

2026 Sandia Engineering Design Award

Sandia National Laboratories at University of California, Davis

Sandia National Laboratories announces the 2026 Sandia Engineering Design Award with the College of Engineering at UC Davis! This annual competition recognizes outstanding engineering design that relates to the national security mission or grand challenge initiatives. The award is open to registered undergraduate student teams in the UC Davis College of Engineering Design Showcase.

What do the top teams of this competition receive?

- An award of **\$800** to be split equally by all members of the winning design team.
- Two awards of **\$250** to be split equally by all members of the runner-up design teams.
- Recognition at the UC Davis College of Engineering Design Showcase.

What are the entry requirements?

- Eligible teams will register for the UC Davis Engineering Design Showcase and indicate interest to participate in the Sandia Design Award.
 - Registration details: <https://engineering.ucdavis.edu/engineering-design-showcase>
 - *Teams must have less than 10 members. Larger projects may create sub-teams.*
- Engineering design projects should show alignment with Sandia's mission areas or the National Academy of Engineering's Grand Challenges.
 - *Design projects sponsored by Sandia are not eligible.*
- Entries will be reviewed based on a **5-page written report**.
 - The grading criteria rubric is available at the competition website.
 - Evaluation conducted by UC Davis faculty and Sandia National Labs technical staff.

What is the submission deadline?

- The written report submissions are due by **Tuesday, May 12th, 2026**.
 - Refer to the competition website for details on how to submit.
- **Oral presentations** for finalists will occur as part of the Engineering Design Showcase (**June 4th, 2026**).

For more information, please refer to the **competition website**:

<https://www.sandia.gov/ucd-design-awards/>.

For questions, contact Sandia at designaward@sandia.gov.

ABOUT SANDIA

Sandia is a US Department of Energy national security laboratory involved in a variety of research and development programs to help secure a peaceful and free world through technology. The Lab develops technologies to sustain, modernize, and protect the Nation's nuclear arsenal, prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction, defend against terrorism, protect our national infrastructures, ensure stable energy and water supplies, and provide new capabilities to our armed forces. Sandia is making our rapidly changing world safer and more secure. All of Sandia's work is linked by a commitment to "science with the mission in mind."

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