

DIVERSITY IN ARCHITECTURE SCHOLARSHIP

SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION

Though things are changing in our industry, the Architecture profession still has a long way to go to meet the ever-increasing diversity of the United States. Out of the almost 120,000 registered architects, only 29% represent racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds; significantly less than the latest census reporting that the US has 42.2% non-white* population.

The high cost of tuition to schools of architecture is one of the many barriers to the profession that minorities face. AIA Miami is committed to providing scholarships strategically focused on education to provide financial help to those students that identify as a racial or ethnic minority, with the aim of providing opportunities to facilitate more diversity of our architecture graduates; with the potential of becoming licensed professionals, a forward step in closing the 13% gap within the profession.

The AIA Miami Diversity scholarship supports the recruitment and retention of minorities in accredited architectural degree programs by assisting scholarship recipients with offsetting the cost of tuition, books, and materials. A minimum of one scholarship valued up to \$2,500 will be awarded annually. The number and value of awards may vary year-to-year based on applications and available funds.

Each scholarship recipient receives AIA Miami community exposure, in addition to the funds towards their architecture degree cost.

ELEGIBILITY

The AIA Miami Diversity in Architecture Scholarship is open to those who increase diversity in the profession and meet the following criteria:

- Applicants must identify as a racial or ethnic minority within the United States
- US citizen/resident
- Open to students actively enrolled in School of Architecture Programs at MDC, UM, FIU or have graduated from MDC or DASH in 2024.

SCHEDULE

- Open: Monday, July 12th, 2024.
- Deadline: Monday, September 12th, 2024, by 11:59pm EST
- Recipient Notification: Monday, September 23rd, 2024
- Official Announcements:
 - Annual AIA Design Awards Gala, October 18th, 2024. A complimentary ticket will be provided for each awardee; please plan on attending this event.
 - AIA Miami website and social media accounts - headshot needed

*2020 US Census

APPLICATION CRITERIA

Applicant must submit the following:

- Headshot as a separate file: **LastName.FirstName.Headshot.pdf**
- Short bio as a separate file: **LastName.FirstName.Bio.pdf**
- File name: **LastName.FirstName.AIA Diversity in Architecture Scholarship.pdf**
 - 1 compiled PDF, maximum 15MB, in order shown below
- Proof of current enrollment at MDC, UM, or FIU; OR, letter of acceptance into MDC, UM, or FIU for 2024-2025 academic year; OR, proof of 2024 graduation from DASH
- Minimum GPA of 3.2
- Portfolio/Work Sample (maximum of 5 PDF pages with 300 dpi minimum)
- Two Letters of Recommendation from a teacher/professor or someone in the architecture profession, specific to this scholarship application
- Letter of Interest
A brief introduction of applicant outlining why applicant has decided to pursue a degree in architecture and how applicant envisions themselves impacting the profession. Include achievements in and out of school such as community involvement, volunteering, club associations, academic awards, etc. Include a brief statement of financial need and how the scholarship will be used - books, supplies, tuition, etc. (1,000 word maximum)

Scholarships are awarded based on recommendations of the selection committee, as appointed by the AIA Miami board.

Scholarship Award Recipient Obligations:

- Follow up requirements, 1 year report, due by September 2025. Recipients are required to provide:
 - a short video, 59 seconds max, telling us a little bit about receiving the scholarship and how important it was to you in your academic studies.

The Scholarship is awarded based on recommendations of the Selection Committee, as appointed by the AIA Miami Scholarship Committee.

None of the submitted materials will be returned to the applicant and may be retained and used by AIA Miami.