

May 5, 2026

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Dear Architecture Students:

The American Institute of Architects Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter in conjunction with the AIA Component Scholarship Program Grant Award is proud to announce its annual scholarship. This year we are offering scholarships to deserving students native to the **Rio Grande Valley** and **Laredo** in architectural education attending an accredited architecture program. Each applicant must be declared an architecture major at an accredited university recognized by the N.A.A.B. (National Architectural Accrediting Board) and have completed a minimum of 24 credit hours, to be considered for this scholarship. A list of accredited schools may be found at www.naab.org.

The scholarship committee is also offering scholarships to deserving students in architectural education at Texas Southmost College, South Texas College, or Texas State Technical College. Students must have completed a minimum of 24 credit hours to be considered for this scholarship.

These scholarships are based on academic achievement, personal strength, commitment, and service. Please fill out the enclosed application and return it, along with your written essay and portfolio as a PDF file **no later than June 5, 2026**. The Scholarship Committee and Board of Directors reserve the right to alter the program, eligibility, and the award procedure at their complete discretion.

On behalf of the AIA-LRGV, the Scholarship Committee would like to extend our gratitude for participating and wish all applicants the best of luck. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our chapter Executive Director, Maria Sustaeta, by email at msustaeta@lrgvaia.org.

Sincerely,



Erick Darbo Diaz, AIA
Scholarship Committee Chairman

Scholarship Application

Application Deadline: Monday, June 5, 2026

Student Name _____ Student Phone # _____

Permanent Phone # _____ Student Email _____

Current Address _____

Permanent Address _____

High School Attended _____

Name and Address of University _____

Financial Aid Officer Name _____ Office Phone # _____

Financial Aid Officer Email _____ Student ID # _____

Overall GPA _____ Architecture GPA _____

Extra-Curricular Activities + Community Service _____

Special Honors, Scholarships + Awards _____

Essay

“Imagine it is 20 years from now and you are reflecting on your career. Write about how technologies such as artificial intelligence influenced the way you think, design, and serve people through architecture. What fears did you have as a student? What opportunities surprised you? How did you ensure that technology remained a tool rather than the driver of your values and creativity?”

(Please attach response to this application.)

Submittals

Along with your essay, a digital copy of an unofficial transcript and portfolio of your work with a brief description including the problem, the process, and your solution, if applicable. (Limit to three (3) examples of recent work) (no larger than 10MB)

Submission

Once your submittals are complete, send to **AIA-LRGV** at msustaeta@lrgvaia.org.

FAILURE TO SUBMIT ACTUAL AND UPDATED INFORMATION WILL RESULT IN SCHOLARSHIP FORFEITURE.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____