



IDIIS 2027



PROJECT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS





Preparations are underway for our International Interior Design Association Chapter's premier event: **The Seventeenth Biennial IDIE Awards Gala & Design Competition.**

The 2027 IDIES at Haven promises to be a great time, celebrating excellence in interior design while showcasing the talent of the Alabama Chapter's members.

Your participation in the IDIE Awards is important to us, and we sincerely hope you will enter your work for competition and recognition. Both design firms and furniture dealers are invited to participate in a variety of categories. A winning project for each category will be selected by a jury of our professional peers who practice in various markets. A "Best of Show" award will be presented to the firm or dealer who ranks the highest according to the jury.

All forms and entries will need to be submitted electronically through the IIDA Alabama website iida-al.org. We are using a new judging platform this year, and the process will not be divided into two parts. Once you submit your project and pay the entry fee, you can start submitting your project immediately. We are very enthusiastic about the opportunity for all of our participants to exhibit their work over the past two years.

On behalf of the 2027 IDIE Awards Committee, we look forward to your participation and thank you for your continued support of IIDA.

Shannon Bayles

IIDA Alabama Vice President of Signature Events
IDIE Awards Committee Chair

IIDA | ALABAMA
chapter

The purpose of the IDIES is to recognize and encourage outstanding work in the field of interior design by members of the Alabama Chapter and their respective project teams.

Submissions are invited for multiple categories of work. See submission guidelines below:

- Individual interior design practitioners, who are IIDA members, may enter this competition. However, only firm names will be recognized for the purposes of the competition.
- All entries must have been commissioned by clients intending to compensate the firm or dealer to carry out the design. Entries may include interior design projects, new or renovated, and furniture designs executed since January 1, 2025.
- All firms or dealers submitting an entry must have an IIDA member employed at the time of submission. Projects can be located outside of the state of Alabama but must be designed by professionals located within the state.
- Winning projects from past IDIE Awards are ineligible as submissions. Projects previously submitted but not selected as winners may be re-submitted, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements. Projects may only be submitted in one category, as well as the furniture category.
- Projects must be complete and photographed before submissions are due.
- Please verify that each entry meets the above rules before submitting. Prior publication or entry in other competitions does not affect eligibility, except as previously noted.
- IIDA reserves the right to make final decisions on a project's eligibility and accepts no liability for projects incorrectly submitted or entered without proper permission. Under no circumstances will IIDA be held responsible or liable in any way for any claims, damages, losses, expenses or costs resulting or arising directly or indirectly from any submission and potential award.

ENTRY PROCESS

Please visit iida-al.org/idies to complete the forms required for participation in the IDIE Awards.

A separate entry is required for each project submitted by the same firm or dealer. Please note the due dates for the entry process, and submit the proper forms, fees, and materials accordingly.

PUBLICATION

IIDA reserves the right to publish any and all entries at its discretion. It is the responsibility of the designer to obtain all clearances for the photographs in conjunction with the publicity and recognition of the project.

Please identify each entry submission with one of the following categories. IIDA reserves the right to reclassify or alter categories at any point in the competition. Categories may be divided into smaller groups, larger groups, or sub-categories based upon the number of entries received.

