board of architects singapore

45 Maxwell Road, #03-02 The URA Centre, Singapore 069118
E: BOA_Enquiry@boa.gov.sg | www.boa.gov.sg

Our Ref: BOA 116.2 (Circular)

28 Oct 2026

To all Registered Architects

BOA PIN DESIGN COMPETITION

1. Background

   The Board of Architects (BOA) is introducing an official lapel pin for Singapore's architectural profession.

   The lapel pin will be launched in conjunction with BOA's 100th Anniversary and presented to all registered architects during the launch year. Thereafter, it will be presented to every newly registered architect upon successful completion of the Professional Practice Examination and registration with BOA.

   The lapel pin is intended as an enduring professional insignia signifying registration with BOA and membership in Singapore's community of registered architects.

2. Eligibility and Participation

   The competition is open to all registered architects in Singapore, whether or not they hold a practising certificate; and students from recognised architectural programme at NUS, SUTD and polytechnics.

   Participants are to submit one design proposal only.

3. Design Challenge

   Design a distinctive, elegant and timeless pin that reflects professional registration, architectural practice, and the shared identity of Singapore's architectural profession.

   While the pin will be launched during BOA's 100th Anniversary, the design should have an enduring identity beyond the centenary year and remain appropriate as a registration pin for future generations of architects.

4. Design Objectives

   The design should:
   - Create a recognisable symbol of registration with BOA;
   - Convey a sense of professional identity and belonging among registered architects;

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- Reflect BOA's role and the values of Singapore's architectural profession;
- Be elegant, contemporary and suitable for daily or formal wear;
- Maintain an enduring identity that remains relevant beyond the launch year; and
- Avoid excessive fine text, overly literal imagery or event-specific graphics that may limit long-term use.

5. Size and Form

- Approximately 15-20 mm in diameter or equivalent.
- The design may take any distinctive form.
- It should be visually balanced and recognisable at a small scale.
- The design should avoid excessive fine detail that may be lost during production.

6. Colour and Finish

- Preferably limited to not more than three colours.
- Metallic finishes such as gold, silver or antique bronze are encouraged.

7. Fastening

The pin should use a concealed magnetic fastening system to prevent damage to clothing while ensuring secure attachment.

8. Manufacturing Considerations

The proposed design should be suitable for production in reasonable quantities and for long-term use. The final design may be simplified, refined or adjusted in consultation with the manufacturer to ensure technical feasibility, durability and consistency. The design should consider:

- Clarity of the design at small scale;
- Durability of materials and finish;
- Weight and wearability;
- Practicality of incorporating a concealed magnetic fastening; and
- Consistency of appearance across the production run.

9. Submission Requirements and Deliverables

Participants should submit one A4 sheet comprising:

- A full-colour design concept;
- A monochrome version;
- A brief design rationale explaining the concept and symbolism (maximum 300 words); and
- Suggested materials, finish and colours.

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Submissions should be provided in both editable and presentation-ready digital formats. Design files should be of sufficient resolution and clarity for evaluation and possible production development.

Anonymous judging will be adopted. Participants should not include their names or any identifying information on the front or the back of the A4 sheet.

Submissions are to be made via the link on BOA's website. The A4 sheet should also be submitted in hardcopy by post to **Board of Architects, 45 Maxwell Rd #03-02 The URA Centre Singapore 069118**.

10. Competition Timeline

Milestone	**Date**
Opening of competition	28 October 2026
Closing date for submissions	17 December 2026
Announcement of results	March 2027

11. Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	**Weight**
Professional identity and relevance How effectively the design represents registration with BOA and belonging to the architectural profession.	30%
Timelessness and enduring appeal Suitability as a registration pin for future generations of architects.	30%
Creativity, concept and design rationale Originality, distinctiveness, aesthetic quality, and the clarity and thoughtfulness with which the design concept and its symbolism are expressed.	30%
Manufacturability and practicality Suitability for production at the proposed pin size, including durability, wearability and compatibility with magnetic fastening.	10%
Total	100%

12. Intellectual Property

All submissions must be original and must not infringe any third-party rights. By submitting a design, each participant confirms that the design is their own work and may lawfully be submitted for the competition. The winning design will become the intellectual property of BOA. BOA may refine, adapt, reproduce and use the winning design for production, publicity and related purposes, while preserving the integrity of the original concept as far as practicable.

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13. Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The use of AI tools to assist in the development or presentation of a submission is permitted. However, the design concept and creative direction must be the participant's own. Participants remain responsible for the originality of their submission and for ensuring that it does not infringe any third-party rights. The use of AI tools should be declared as part of the submission.

14. Prize

The prizes are:

- First Prize: S$2,000
- Up to two Merit Awards: S$500 each

The Board reserves the right not to select a winning design if none of the submissions sufficiently meets the objectives of the competition.

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Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does the design need to commemorate BOA's 100th Anniversary?
No. While the registration pin will be launched in conjunction with BOA's 100th Anniversary in 2027, the design is intended to have an enduring identity beyond the centenary year. Participants should therefore not feel constrained to develop a centenary-specific design.

2. Does the design need to incorporate the BOA logo?
No. Participants are not required to incorporate the existing BOA logo into their designs. The design should, however, reflect its intended identity as a registration pin for Singapore's architectural profession.

3. Can elements of Singapore's architecture or built environment be incorporated into the design?
Yes. Participants may draw inspiration from Singapore's architecture, built environment or architectural profession. The choice of design approach is left to participants, having regard to the objectives set out in the Competition Brief.

4. Are participants required to engage a manufacturer or provide detailed production specifications?
No. Participants are not expected to engage a manufacturer or develop detailed production specifications. They should, however, have regard to the size, materials, finish and practical manufacturing considerations set out in the Competition Brief.

5. Are joint submissions allowed?
Yes. Joint submissions are allowed, provided that all members of the team are eligible to participate in the competition. Each individual or team may submit only one submission, comprising one design proposal.

6. Can a participant replace or revise a submission after it has been submitted?
No. Once a submission has been made, it cannot be replaced or revised. Participants should therefore ensure that their submission is complete and final before submitting it.

7. Can a participant submit a design developed as part of a school or studio project?
Yes, provided that the participant is eligible to enter and the submission is original, complies with the Competition Brief and does not infringe any third-party rights.

8. Can I seek clarification on matters not addressed in the Competition Brief?
Yes. Enquiries regarding matters not addressed in the Competition Brief may be sent to **boa_enquiry@boa.gov.sg by 12 November 2026**. Where a clarification may be relevant to other participants, BOA may make the clarification available to all participants.