



# AIA Baltimore

## **Excellence in Sustainable + Resilient Design Award**

Sustainable design conserves resources, preserves ecosystems, optimizes comfort and reduces environmental impact through high performance, integrated and innovative design, and concern for unique cultural heritage while demonstrating affordability and the potential for replication.

### **Categories:**

- Single Family Residential (Must be submitted to the Residential Design Awards)
- Commercial/Institutional/Multifamily
- Existing Building Renovation/Adaptive Reuse

Each project may be submitted to only one category. Unbuilt projects will be accepted.

### **Selection Guidelines:**

The award will adhere to the evaluation criteria of the [AIA National COTE Top Ten Awards](#), which is based on a broad and inclusive definition of design quality that includes performance, resiliency, aesthetics, community connection and stewardship of the natural environment. These criteria have been enhanced and modified to target the Maryland region, climate and culture.

Preference given to projects that:

- 1) Are privately funded
- 2) Are beyond the LEED standard (Achieving LEED Certification is NOT a requirement)
- 3) Innovation in system design
- 4) Affordability
- 5) Replicable

### **Judging Criteria:**

1) *Design and Innovation*

Sustainable design is an inherent aspect of design excellence. Projects should express sustainable design concepts that lead to an overall better project design and take advantage of innovative programming opportunities to realize resource efficiencies and 'right size' the project.

2) *Regional/Community Design*

Sustainability is integrally tied to the social, political, cultural and economic health of our communities. Projects should describe how they contribute to the richness and resilience of their community and promote a sense of place and community. Projects should address resiliency and stability within the context of major weather and/or political events.

3) *Land Use and Site Ecology*

Sustainable design protects and benefits ecosystems, watersheds, and wildlife habitats in the presence of human development. The site responds to air and water quality at different scales from local to regional levels and responds to local development density.

4) *Bioclimatic Design*

Sustainable design conserves resources and maximizes comfort through design adaptations to site-specific and regional climate conditions. The building responds to local climate, sun path, prevailing breezes, and seasonal and daily cycles through passive design strategies that reduce or eliminate the need for non-renewable energy resources.

5) *Light and Air*

Sustainable design creates comfortable interior environments that provide daylight, views, and fresh air and provides connections between indoors and outdoors

6) *Water Cycle*

Sustainable design conserves water and protects and improves water quality. It incorporates strategies to manage site water and drainage, capitalizes on renewable sources, and reuses rainwater, graywater and wastewater.

7) *Energy Flows and Energy Future*

Sustainable design conserves energy and resources and reduces the carbon footprint while improving building performance and comfort. Sustainable design anticipates future energy sources and needs. Energy design solutions and systems that are innovative and progressive lead the way to carbon neutrality. A high performance building reduces peak electrical demand and plug loads, and allows the building to function in the event of power outages or interruptions of fuel supply.

8) *Materials and Construction*

Sustainable design includes the informed selection of materials and products to reduce product-cycle environmental impacts and embodied energy, improve performance, and optimize occupant health and comfort. Sustainable building enclosure design will properly analyze how the envelope performs in relationship to air, moisture, water and thermal characteristics. Projects includes construction waste reduction plans and strategies to promote recycling during occupancy.

9) *Long Life, Loose Fit*

Sustainable design seeks to enhance and increase ecological, social, and economic values over time. Sustainable design provides affordable, long-term operational costs for occupants and building owners by promoting flexibility, adaptability, durability and disassembly.

10) *Collective Wisdom and Feedback Loops*

Sustainable design strategies and best practices evolve over time through documented performance and shared knowledge of lessons learned and can allow for replication ideas. Successful sustainable and resilient buildings require collaborative efforts between the design team, consultants, client, and community.

**Process for Entry and Submission and Deadline:**

The process is the same as the overall AIA Baltimore Design Excellence Awards.