- **ASSEMBLY/INSTITUTIONAL**
 up to 5 entries per firm:
 Worship, Stadiums/Arenas, Concert Halls, Performance Venues, Conference Centers, Museums, Transportation Terminals, Public Libraries, Government Facilities, Fire/Police/Emergency Stations, & Military Facilities
- **CORPORATE: SMALL (less than 15,000 SF) & LARGE (greater than 15,000 SF)**
 up to 5 entries per firm:
 Financial Institutions, Professional Offices, Multi-Tenant Office Buildings, & Industrial Facilities
- **EDUCATION: K-12**
 up to 5 entries per firm:
 K-12 Schools & Childcare Facilities
- **EDUCATION: HIGHER ED**
 up to 5 entries per firm:
 College/University Facilities, Residence Halls
- **HEALTHCARE: SMALL (less than 30,000 SF) & LARGE (greater than 30,000 SF)**
 up to 5 entries per firm:
 Hospitals, Clinics, Senior Living Facilities (with skilled nursing), Veterinary Facilities, & Medical Offices
- **HOSPITALITY/RETAIL**
 up to 5 entries per firm:
 Restaurants, Bars, Hotels, Country Clubs, Senior Living Facilities (without skilled nursing), Entertainment Venues, Stores, Shops, Product Showrooms, Sales Centers, Galleries, & Kiosks
- **MULTI-FAMILY/MIXED USE**
 up to 5 entries per firm:
 Multi-Family Homes, Condominiums, Apartments, Lofts, Mixed-Use Developments, & Public Housing
- **FURNITURE INSTALLATION: SMALL (less than 50,000 SF) & LARGE (greater than 50,000 SF)**
 up to 5 entries per furniture dealer:
 Dealer Installation of Systems Furniture, Conference or Training Furniture, Modular Walls/Casework, Lounge/Lobby Area, Dining Facility, etc.

PROCESS

DUE: The submission window opens Monday, October 19, 2026, and all entries must be complete by Friday, February 5th, 2027.

ENTRY FEES: We are introducing early bird pricing this year. Payments received prior to December 1, 2026 will receive a reduced rate. The early bird rate for the first submission is \$300 and \$200 for each additional submission. The regular rate for the first submission is \$400 and \$300 for each additional submission. Only payment via credit card will be accepted.

2027 IIDA Alabama sponsors of certain tiers will be refunded a percentage or given discounted sponsorship fees if they enter in the 2027 IDIES. See the sponsorship packet for more information.

PROCEDURE: Visit iida-al.org/idies for the link to the judging platform to enter your project into the IDIE Awards. The first step is to fill out the entry form and pay the fees for each project. Then you may immediately start submitting your project's documentation. You have until the deadline to finish submitting all materials.

PLEASE NOTE: Should a firm submit a project or part of a project and then withdraw before the window closes, only half of the entry fee will be returned. If the firm does not finish submitting a project by the deadline, the firm will lose their entire entry fee.

If you need assistance with your project submission, please use the 'Help' button in the CPJ platform, which can be found at the bottom of each entry submission page.

DEADLINE
FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 5
2027

We are excited to use CPJ for the IDIES submissions!

It will require each entrant to create a quick login and register before submitting entries. If you have used CPJ before, you may use your previous login information.

This must only happen once, and entrants can easily access their account again for future submissions.

You will be submitting images, information, and floor plans for each submission.

It can be time consuming to submit a project for an IDIES submission. Be sure you leave enough time to meet all the criteria!

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

SUMMARY

Provide a 100 word maximum project overview that highlights the project's main accomplishments and strengths. This information is typically used in the awards show.

SYNOPSIS

300 word maximum synopsis to include the project design goals, concept, execution, design constraints, and detailed information as necessary to best explain the project. This information helps the judges to understand your project.

DIGITAL IMAGES & FLOOR PLANS

Accepted file types: JPEG, JPG, or PNG for project images and PDF for project floor plans. There is no criteria for naming either Floor Plans or Digital Images, as long as they do not contain identifying information, such as firm or project name.

FLOOR PLANS

- Maximum of five (5) floor plans of the project uploaded as individual files with max of 10 MB per file.
- Black and white PDF of the floor plans formatted on 8"x 1" or 11"x 7" with one plan per sheet.
If you choose to submit a color or rendered floor plan, it must be submitted as one of your 10 images.
- Plans should indicate photo views using markers which correspond to the Image Numbers.
- Firm name, project name, logo, or any identifying information is NOT to appear on the plans or file name. This is grounds for disqualification without a refund.
- A short caption is now required for each plan to provide context. Example: *Faculty Office Suite*

