

# AIA Upjohn Research Initiative 2018

## 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 by AIA both online and in a nationally-distributed publication. Grants are eligible to academic institutes, practice, and other research organizations.

### 2018 grants

At least one Upjohn Research Initiative grant (up to \$30,000) will be dedicated to design and health principles.\* The proposed research under this category should focus on the human health impacts of design at the community, building, or product scale. Research should be relevant and applicable to practicing architects. It must address one or more of these areas:

- Methods for efficiently monitoring or tracking health outcomes of design interventions or materials toxicological exposure
- Consistent metrics for reporting health impacts or risk reduction vis-à-vis databases and tools (e.g., productivity calculators, materials databases, lifecycle assessment tools)
- Policies that could be used to promote health, well-being, and equity through design and construction
- Innovations that measurably improve environmental quality, sensory experiences, social connectedness, safety, and access to nature or physical activity

The remaining grant funding will be allocated to projects addressing a broad range of issues, as long as they enhance the value of design and professional practice knowledge. AIA will give priority to the following preferred themes, but applications are not subject to these topics:

- Building performance (e.g., measurement, metrics, design practices, or other research that addresses energy and/or water performance of a building)
- Technology and innovation (e.g., innovative materials, visualization/design tools/practices, mobility of information to advance the profession)
- Climate change and disaster mitigation (e.g., resilient design strategies/approaches to address climate change impacts, lowering carbon footprint of buildings and materials)

\*The jury reserves the right to waive this dedicated grant if they deem proposals are not strong enough or don't meet the criteria as outlined. Additionally, more than one grant may be given to submissions that address the design and health theme.

### Submission dates

Submission deadline:  
September 1, 2018 by 11:59pm Pacific

Notifications to applicants:  
by November 1, 2018

Verification of matching funds and agreement: by November 27, 2018

Submission fee: None

### Submission details

*Project submissions are completed online.*

- Project title
- Abstract
- Budget
- Summary of projected outcomes
- 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

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

### Criteria and 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:

- Relevance of research subject to the intent of the Upjohn program 25%
- Innovation of subject matter 25%
- Validity of research method 25%
- Evidence of collaboration/partnership 20%
- Preferred theme alignment 5%

### Questions?

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