two entry fees will be payable. Each submission and payment is confirmed by the issuing of a tax receipt, sent to your email address. Retain a copy for taxation purposes.

Visa, Mastercard and Amex are accepted.

Categories

Primary Categories (Entry Fee Payable)

1 Retail Design: Shops, showrooms, retail outlets, department stores, food markets, shopping centres, hairdressers, etc.

2 Hospitality Design: Cafes, restaurants, bars, accommodation premises, Airbnbs (purpose-built for hospitality), hotels, day spas, swimming pools, fitness centres, yoga and Pilates studios, casinos, clubs, cinemas, etc.

3 Workplace Design: Offices, warehouses, studios, factories, doctors rooms, dentists rooms and dedicated working spaces in residential environments (excludes study nooks and multi-purpose rooms).

4 Public Design: Galleries, museums, concert halls, theatres, exhibition venues, places of worship, educational institutions, medical institutions, libraries, community centres, consulates, law courts, parliamentary buildings, airports, railway stations, etc.

5 Installation Design: Gallery exhibitions, museum exhibitions, promotional displays, set design, trade exhibitions, display suites, marquees, installations, merchandising, emergency relief responses, pop up shops and cafes, temporary installations, etc.

6 Residential Design: Apartments, private houses, housing developments, multi-unit dwellings, etc.

7 Residential Decoration: Apartments, private houses, housing developments, multi-unit dwellings, etc.

Optional Categories (No Entry Fee)

8 Emerging Interior Design Practice: Where the principal of the practice is less than 36 years old at the time of project completion, based on projects submitted into primary categories 1 to 7.

9 Award for Sustainability Advancement: Shortlisted projects from primary categories 1 to 7 are considered for this award.

Automatic Categories (No Entry Fee)

10 Best of State Awards for Commercial Design – Given at the jury's discretion and based on projects submitted into primary categories 1 to 5.

11 Best of State Awards for Residential Design – Given at the jury's discretion and based on projects submitted into primary categories 6 and 7.

12 Best International Design Award – Given at the jury's discretion and based on international projects submitted into primary categories 1 to 7.

13 Premier Award for Australian Interior Design – Winners of primary categories 1 to 7 are finalists for this overall award.

Written Criteria

To maintain anonymity during judging, no names of applicants or collaborating parties may appear on images, floorplans or written support materials; however, client names may be included. Note that the word limits below are maximums; however, succinct responses are strongly recommended. To ensure you have a backup, you are advised to first complete your written criteria in a Word document and then cut and paste your responses into the relevant parts of the online submission form.

Primary Categories (1–6)

1 Provide a brief project summary for the jury. This statement will also be published to the online awards gallery. (Word limit 50)

2 Describe the interior design project. Your answer should include information about significant aspects of the project e.g. client brief, concept, site constraints and opportunities, spatial planning and volume, material strategy, sustainability principles, budget, collaborations, etc. (Word limit 200)

3 Describe why the project is an example of excellent interior design. Your answer should describe how the project contributes to contemporary interior design practice. What does the project achieve in terms of sustainable outcomes? How does it advance interior design practice? (Word limit 150)

4 What are the truly innovative aspects of the design of this project? (Word limit 100)

Primary Category (7)

1 Provide a brief project summary for the jury. This statement will also be published to the online awards gallery. (Word limit 50)

2 Describe the interior decoration project. Your answer should include information about significant aspects of the project e.g. client brief, concept, site constraints and opportunities, material, finish and furnishing strategy, sustainability principles, budget, collaborations, etc. (Word limit 200)

3 Describe why the project is an example of excellent interior decoration. Your answer should describe how the project contributes to contemporary interior decoration practice. What does the project achieve in terms of sustainable outcomes? How does it advance interior decoration practice? (Word limit 150)

4 What are the truly innovative aspects of the design of this project? (Word limit 100)

Optional Categories (8–9)

