



SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Green Voice Design Competition

Adaptive Reuse Hotel Design Challenge

\$7,500

Undergraduate Scholarship

\$7,500

Graduate Scholarship

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Sunday, January 31, 2027 · 11:59 PM EST

Use this checklist to track your progress as you work through the Green Voice Design Competition requirements. Check off each item as you complete it — from eligibility confirmation through your final submission. For full competition details, LEED v4.1 resources, and the evaluation rubric, visit newh.org/global-initiatives/green-voice/

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Eligibility & Participation

- ☐ I am a declared Interior Design or Architecture student at an accredited college or university
- ☐ Undergraduate: I am a Junior or Senior | Graduate: I am enrolled in a master's degree program
- ☐ If working as a team, my team has no more than 2 members, and both meet the eligibility criteria above
- ☐ Each team member has submitted their own individual application
- ☐ If a class project, I understand each student must still submit an individual application
- ☐ I understand that if awarded, I must be available to attend the awards event at BDNY in November 2027 (or designate a college representative if unable to attend)

Awards: \$7,500 undergraduate scholarship + \$7,500 graduate scholarship. Funds are awarded directly to the recipient's academic institution. Sponsored by NEWH Friends of Green Voice sponsors.

GETTING STARTED

Project Site

Select an existing commercial building anywhere in the world and transform it into a hotel property.

- ☐ I have identified an existing commercial building suitable for adaptive reuse (urban, suburban, or rural; occupied or vacant)
- ☐ I can explain how adaptive reuse of this building preserves existing resources while creating new economic, environmental, and social value for the community

THE DESIGN

Design Challenge

Your proposal should communicate a compelling story connecting the building's history, the surrounding community, and the future guest experience.

- ☐ My design celebrates the existing building while giving it a new purpose
- ☐ My design creates meaningful guest experiences
- ☐ My design supports employee wellness and operational efficiency
- ☐ My design minimizes environmental impact
- ☐ My design contributes positively to the surrounding neighborhood and culture
- ☐ I have considered sensory experiences — light, sound, touch, materiality, and atmosphere — beyond visual aesthetics

JUDGING CRITERIA

Design Criteria

1. Adaptive Reuse

- ☐ I explain why this building was selected
- ☐ I explain how the existing structure informed the design
- ☐ I explain how the project extends the useful life of the building
- ☐ I explain how the adaptive reuse benefits the surrounding community

2. Healthy & Sustainable Materials

- ☐ My project addresses the LEED v4.1 ID+C Materials and Resources – Material Ingredients Credit (Option 1: Reporting, or Option 2: Optimization)
- ☐ I demonstrate an understanding of material transparency and healthy product selection

Helpful resources: mindfulmaterials.com/cmfr-reference-guide · transparencycatalog.com · ecomedes.com

3. Innovation & Emerging Technology

- ☐ I have integrated technologies that improve sustainability, operational performance, guest comfort, and/or employee well-being (e.g., energy-efficient lighting, smart room controls, HVAC, daylight harvesting, water conservation, IEQ monitoring)
- ☐ I explain how these technologies contribute to my project's sustainability goals

CONTEXT

Location Requirements

- ☐ Narrative: why the building was selected
- ☐ Narrative: why the geographic location was chosen
- ☐ Narrative: the relationship between the building and its surrounding community and culture
- ☐ Narrative: how the project supports neighborhood revitalization and long-term sustainability
- ☐ Graphic site plan included
- ☐ Building orientation shown
- ☐ Relationship to surrounding context shown
- ☐ Community analysis included

SPECIFICATION

Materials & Product Requirements

- ☐ Material specifications and construction notes supporting the design intent
- ☐ Sustainable interior finish selections
- ☐ Furniture selections supporting the chosen LEED strategy
- ☐ Organized schedules for furniture, lighting, finishes, and other specified products
- ☐ Documentation of how selected materials contribute toward LEED v4.1 Material Ingredient requirements

REQUIRED SPACES

Design Scope

The proposed hotel should provide a complete hospitality experience. Space sizes are recommendations — justify significant deviations in your narrative.

