

# AIA Upjohn Research Initiative 2023

## Call for submissions

[Submit an entry >](#)

The AIA Upjohn Research Initiative supports applied research projects that enhance the value of design and professional practice knowledge.

This AIA program funds up to six research grants of \$15,000–\$30,000 annually for projects completed in a 6- to 18-month period. The funds must be fully matched with hard dollars, with a maximum of 10% allocated for overhead. Grant recipients' research findings and outcomes are published online by AIA.

Grants are eligible to academic institutes, practice, and other research organizations.

### 2023 grants

Research should be relevant and applicable to practicing architects. Upjohn Research grant funding will be allocated to projects related to the priorities outlined in [AIA's Strategic Plan](#) and the [Framework for Design Excellence](#).

Projects must address one or more of these areas:

- **zero-carbon** (e.g., zero-energy and zero-carbon buildings and projects; reuse of existing buildings; embodied carbon; low carbon materials)
- **resilient design** (e.g., risk and vulnerability assessment; managed retreat; passive survivability and livability; flexibility and adaptability; community resiliency)
- **equitable communities** (e.g., environmental justice; community-scale issues beyond projects; community engagement and empowerment; social justice; equity, diversity, and inclusion; mobility and access; temporary and transitional housing models)
- **health** (e.g., healthy and sustainable materials; regenerative materials; human impact research into material health (lighting, acoustics); circular building economy)
- **practice innovation** (e.g., technology in practice/in design; AI; project delivery; automated processes; documentation)

### Submission dates

Submission deadline:  
August 29, 2023 by 5pm PT

Notifications to applicants:  
by November 1, 2023

Verification of matching funds and agreement: by November 28, 2023

Submission fee: None

### Submission details

*Project submissions are completed online.*

- project title
- abstract (include project concept and brief description of methodology)
- budget
- Summary of projected outcomes (include brief description of how the project aligns with this year's theme)
- clients and knowledge communities served
- approach to collaboration/partnership
- images (optional)
- principal investigator(s) with institutional affiliation(s) and contact information
- contact information for three references

*Omit any identifying information from the title, descriptive text, budget, and the optional images before submitting for the blind review process.*

### Criteria & selection

Given their role in helping establish the program, the jury panel is comprised of seven professionals from the AIA Board Knowledge Committee and the AIA College of Fellows.

The jury evaluates each submission and selects the grant awardees based on:

- demonstration that the research enhances the value of design and/or professional practice knowledge (30%)
- innovation (25%)
- evidence of collaboration/partnership (20%)
- validity of research method (15%)
- strength of projected outcomes related to alignment with theme (10%)



Questions?  
[upjohnresearch@aia.org](mailto:upjohnresearch@aia.org) | [aia.org/upjohnresearch](http://aia.org/upjohnresearch)