



AWARDS 2026
European
Healthcare
Design



15-17
JUNE



CALL FOR ENTRIES

Recognising design excellence
in the healthcare environment

LONDON
QEII CENTRE, WESTMINSTER

Deadline for entries:
26 February 2026

Submit at:
www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu



Organised by



Awards Lead Partner



Awards Category Partners



Judging process and timetable



December 2025

Awards Call for Entries launched

26 February 2026

Deadline for Awards entries

March 2026

Judging phase 1: Evaluation and shortlisting of submissions by judging panel

April 2026

Shortlist announcement: The shortlisted submissions are notified and invited to register their participation in the Congress to feature their project in poster format

May 2026

Judging phase 2: Live judging on EHD TV and presentation of shortlisted projects

16 June 2026

Awards ceremony in final session of the 12th European Healthcare Design Congress

July 2026

Publication of award winners on SALUS Global Knowledge Exchange, European Healthcare Design and Architects for Health websites, and via press announcements in national, professional and social media channels

Image credits, left to right: Front cover: I. Arthur J.E. Child Comprehensive Care Centre, Canada designed by DIALOG + Stantec; Kantonsspital Baden Agnes, Switzerland, UK designed by Nickl & Partner Architekten Schweiz, Ghisleni Partner, Amstein + Walthert Zürich, and idpp; Wyvern Private Hospital, Australia designed by SRH Architecture; Page 2: The ALS Day Care Center at Isabel Zenda Hospital, Spain designed by Virai Arquitectura; The Blooming Shed, UK designed by Between Art and Technology Studio; Page 3: Botton-Champalimaud Pancreatic Cancer Centre, Portugal designed by HDR, Sachin Agshikar & João Laranjo Arquitectos; Page 4: Wyvern Private Hospital, Australia designed by SRH Architecture; Poinciana Rehabilitation Centre, Cayman Islands designed by Montgomery Sisam Architects in association with DDL Studio; Page 5: Dyson Cancer Centre, UK designed by Arcadis and Art of the Heart of the RUH

European Healthcare Design 2026 Awards

Recognising design excellence in the healthcare environment

The European Healthcare Design (EHD) 2026 Awards aim to have a significant influence on the creation of healthcare environments that promote health and wellness, embed quality improvement, and support the delivery of treatment and care in an accessible, sustainable and equitable way.

Organised by SALUS Global Knowledge Exchange and Architects for Health, the awards are an integral feature of the 12th European Healthcare Design 2026 Congress, contributing towards the development of knowledge and standards in the design of healthcare environments and infrastructure globally.

Comprising fourteen categories across primary, community, secondary and tertiary levels of international healthcare provision and infrastructure, the awards are presented to an in-person audience at an illustrious ceremony during the final session of the Congress, followed by a celebratory garden party in the College Gardens of Westminster Abbey, and streamed online on EHD TV for delegates to view remotely around the world.



Recipients of the awards will be multidisciplinary project teams that have demonstrated outstanding vision, leadership and knowledge in the design, development and implementation of projects that have positively transformed the delivery and experience of healthcare for the patients and communities they serve.

We look forward to receiving your submissions for the EHD Awards 2026 by the deadline of 26 February.



Jaime Bishop

Chair, Architects for Health;
Director, Fleet Architects, UK



Marc Sansom MBA

Managing director, SALUS Global
Knowledge Exchange, UK

Submission process

***Online submissions open from 22 Dec 2025**

Who should enter?

The awards are open to international organisations and project teams in the public, private and academic sectors, participating in research, planning, procurement, design, construction and/or operation of healthcare facilities and environments.

Eligibility

Built projects or research programmes completed between 1 January 2025 and 1 June 2026 are eligible to enter. For other categories, please view the online Submission Statement Criteria and Award Guidelines for eligibility dates.

Projects may also be entered into multiple categories, provided they are tailored to meet the specific requirements for the judging criteria of each award, but may not be re-entered in the same category in subsequent years.

Evaluation committee

The awards evaluation committee features international researchers and practitioners, who bring specialist multidisciplinary expertise to the specific categories they have been invited to judge. The shortlist and winner of each award are determined by a category chair, supported by two other judges with proven expertise in their field. This robust evaluation methodology ensures a balanced and transparent decision-making process. Any judge associated with any of the entries will withdraw from the relevant part of the adjudication process.

