



## **Memorandum of Understanding ASHRAE and AIA**

Founded in 1894, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), Atlanta, Georgia serves humanity by advancing the arts and sciences of heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, refrigeration and their allied fields. The ASHRAE vision is a healthy and sustainable built environment for all.

Founded in 1857, the American Institute of Architects (AIA) is the leading professional membership association for licensed architects, emerging professionals and allied partners. AIA serves as the voice of the architecture profession and the primary resource for AIA members in service to society.

ASHRAE and AIA agree to support the Memorandum of Understanding to advance and promote the mutual interests of their respective members. We are committed to working together on the following activities and goals:

### **CONSISTENT LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION**

Recognizing the importance of communication in organizational collaboration, both organizations commit to hold a liaison meeting annually (either in person or via conference call) of designated ASHRAE/AIA senior representatives to:

- Ensure ongoing advancement of collaborative projects.
- Keep each respective organization informed of major initiatives.
- Discuss new opportunities for collaboration.

The parties responsible for ensuring this MOU is actively pursued through the term of the agreement are ASHRAE's Director of Member Services and AIA's Senior Director, Industry and International Relations.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS**

The administrative contacts for actions tied to this MOU shall be:

#### **For ASHRAE:**

Jeff Littleton  
Executive Vice President  
ASHRAE  
180 Technology Parkway  
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092  
Phone: 404-636-8400  
Email: [jlittleton@ashrae.org](mailto:jlittleton@ashrae.org)

#### **For AIA:**

Stephen Ayers  
Executive Vice President /Chief Executive Officer  
AIA  
1735 New York Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20006-5292  
Email: [stayers62@gmail.com](mailto:stayers62@gmail.com)

## **CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS**

Each organization agrees to provide the other with a meeting invitation and two complimentary VIP registrations to one of its primary annual meetings, as well as alert the other to calls for entries for their technical program at any relevant conference or meeting. If feasible, upon request each organization will provide guidance to the other on how to submit a proposal for its technical program.

## **YOUNG PROFESSIONALS DEVELOPMENT**

ASHRAE and AIA agree to connect the leaders of the Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA) and Young Architects Forum (YAF) to explore joint activities that can help optimize collaboration between engineers and architects early in career development.

## **ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC OUTREACH**

Where mutually beneficial and to the extent allowed by law and corporate policies, ASHRAE and AIA agree to work together on common public affairs goals and advocacy. During annual liaison meetings, public affairs strategies will be discussed, and common goals identified. Collaborative opportunities to be considered include:

- Joint promotion of codes and standards at national and subnational levels
- Promoting mutually beneficial positions during the development and passage of national and subnational legislation, regulations, and policy
- Education of legislators on issues such as technical aspects of building design and its relationship to decarbonization, sustainability, resiliency and health; professional liability aspects of design practices; and the importance of professional licensure, relevant to the members of each organization

## **PUBLICATIONS**

ASHRAE and AIA agree to:

- Provide at least one complimentary subscription to the primary membership periodical to be received at the headquarters location of the other organization
- Explore opportunities to jointly produce publications of mutual benefit
- Cross-market each organization's publications where appropriate and with industry standard distributor discounts
- Use periodicals to promote the other organization's events, publications, and other activities
- Explore opportunities to provide discounts on each other's publications, when doing so is in both organizations' best interests

## **EDUCATION**

ASHRAE and AIA agree to:

- Cross-market joint educational offerings at the national and international levels (or other offerings that are relevant to the respective audiences), as appropriate, primarily via events calendars
- Explore opportunities to co-develop and co-sponsor
  - new courses, webinars, or other training programs that take advantage of complementary expertise between ASHRAE and AIA
  - certificate or curated education content tracks

## **TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES COORDINATION**

ASHRAE and AIA members share many areas of common technical interest, including built environment health and safety, energy efficiency, decarbonization, and resilience. The organizations agree to foster technical cooperation in these and other areas of common interest by:

- Encouraging members in each organization to participate on technical committees and taskforces
- Providing ample opportunity for each organization's members to participate in and comment on proposed standards, guidelines, policies, and position statements developed on technical subjects as they relate to buildings and community developments
- Establishing liaison representatives to key technical committees where mutually beneficial to do so
- Considering additional sponsorship opportunities, when feasible
- Exploring the co-development of new standards that address topics of mutual technical interest, such as sustainability, renewable energy, indoor environmental quality, or climate change

## **RESEARCH**

Recognizing that ASHRAE research is proprietary to the organization and its members and considering AIA's Research Agenda, the organizations will explore ways to cross-promote or collaborate on each other's research efforts, including investigating the creation of joint projects arising out of the results of existing research.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

ASHRAE and AIA will investigate working jointly on one or more community service projects focusing on building health and welfare for communities. These efforts may take place at the local, regional, or national level.

## **TERMINATION**

Either party may terminate this MOU, with or without stated cause, upon providing the other party with thirty (30) days written notice of intent to terminate.

## **LEGAL STANDING**

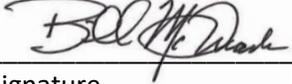
This MOU reflects a commitment by ASHRAE and AIA to continue and enhance their working relationship and individual efforts toward achieving mutual objectives described above. It does not create a binding obligation or agreement between the two organizations, and neither organization has an obligation to negotiate toward or enter into a binding written agreement. In addition, this MOU does not create a partnership, joint venture, fiduciary relationship or similar relationship between ASHRAE and AIA. Furthermore, it is understood that this Memorandum of Understanding is conceived as a dynamic document, meant to change as circumstances and priorities warrant. It may be modified or amended by written agreement between both organizations.

**Originally signed on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 by Mick Schwedler and Jeff Littleton [ASHRAE] and Daniel Hart and Lakisha Woods [AIA].**

**Renewed by the parties below in August of 2025.**

**FOR ASHRAE**

Bill McQuade/2025-26 Society President  
Printed Name/Title

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

August 8, 2025  
Date

Jeff Littleton/Executive Vice President  
Printed Name/Title

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

August 8<sup>th</sup> 2025  
Date

**FOR AIA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Stephen T. Ayers, FAIA, Interim EVP/CEO  
Printed Name/Title

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Signature

8/20/2025 | 5:43:03 AM PDT  
Date