1. Arrival Experience, Lobby & Reception

RECOMMENDED SIZE

1,200–2,500 SF

- ☐ Building entrance & vestibule
- ☐ Reception/check-in desk
- ☐ Concierge or guest services area
- ☐ Waiting/lounge seating
- ☐ Flexible social gathering space
- ☐ Feature wall, artwork, or signature design element
- ☐ Circulation to elevators & public amenities
- ☐ Luggage storage; ADA-compliant circulation; branding & wayfinding

2. Upscale Guest Room (design 2 distinct schemes)

RECOMMENDED SIZE

375–500 SF each, including bathroom

- ☐ Entry vestibule, sleeping area, lounge/seating area, workstation, wardrobe/closet
- ☐ Luggage storage, beverage station/mini-bar, TV/media wall, lighting layers, window treatments
- ☐ Bathroom: vanity, toilet, shower/tub, storage, mirrors, sustainable plumbing fixtures
- ☐ Both schemes share a design language while showing flexibility through layout, finishes, or experience

Plus Two (2) of the Following

☐ Spa & Wellness

2,000–5,000 SF

☐ Swimming Pool

3,000–6,000 SF

☐ Restaurant / Bar / Café

2,000–4,500 SF

☐ Fitness Center

1,500–3,000 SF

☐ Innovative Public Space

1,500–5,000 SF

Check the box on the two spaces you've selected. Full program requirements for each optional space are listed in the full competition brief at newh.org/global-initiatives/green-voice/

READY TO SUBMIT

Final Submission Requirements

You will submit 2 PDFs total.

PDF 1: Drawing Requirements & Sustainability Documentation

- ☐ Site plan showing building orientation & surrounding context
- ☐ Floor plans of all designed spaces
- ☐ Furniture plans of all designed spaces
- ☐ Reflected ceiling plans
- ☐ Floor finish plans

- ☐ Interior elevations of main walls showing key design elements
- ☐ Color & material schedule with LEED v4.1 Materials documentation column (product + sustainability certificate link)
- ☐ Branding & signage concepts
- ☐ Perspective renderings, rapid visualizations, and/or process sketches (disclose any AI assistance used)
- ☐ Construction notes, where appropriate
- ☐ Index of sustainable materials, systems, and technologies
- ☐ Documentation supporting LEED v4.1 Material Ingredient compliance
- ☐ Certification spreadsheet identifying each qualifying product + documentation

PDF 2: Written Deliverables

- ☐ Design Intent Narrative (max 500 words): concept, inspiration, guest experience, sustainability strategy
- ☐ Location Narrative (max 500 words): building selection, geography, community context, adaptive reuse benefits
- ☐ Designer Biography (max 500 words)
- ☐ Student Resume

Optional Submission

- ☐ Video presentation (max 10 minutes) covering design concept, sustainability strategies, adaptive reuse approach, guest experience, and innovation/technology

Deadline: Sunday, January 31, 2027, 11:59 PM EST. Late submissions will not be considered. Applicants will be notified of their project status by **April 30, 2027**. Applying does not guarantee an award.

HOW YOU'LL BE JUDGED

Evaluation

Projects are evaluated on the successful integration of:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Adaptive reuse & preservation of existing building assets | ☐ Community engagement & cultural responsiveness |
| ☐ Sustainable design strategies & material transparency | ☐ Design excellence & creativity |
| ☐ Innovation & emerging technologies | ☐ Technical documentation & communication |
| ☐ Guest experience & hospitality design | ☐ Overall presentation quality |

See the full evaluation rubric at newh.org/global-initiatives/green-voice/ for specific criteria and weighting. Students and instructors will be notified of finalist/award status prior to April 30, 2027.

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