Judging process and criteria

Evaluation Phase 1: The judges will evaluate the submissions consisting of the submission statement and a 15-slide Powerpoint or PDF presentation against a strict methodology and criteria. The judges carry out their evaluations remotely and independently prior to conferring to agree a shortlist.

Evaluation Phase 2: The shortlisted projects will be invited to present virtually to the judges and a live audience in a 20-minute presentation including questions and answers.

The judges will then finalise their decision prior to the awards ceremony at the main European Healthcare Design 2026 Congress, 15-17 June, when the winners and high commendations will be announced and the awards presented. The specific judging criteria for each award category are available to view below prior to completing a formal online submission.



How to submit

To submit, go to www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu/awards choose the award category or categories you are entering, then follow these steps:

Step 1: Complete the online entry form and the 1250-word submission statement relevant to the category you are entering

Step 2: Upload a maximum of 10 images and 5 plans of the project both as a 15-slide PPT/ PDF format and in high-resolution jpeg format, and, if available, a video link of the project hosted on either YouTube or Vimeo.

Step 3: Complete payment to register your submission

Important notes: The submission statement and associated materials **MUST** explicitly address the criteria outlined on the submission statement forms. Please refer to the rules of entry for further information on payment and submission requirements.

For full details on the submission Pprocess and rules of entry, visit www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu/awards/submission-process-and-criteria/

Rules of entry

Please read the rules carefully. Failure to comply may lead to rejection.

1. Entries must reflect the criteria set out against each award and comprise the following items generated through the online submission process:

i) Completed entry form.

ii) Completed submission statement for the category or categories being entered, providing a project summary and addressing the award criteria in no more than 1250 words in total. Please note that the online form provides more characters than are necessary in each criteria section, which allows for flexibility in the response, but the total word count for the full submission should not exceed 1250 words.

iii) Ten images and five plans of the project/product, supplied in both a 15-slide Powerpoint or PDF presentation and as high-resolution jpeg images. Submissions for the building project categories should include interior and exterior photographs and any plans and drawings demonstrating key features of the project (eg, a site plan and a floor plan). These illustrations must also be supplied at high-resolution (300+dpi) during Step 2 of the online submission process. Images in the slides may include small text captions, but any text should be removed from the high-resolution images.

iv) The standard fee for each entry is £150 + VAT. Members of Architects for Health, European Health Property Network, Australian Health Design Council and Healthcare Planning Academy are entitled to a discounted submission fee of £125 + VAT. Payment should be made by completing the credit card details in Step 3 of the online submission process. There is no fee for entering the Design Research for Healthcare Design category.

v) Agreement of the commissioning authority, building/project owner or other key authority as appropriate to the project submission.

2. On behalf of the judges, the organisers must be allowed reasonable access to make enquiries or request further information on a shortlisted submission.

3. The judges have absolute discretion to reject any entry that does not comply with the requirements of the rules; to determine the category for which any entry is eligible; and to make or withhold any award to any entry. The judges' decision is final and binding on all entrants, and no discussion or correspondence relating to the judges' decisions will be entered into.

4. It is a condition of entry that all written material, plans and images submitted may be reproduced by SALUS Global Knowledge Exchange and Architects for Health at no cost to themselves in such a form and in such media as deemed appropriate in announcing and/or promoting the 2026 and 2027 awards, and associated media and exhibition activities. This includes entry into the SALUS project database at www.salus.global.

5. All information regarding the results will be embargoed for publication until after the Awards Presentation Ceremony.

6. Entries must arrive by 26 February using the online submission form.

Any questions on the submission process should be directed to info@europeanhealthcaredesign.eu and not directly to the judges

Awards categories and judges

Design for large-scale healthcare infrastructure

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Lead judge:
Kate Copeland, Chair,
Australian Health Design Council, Australia

This award recognises excellence in the design, planning and delivery of major healthcare infrastructure projects that demonstrate outstanding architectural vision, clinical functionality and long-term strategic value. The category celebrates projects that advance models of care, promote sustainable and resilient estate strategies, and deliver exceptional patient, staff and community outcomes.