DIGITAL IMAGES

- Maximum of ten (10) digital images of the project, uploaded as individual files.
- Submit images in JPG, JPEG, or PNG format only with a 300 DPI minimum and maximum file size of 10 MB per image.
- Images should be clean: free of borders, firm/project name, logos, other identifying marks, or additional images. If the image shows identifying signage, it must be blurred. This is grounds for disqualification without a refund.
- It is the responsibility of the designer to obtain all clearances for use of photographs in conjunction with publicity and recognition of the project. IIDA Alabama retains the right to use all images submitted for publicity purposes.
- Image numbers should now appear in the caption section of the image submission, in conjunction with a short description. Example: *Image 3 Faculty Office Suite.*

So that you have a better understanding of the criteria the judges will use while reviewing each project, below is a copy of the judging rubric and scale.

IIDA Alabama's IDIE Awards Judging Rubric

Project Concept & Scope <i>Points Possible: 1-10</i>	Is the overlying design concept described? Does the description set the scene for the supporting documents? Is the project scope well defined and describes the submitting firm's role on the project? Are the project requirements described? Is the design concept supportive of the project requirements?
Effective Use of Space <i>Points Possible: 1-10</i>	Is the space well planned? Is it ADA accessible? Is the design concept evident in the plans? Is the solution functional and does it appear to meet user needs? Are the existing conditions of the site considered and incorporated into the final design successfully?
Design of Space <i>Points Possible: 1-10</i>	Are the walls, floors, and ceilings utilized as planes of expression that support the overall organizational plan and design concept? Are the RCP and lighting utilized as design elements (both artificial and natural) that enhance the design? <u>Furniture Installation Exception:</u> Is the furniture utilized to support the overall organizational plan and design concept? Do the materials and finishes enhance the design?
Creativity & Originality <i>Points Possible: 1-10</i>	Are the ideas well established? Is the overall project interpretation original and creative? Have the project requirements been met with a creative solution? Are the elements and principles of design utilized effectively in the solution? Does the design of the project generate new knowledge in the field of interior design?
Presentation <i>Points Possible: 1-10</i>	Is the overall graphic and visual presentation supportive of the written material and easy for the judges to follow? Do the photograph views support the design? Is the presentation well executed and professionally appropriate? Did the submitting firm follow instructions?

IIDA Alabama's IDIE Awards Scale

Rating 1 <i>Below Standard</i>	The design falls short of expectations for this competition. Major issues in execution or concept, lacks sophistication or coherence.
Rating 2 <i>Weak</i>	A design that shows effort but is not up to par. Noticeable deficiencies in creativity, functionality, or overall impact.
Rating 3 <i>Acceptable</i>	The design is functional and meets minimum standards but lacks distinction. Limited creativity or execution issues detract from its success.
Rating 4 <i>Fair</i>	A respectable design with some strong points but not particularly remarkable. Concept and execution are average but competent.
Rating 5 <i>Good</i>	A solid design that demonstrates thoughtfulness and skill. Meets expectations for the competition, with room for improvement in some areas.
Rating 6 <i>Very Good</i>	A well-executed and cohesive design. Strong creativity and functionality, with minor flaws or opportunities for enhancement.
Rating 7 <i>Excellent</i>	A standout design that shows originality, exceptional execution, and careful attention to detail. Few flaws and clearly above average.
Rating 8 <i>Superior</i>	A highly creative, polished, and innovative design. Thoughtfully executed with clear expertise and vision, leaving a strong impression.
Rating 9 <i>Exceptional</i>	A design that excels in all key aspects - creativity, functionality, and execution. Memorable and impactful with no significant flaws.
Rating 10 <i>Extraordinary</i>	Flawless design that exceeds even the highest expectations. An inspiring and groundbreaking achievement that sets a benchmark for excellence.

Maximum points that can be awarded per project: 50

Complete your submissions online at: <http://www.iida-al.org/events/idies>

If you need further assistance or have questions about the entry process or judging,
e-mail Laura Harris - lharris@willandpierce.com