Emerging Interior Design Practice

1 Provide a statement about the date and process for establishment of the practice, including the number and type of projects completed by the practice and brief comment on the principal's background and age. To be eligible, the principal must be 35 years of age or less. (Word limit 150)

2 Describe the culture and philosophy of the practice, including how this is manifested in the design of projects. (Word limit 100)

Sustainability Advancement

1 What does the project achieve in terms of sustainability? (Word limit 200)

2 Additional sustainability strategies. (Word limit 200)

Entry Conditions

Eligibility

Any Australian-based design professional may enter, including interior designers, interior decorators, interior architects, architects and all other design professionals. Entries are encouraged from individuals, groups, partnerships and those working in larger practices.

Projects may be located anywhere in the world. Projects must have been completed between 1 July 2025 and 31 December 2026 and may not have been previously entered into this Awards program.

Projects must be furnished.

Projects may be entered in more than one category, where appropriate (separate submission and entry fee required).

General Conditions

Eligibility

An entry shall be excluded from the program:

1 If it is received after the advertised closing date (although submissions that have been commenced but not completed by the closing date may be included at the discretion of the Organiser/Convenor).

2 If it does not fulfil these entry conditions.

3 If it is incomplete or doesn't conform to the correct format as specified under ENTRY (above).

The Organiser is committed to providing a quality awards program to the Australian design industry and makes every attempt to ensure accuracy, currency and reliability of the information included on this website and elsewhere. However, changes in content and process may become necessary at the absolute discretion of the Organiser. The Organiser accepts no liability for any use of the said content or reliance placed upon it.

Design Institute Of Australia (DIA) Member Discount

To qualify for the DIA discount, at the date of entry, a member of the design team, or the practice, must hold a current DIA membership.

To clarify the status of your membership, telephone 1300 888 056 or email admin@design.org.au

Publicity and Copyright

By entering this program, the applicant confirms that they have obtained their client's written approval to enter and for any resultant publicity. In the case of residential projects in particular, the client's name and the project address will not be published. Specific information about project budgets is not released for publication. By entering, the applicant (if not the practice principal) confirms that they have obtained the authority of the principal to enter the program, including for any resultant publicity.

The Organiser does not make any claims on copyright or intellectual property of the designs entered other than the rights outlined in the following paragraph. By entering this program, the applicant agrees to absolve the Organiser from any liability relating to confidentiality or intellectual property issues that may be raised by any party.

The Organiser reserves the right to exhibit or publish (on ArchitectureAu.com, for example) any or all of the entries. By entering the Awards the applicant/owner gives permission to the Organiser to publish, exhibit and promote the content of the submission (except for the exclusions outlined under "Publicity and Copyright"), including by sponsors of the Awards, where their use of submission content is specifically related to their promotion of their involvement in the Awards.

In all promotion, the Organiser will endeavour to promote the name of the design firm/s and, where the Organiser is made aware of their names and to the extent that the Organiser can exert editorial control, photographers will be acknowledged.

All finalists must be prepared to submit further material for exhibition and publication if required, such as additional photography, drawings and other information. The applicant acknowledges that the Organiser has the right to reproduce materials in whole or part without payment of release or licensing fees to the holder of publication rights or copyright.

Timeline

Entry submissions will be accepted until 12 February 2027. Requests to withdraw an entry will be accepted if made in writing to info@australianinteriordesignawards.com prior to the submission deadline of 12 February 2027, with refund of the entry fee less an administration charge of $100. After this date, projects may not be withdrawn.

The shortlist for the Australian Interior Design Awards will be published online on 16 April 2027 and entrants will also receive email notification via the InteriorsAu newsletter. Awards and commendations will be presented during the Gala Dinner in Melbourne on 4 June 2027. Results will be published online at ArchitectureAu.com, in the InteriorsAu newsletter, and on the awards gallery by 5 June 2027.

Event Enquiries

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