Eligible projects include new hospitals, major redevelopment schemes, large specialist facilities, and complex multi-phase estates programmes.

Design for small to medium-scale healthcare infrastructure



Lead judge: **Nicola Bertrand**,
Head of architecture and construction,
Asklepios Kliniken, Germany

This award honours outstanding small to medium-scale healthcare infrastructure projects that deliver significant value through intelligent planning, human-centred design, and efficient use of resources. The category champions projects that strengthen local care pathways, enhance accessibility, and demonstrate innovation capable of scaling across systems.

Eligible projects include primary care centres, community health hubs, diagnostic and treatment units, specialist departments, and minor redevelopment schemes.



Future healthcare design (unbuilt projects)

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Integrated Health Projects by
VINELIX SIX ROBERTS
M'ALPINE



Lead judge: **Cliff Harvey**,
Joint vice president redevelopment, Grand River
Hospital/St. Mary's General Hospital, Canada

Recognising visionary, unbuilt healthcare infrastructure projects that explore innovative responses to emerging health, social and environmental challenges. It celebrates speculative, conceptual or planned schemes that reimagine future models of care, integrate advanced technologies, and propose resilient, adaptable and sustainable healthcare environments. Eligible submissions may include projects in design or under construction, masterplans, prototype facilities, research-led concepts and pilot proposals that demonstrate originality, feasibility and transformative potential in shaping the next generation of healthcare infrastructure.

Mental health design

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Lead judge:
Beatrice Fraenkel, Director,
Design in Mental Health Network, UK

Recognising excellence in the design, planning and delivery of environments that support mental healthcare treatment, recovery and wellbeing. It celebrates schemes that demonstrate a deep understanding of therapeutic and trauma-informed design, person-centred care and clinical safety. The category honours projects that create safe, dignified and restorative spaces, balancing clinical and security requirements with warmth, autonomy, access to nature and a sense of hope. Eligible submissions may include acute inpatient units, psychiatric facilities, community mental health centres, crisis and safe spaces, rehabilitation environments and integrated wellbeing hubs.

Design for health and life sciences



Lead judge: **Peter Ward**, Director of real estate
development, King's College London and Guy's
and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, UK

Recognising excellence in the design, planning and delivery of infrastructure that supports health and life sciences research, innovation and translation into clinical practice. The category honours schemes that demonstrate outstanding technical performance, flexibility and future-readiness, while fostering collaboration, discovery and the advancement of human health.

Eligible projects include biomedical research facilities, laboratories, research-integrated hospitals, innovation hubs, teaching and simulation centres, and specialist science campuses.



Design for neighbourhood health



Lead judge:
John Cooper, Director, JCA, UK

This award recognises healthcare developments that actively promote population health, wellness and healthy living beyond traditional hospital settings. It celebrates schemes that provide a catalyst for healthier neighbourhoods and more equitable communities by integrating with the public realm, landscaping and green infrastructure, active travel corridors, housing and regeneration projects that embed health into daily life. The category honours design approaches that contribute to environmental quality, support healthy behaviours and early intervention and strengthen social connection.

Eligible projects may include community health precincts, integrated wellbeing campuses, neighbourhood health centres, healthcare on the high street, community diagnostic centres, outreach centres, independent living, dementia care and continuing care settings.

Design for adaptation and transformation



Lead judge:
Visiting Professor Jim Chapman,
Manchester School of Architecture, UK

This award recognises excellence in the adaptation, reuse and transformation of existing healthcare infrastructure to meet changing models of care, evolving clinical needs and future system demands. It celebrates projects that demonstrate innovative approaches to refurbishment, repurposing, expansion and reconfiguration, delivering renewed value from existing assets while improving quality, efficiency and user experience.

Eligible submissions may include major upgrades, extensions, conversions, estate rationalisation initiatives and space reconfigurations that balance operational continuity with innovation, sustainability and design quality.

Design for sustainable development



Lead judge:
Jonathan Erskine, Director,
European Health Property Network, UK

This award recognises exemplary leadership in embedding sustainability at the heart of healthcare infrastructure development. It honours projects that demonstrate outstanding achievement in reducing environmental impact, advancing low-carbon and net-zero strategies, enhancing resilience, and promoting long-term ecological, social and economic value. The category celebrates schemes that set new benchmarks for responsible, future-ready healthcare environments that improve human and planetary health.

