

# Rules of the Swiss Design Competition



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Eidgenössisches Departement des Innern EDI  
Département fédéral de l'intérieur DFI  
Dipartimento federale dell'interno DFI  
Departament federal da l'intern DFI  
Bundesamt für Kultur BAK  
Office fédéral de la culture OFC  
Ufficio federale della cultura UFC  
Uffizi federal da cultura UFC

Please read the following provisions of the rules carefully.  
Bern, October 2019

## 1 Eligibility

**1.1** Designers who are of Swiss nationality or are permanently resident in Switzerland are eligible to take part in the competition, provided none of the exclusion criteria listed in point **1.2** apply.

In the case of joint works, at least one member of the group must be eligible to take part, i.e. must be a Swiss citizen or permanently resident in Switzerland. No member of the group may additionally compete for an award as an individual in the same year. Group members who are not eligible to take part are not entitled to be mentioned by name or to receive prize money.

**1.2** Prospective applicants are not eligible to compete if:

- they have already received an award three times;
- they have already taken part in the Swiss Design Competition eight times;
- they have not submitted their application dossier online by the deadline;
- they are taking part in the Swiss Art Competition in the same year.

## 2 Categories

Applicants may participate in the following categories:

- Graphic design (typography, editorial design, illustration, CI design, web design, interaction design, programming, animation, etc.)
- Products and objects (industrial design, furniture, ceramics, glass, jewellery, etc.)
- Fashion and textile design
- Photography
- Scenography (exhibition design, set design, etc.)
- Mediation (activities devoted to mediating design; publications, platforms, websites and media presences, exhibitions, etc.)

The Federal Design Commission reserves the right to reassign projects to the correct category, if they were submitted for the wrong one.

## 3 Procedure and entries

### 3.1 Entries

Applicants can enter the Swiss Design Competition from 1 November to midnight on 12 December 2019 via the support platform at: [www.gate.bak.admin.ch](http://www.gate.bak.admin.ch).

They must first register using an FOC E-ID before entering the competition. This involves uploading a scan of a Swiss personal identification document (ID/passport) or valid residence permit in \*.JPG format (max. 1 MB).

In the case of joint works, each eligible group member must register personally on the support platform before entering the competition. After this, one person must enter the joint work, stating the registration numbers (FOC E-IDs) of the other group members. Group members who are not eligible to participate do not need to be registered; only their names need be supplied.

### 3 Digital dossier

Dossiers must be uploaded as PDF files (landscape format, max. 10 MB, max. 11 pages including title page). The prescribed title page must be attached to the dossier. It must be downloaded from the support platform, completed and integrated into the dossier in digital form.

The dossier comprises the following elements:

- Title page: The template provided on the support platform must be used. Dossiers that do not include the title page will be rejected.
- Presentation of your current work in text and pictures, including biography.

The dossier name should be in the following format: last name first name (or group names)—category (e.g. Bernasconi Maria—Products and Objects)

**Deadline for submitting dossiers:  
12 December 2019.**

### 3.3 First round

In the first round, which runs until the end of February, the Federal Design Commission (FDC), assisted by experts, will select the participants for the second round from among the eligible entries. The decision and next steps will be communicated in writing without delay.

### 3.4 Second round

The participants selected for the second round will present one or more works in Basel at the end of May 2020. The BAK pays each second round participant an exhibition contribution of CHF 1,000. The winners of the Swiss Design Awards will be chosen from among the works exhibited. The decision will be communicated in writing without delay.

Approximately 17 awards are presented each year. Each award is worth CHF 25,000.

An exhibition of the works of all participants selected for the second round during Design Miami and ART Basel in Basel and the presentations on the internet and in social media will create publicity that will facilitate their professional development. The competition also aims to highlight the quality of Swiss design.

## 4 Additional provisions

4.1 The Federal Design Commission decides on the evaluation and decision-making process. The works submitted will be compared both with works from within the same disciplines and, on an interdisciplinary basis, with works from other fields. When judging the works presented, particular attention will be paid to their quality, impact, contemporary relevance and innovativeness.

4.2 By entering, participants grant the FOC the right to use portrait photographs and images as well as other visual representations (graphics, films, film stills) showing the participants for the purposes of the Design Competition without restrictions in terms of personality rights, and specifically to disseminate them publicly for the purposes of documentation and publication, in both analogue and digital form and via the internet.

By entering, participants grant the FOC, free of charge and without limitation of time or place, the rights to use the dossiers submitted along with the illustrations of earlier works, the portraits of the designers, and the works exhibited. This grant of rights also encompasses any future forms of use and technologies unknown at the time of entering the competition. The FOC is authorised to use and process the works mentioned for the purposes of events related to the Swiss Design Competition in all possible ways, and in particular:

### → First round

Publication and dissemination of the images of earlier works and portraits of the designers submitted in the first round in the media, the internet and social media;

### → Second round

Photographic and film recordings  
Films and photographs of the works exhibited including performances by all participants, films and photographs of the ceremony (winners only) and the vernissage;

### → Use of the photographs and films

Publication and dissemination of the photographs and films via social media and the FOC websites, issuing of the publications that contain the photographs, use of the photographs for internal reports.

By entering, participants warrant that no third-party rights (in particular personality rights or copyrights) are infringed by the Federal Office of Culture's publications, and indemnify the Confederation and hold it harmless against any claims by third parties in this connection. They undertake to offer an immediate defence against any claims by third parties due to infringements of rights (in particular personality rights and copyrights) and to assume all costs, including damages, incurred by the Confederation as a result.

4.3 By entering, participants confirm that they themselves are the creators of all the works presented by them. The Federal Office of Culture may disqualify works not created by the participants themselves and/or created under guidance, and/or works wrongfully accepted on the basis of untrue or incomplete information, and may also subsequently withdraw or demand the return of any awards already granted.

4.4 Except where otherwise stipulated herein, the provisions of the Federal Act on Culture Promotion, the Federal Ordinance on Culture Promotion and the FOC promotion strategy for prizes, awards and purchases apply.