

**GENERAL REMINDERS**

1. Professors will be responsible to self-jury their students and only submit the best two projects (2) per independently taught class/studio for judging in this competition
2. All final submittals are to be sent to: [design4next@gmail.com](mailto:design4next@gmail.com) All submittals are due by December 11th.
3. Submittals must be in PDF format and be **no greater than 20MB in file size** (no min/max on number of pages)
4. As a reminder, all student participants must be currently registered as juniors or seniors in their design program, or in a 5-year master's program where there is no bachelor's degree offered or a master's program where the students have no bachelor's degree in design or other previous design experience.
5. Students must submit an entry as an individual, not as part of a team.
6. ALL updated plans and program information are posted on our competition website: [www.steelcase.com/design4next](http://www.steelcase.com/design4next) Please make sure you have downloaded the latest information.
7. All questions must be submitted by October 4th and all questions must be submitted to: [design4next@steelcase.com](mailto:design4next@steelcase.com)
8. Each student participating MUST individually register no later than October 4th to be considered eligible. Students can register by going to this link: [NEXT Registration link](#)

**QUESTIONS + ANSWERS – Questions submitted through September 13, 2019**

**Q:** Hello NEXT team. I am the instructor. Our group has a question: In the Revit file, when you take off the 11th floor you see that the 10th floor columns have square supports (approx 8' x 8') on top of each one. We are looking for possible places to put a poke through to the 11th floor above, creating a mezzanine. Should we not poke through at any of the large squares that are on top of each of the columns? If we can't, then this doesn't leave many spots left to poke through (near columns).

**A:** The square supports are part of the existing site condition and are there for structural integrity. Therefore, they must remain intact. If you wish to punch through the 11th floor to create a mezzanine or connecting stair, your students will need to work around these constraints. Through constraint comes creativity. Please see the photos of the existing condition of the columns.

See photos below for reference.



**Q:** Why does the programming say "Faculty Open Collab Hub " is adjacent to Faculty Private Offices. But the Faculty Private Offices says "near" open Faculty Connection Hub? Are they adjacent or near?

**A:** Sorry about the inconsistency here and good catch. It should be adjacent (for both comments) – disregard (near)

**Q:** Can we put a skylight in the top of the 11th floor?

**A:** Unfortunately, no. There is a multi-tenant rooftop deck above the 11<sup>th</sup> floor available to everyone in the building. Therefore, this wouldn't be feasible given the existing conditions.

**Q:** For the occupant load, are both floor level square footages combined together or is each floor calculated separately? I ask because the occupant load for one of the levels calculates to under 50 and the seating capacity for the large active classroom is for 50 -60 students.

**A:** These would be calculated separately.

**Q:** I have a quick question: can Architecture undergraduate students participate ? Or is this only for Interior Design students?

**A:** Since this is an interior design competition, we ask the participating students be interior design students, with the exception being the programs that offer a degree in Interior Architecture due to the heavy emphasis on interior design in these curriculums.

**Q:** Page 16 of the program describes that adding/designing a monumental staircase is optional. Would you please clarify this for our students. Was there another staircase in the building that has been removed from the floor plans, and the two staircases shown in the NIC area highlighted in Addendum 1 are to remain untouched?

**A:** The floor plans reflect the unfinished built condition. Your students are free to add or not add a monumental staircase – purely optional. In the current finished condition of this space, a staircase was added; however, that was removed from the drawings since this is merely optional and we didn't want to influence the student design decisions in any way. Please note, that all emphasis should be made on meeting the program requirements before considering a staircase as we want them to focus on what will be in primary focus for the judges.

**A:** Yes, the staircases in the NIC area are to remain untouched. The internal stairs are locked and are for emergencies only. For ease of access from one floor to another, students may consider a way to connect the floors in a way through a physical connection of stairs.

**A:** Please note should a student decide to build a staircase it must abide by state and ADA codes.

**Q:** Do students need to consider structure in the placement of the monumental staircase, e.g. column grid and/or beams?

**A:** Yes, these should be considered if deciding to add a staircase as they would in a real design situation.

**Q:** Are there any materials that need to be considered in the final design? For example, if students want an open to structure ceiling is there a requirement for the underside of decking and joist material?

**A:** There is no requirement here. This is left to the discretion of the student based on their design intent.

**Q:** Is there a restriction on how many students from each institution may submit?

**A:** There is a limit of (2) submissions – per independently taught class. Some programs have multiple independently taught classes and therefore they submit (2) for each class. However, we encourage you to have ALL your students participate and you self-jury the class submissions and submit your top 2. There is no limit on the number of students that can participate in class from each institution.

**Q:** Is there a fee for submission?

**A:** There is no fee for submission

**Q:** Is there a specified timeframe that the students are allowed to work on the project (i.e. it must be completed within 10 semester weeks)? I know some competitions have this requirement.

**A:** That is up to each program how they incorporate this competition into their semester. The only requirement is you begin on or after the start date of September 3<sup>rd</sup> and your submissions are sent in to the competition by the deadline of December 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Q:** Several of my students have a question about the floor plan provided. Is the room next to one of the staircases to be included as one of the spaces in the program or is this room reserved for something else?

**A:** Here is a link to the addendum on the floor plans:

<https://www.steelcase.com/content/uploads/2019/08/2019-Floor-Plan-ADDENDUM-NO1.pdf>

**Q:** In looking at the official rules, it states that Master's students are allowed only if they do NOT have a prior degree or experience in interior design. Am I interpreting that correctly? I have two students completing their MFA and both have bachelor degrees in interior design, so I'm guessing they will not be able to participate.

**A:** The intention is for a fair competition. There are MFA programs that cater specifically to students who do not have an interiors undergraduate degree and therefore they wouldn't have much of an advantage over the other undergraduate students. The other schools with Masters are a 5 year program where the students receive a masters

degree in lieu of an undergraduate degree. Therefore, we ask students that have already completed their undergraduate education with a design degree not participate.

**Q:** Must ALL of the students submitting be legal residents of the US or Canada? I have a few who would like to participate and who are attending UCO on a student visa; would they be ineligible?

**A:** Students that are here on a student Visa are able to participate; however, you must ensure they are able to travel on dates stated in the rules as well as we will only provide airfare for domestic travel.

**Q:** We have three students who would like to participate in the competition from our BFA Interior Design Department. Is that possible? I believe that you said we could only sponsor two.

**A:** There is no limit on the number of students you have participate in the competition. We have some programs that have more than 60 students enter. However, we only allow (2) submissions for judging from each independently taught class. Therefore, you would need to self-jury and decide which two of the three you would submit for judging.