Eligible projects include new builds, refurbishments and estate-wide programmes that integrate sustainable materials, energy-efficient systems, modern methods of construction, circular design principles, nature-based solutions and whole-life performance thinking.

Interior design and the arts



Lead judge:
Ruth Charity, Arts co-ordinator, artlink,
Oxford University Hospitals NHS FT, UK

This award recognises excellence in the integration of interior design and the arts within healthcare environments to enhance wellbeing, support healing and enrich the human experience of care. It celebrates projects that demonstrate how thoughtful materiality, colour, lighting, furniture, artwork, cultural expression and sensory design can create welcoming, inclusive and restorative spaces for patients, staff and visitors.

Eligible submissions may include hospitals, clinics, community settings, mental health environments and specialist care facilities that use interior design and the arts as a meaningful and evidence-informed component of health, wellbeing and dignity.

Excellence in healthcare planning



Lead judge:
Rhonda Kerr, Director, Guidelines and
Economists Network International, Australia

This award recognises outstanding healthcare planning that enables more effective, efficient, and accessible clinical service delivery. It celebrates projects and strategic plans that introduce new models of care, leverage technology, and improve access, capacity, flow, and flexibility across healthcare systems.

Submissions should demonstrate integrated, future-focused planning that strengthens patient outcomes, enhances staff experience, and supports resilient, adaptable healthcare environments across any setting.

Digital and technology transformation



Lead judge: **Nirit Pilosof**, Head of research in
innovation and transformation, Sheba Medical
Center; Faculty member, Tel Aviv University, Israel

Recognising excellence in the integration of digital innovation and technology-enabled transformation within the design and planning of healthcare environments. It celebrates projects that demonstrate how digital tools, intelligent systems, data-driven insights and emerging technologies converge and interact with the design of the built environment to enhance clinical workflows, improve patient and staff experience, and create more responsive, efficient and future-ready care settings.

Eligible submissions may include use case examples of architectural design of digitally enabled facilities, smart building systems, virtual and augmented reality environments and simulation, AI-supported operations, integrated digital care pathways, and convergence of digital and medical technologies in clinical environments.

Innovation in healthcare construction technologies



Lead judge: **Grant Mills**, Professor of healthcare
infrastructure delivery and Bartlett faculty lead
for health, University College London, UK

Recognising outstanding innovation in construction technologies that advance the quality, speed, safety and sustainability of healthcare infrastructure delivery. It celebrates pioneering approaches—including modern methods of construction, digital fabrication, advanced off-site and modular systems, robotics, smart materials, and data-driven construction processes—that enable more efficient, adaptable and resilient healthcare environments. Eligible submissions should demonstrate how technological innovation has improved project outcomes, enhanced value, reduced environmental impact, and supported the delivery of high-performance, future-ready healthcare facilities.

Healthcare interiors product



Lead judge:
Lara Kaiser, Operations director and principal,
Perkins&Will, Brazil

Recognising excellence in the design and innovation of healthcare interior products, including fixtures and furnishings created specifically for clinical and care environments. It celebrates products that enhance safety, comfort, dignity, functionality, and wellbeing for patients, residents, visitors, and staff, while meeting the complex demands of infection control, durability, sustainability, and inclusive design. Submissions should demonstrate thoughtful problem-solving, high-quality design, and measurable value in improving healthcare spaces across any setting.

Healthcare design research

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Medical
Architecture



Lead judge:
Göran Lindahl, Associate professor/head
of division building design, architecture and
civil engineering, Chalmers University, Sweden

This award recognises outstanding research that advances knowledge, innovation, and evidence-based practice in healthcare design and infrastructure. It celebrates studies that deepen understanding of how the built environment, technology, spatial planning, and user-centred design can improve health outcomes, enhance patient and staff experience, support wellbeing, and increase operational efficiency across all healthcare settings.

Submissions may include academic, applied, or practice-based research that demonstrates originality, rigour, and clear relevance to real-world healthcare challenges.



For further enquiries on the awards programme, awards sponsorship or exhibition opportunities at the Congress, contact:

info@europeanhealthcaredesign.eu
www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu



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