THE ASID FOUNDATION
Research Grant Program

American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) Foundation:
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

AMERICAN
SOCIETY OF
INTERIOR
DESIGNERS
FOUNDATION

ASID FOUNDATION RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

The ASID Foundation is pleased to announce a program for funding research projects that result in **actionable design principles, guidelines, and/or tools** that designers can apply in their design projects. To infiltrate research into practice, the ASID Foundation is seeking proposals that generate empirical evidence to support design that is of interest to design practitioners, clients, and end-users. Completed research projects are to be developed into an educational resource that will be shared with the design community. Up to three (3) research grants may be awarded, with each grant not to exceed $30,000.

The ASID Foundation Research Committee has prioritized two (2) topics of interest (see below). These topics align with the objectives of the ASID Foundation, engage ASID members and the profession, and offer an opportunity for continued research on topics previously funded, yielding greater breadth, depth and longevity of the work.

RESEARCH TOPIC #1:
DESIGNING HUMANIZING ENVIRONMENTS FOR IMPERILED PEOPLE

'Imperiled people' includes those fleeing not only natural disasters like earthquakes, floods, wildfires, and drought, but also economic and political upheaval. Well-designed spaces, temporarily occupied by this population during natural, financial, or political crises, can support this population and ensure greater resiliency during times of tension, disruption, disorder and confusion. Given that design should be used to positively impact lives, how can design create more humane spaces for populations of imperiled peoples? What attributes of environments can propel more humane alternatives?

RESEARCH TOPIC #2:
ACTIVATING DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION IN DESIGN SOLUTIONS

Interior design continues to play a critical role in impacting human experience. The COVID-19 pandemic unearthed many discrepancies in society, including economic and social inequalities. Given that interior environments have the power to positively, or negatively, impact our quality of life, how can interior design and its positive impact be available, accessible, and achievable to the larger population? What needs to be considered when designing environments to be more equitable and inclusive to diverse occupants? How can organizations use interior design as a tool to increase engagement of diverse populations of employees, clients and customers for greater diversity, equity, and inclusion?

Researchers are asked to develop research questions rooted from one of these topics and propose a project that empirically investigates potential solutions, generates measurable results on the impact of design, and translates the findings into actionable design recommendations, guidelines, and/or tools that designers can apply in their design projects. We invite you to submit your research proposal to the ASID Foundation and use transformative research to help ensure that all people benefit from the power of design.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Submissions must be from a multi-disciplinary team, with at least one team member in the interior design discipline. Previously submitted, but not awarded, proposals may be edited or modified, as necessary, for resubmission and reconsideration this year.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Please submit the following materials using the secure online application form by August 15, 2023 (11:59 EST).

- Applicants contact information
- Topic of Interest
- Project Title
- Abstract (max. 250 words)
- Research Team Bios (max. 150 words for each member)
- Research Proposal (see content requirements below)

NO identifiers should be included in any of the materials uploaded as part of the Research Proposal. This is a blind review process. For the Research Proposal, include the following content in a single PDF format:

- Project Title

- Abstract (max. 250 words)

- Purpose of Study (max. 50 words)

- Statement articulating the significance of the research to design practitioners and users (max. 250 words)

- Introduction (include a brief summary of recent relevant research, knowledge gaps identified, and research question) (max. 300 words)

- Methodology (literature reviews are discouraged as the sole research method) (max. 300 words)

- Expected Outcomes & Application (include metrics that will be collected and how the outcomes will be applied in design) (max. 300 words)

- Budget (include other funding sources* and expenses for administrative costs**)

- Timeline (must be completed within 9 months from start date)

- Dissemination Plan (include potential audiences and targeted media outlets)

- Contingency Plan (include potential challenges that might delay the research schedule or compromise the findings, and any steps that will be taken to minimize risks)

- Resource Citations (i.e., reference list)

EVALUATION PROCESS

The evaluation process will include a three-stage review.

1. The ASID Research & Knowledge team will screen all submissions against the requirements.

2. Through a blind review process, the jury will evaluate submissions, and subsequently, discuss prioritized studies to make recommendations.

3. The ASID Foundation's Board of Trustees will review recommendations and make all final funding decisions.

TIMELINE

Submission Due Date
August 15, 2023 (11:59 p.m. ET)

Announcement of Grant Recipients
November 2023

Project Start Date
December 1, 2023

Target Completion Date
August 31, 2024

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Three research grants may be awarded by the jury. Submissions will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Significance of study***

- Thoroughness of background and gap analysis

- Innovativeness of research questions***

- Applicability of research findings***

- Relevant to design solutions

- Strength of research methods ***

- Strength and breadth of target audience reach

- Strength of deliverables***

- Feasibility of budget and timeline

- Dissemination plan***

- Contingency plan

- Overall completeness and quality of submittal

* Proposals with matching funds and/or in-kind resources will receive additional consideration.

** No more than 9 percent (9%) of the Foundation's total grant may be used for administrative expenses, including "indirect" or "overhead" costs.

*** Indicates criteria is weighted more heavily by the jury.