

3

Procedure and entries

3.1

Entries

Applicants can enter the Swiss Design Competition from 24 October to midnight on 4 December 2025 via the support platform at: 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 group works, each eligible group member must register personally on the support platform before entering the competition. After this, one person must enter the group 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.

To ensure a successful registration, you must register as an individual (select “Individual” and not “Organisation”), thus allowing an individual competition history to be maintained (see 1.2 above).

3.2

Digital dossier

Dossiers must be uploaded as PDF files (A4, landscape format, max. 10 MB, max. 11 pages including title page). Please hand in a dossier in one of the national languages or in English. The language will not be a criterion for evaluation. 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 the current work in text (only finished projects) and pictures, including biography. It can be a single project or various projects.
- List of grants already received from other foundations or institutions (e.g. Pro Helvetia, Ikea Foundation, Göhner Foundation, etc.) for the presented projects.

The filenames for the dossier 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: 4 December 2025

Please note that the system is likely to be overloaded on 4 December due to a large number of entries being made. We therefore recommend completing the entry before this date.

3.3

First round

In the first round, which runs until the end of February next year, the 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 by e-mail and post without delay.

3.4

Second round

The participants selected for the second round will present their projects in Basel at the end of May 2026. The FOC will pay each second-round participant an exhibition contribution of CHF 1,500. The winners of the Swiss Design Awards will be chosen from among the works exhibited. The decision will be communicated in writing without delay.

- 17 awards are presented each year.
- Each award is worth CHF 25,000.
- An exhibition of the works of all finalists selected for the second round during Art Basel, will create publicity that will facilitate their professional development. The competition also highlights the quality of Swiss design.

4

Additional provisions

4.1

The FDC 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 registering, participants grant the FOC unrestricted rights in terms of time, space and content to use photographs, images and other visual representations (including graphics, films and film stills) depicting participants or their projects for the purposes of the design competition. This applies in particular with regard to personal rights and includes the right to use the aforementioned content freely, for example for documentation, publication and public distribution in analogue and digital form.

Furthermore, upon registration, participants transfer to the FOC the rights of use to the submitted dossiers, including the illustrations of previous works, portraits of designers and exhibited works, free of charge and without restriction in terms of location, time or content. This transfer of rights explicitly extends to types of use, media and technologies that are unknown at the time of registration or that will only arise in the future.

The FOC is authorised to use and edit the aforementioned works in any way it sees fit within the framework of Swiss Design Awards events and publications, 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**
Films and photographs of the works exhibited, including performances by all participants, films and photographs of the opening;
- **Use of the photographs and films**
Publication and dissemination of the photographs and films via social media and the FOC websites, issuing of possible 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 FOC'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 FOC 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 and the Federal Department of Home Affairs Ordinance on the Promotion Strategy for Swiss Prizes, Grand Awards and Purchases apply.

4.5

The competition may be cancelled or conducted in a form other than that set out in the terms and conditions for reasons of force majeure, specifically events or actions that are beyond the control of the FOC.

Bern, October 2025



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