



Call for Participation: 2025 Belt and Road International Student Competition on Digital Architectural Design

With the aim to promote the academic and cultural exchanges among university students from various countries, and to cultivate the scientific and technological innovation spirits and practical abilities of university students, the 2025 Belt and Road International Student Competition on Digital Architectural Design is expected to be launched. The details are notified as follows:

I. Background

Since its inception in 2020, the Belt and Road International Student Competition on Digital Architectural Design has become a renowned platform for academic and cultural exchange among architecture students from universities in China and abroad. The past five editions of the competition have explored diverse themes such as *Future Library in the Historical District*; *Resilience: To Recreate the Glamour of Canals*; *Railway: A New Bond Along the Silk Road*; *Sustainable Architecture: Innovation, Development and Solutions*; and *Protection, Renewal & Revitalization of the Historical Buildings Along the Belt and Road*. The competition features multiple categories, including Digital Architectural Design, Digital Structural Design, Geographic Scene Modeling and Visualization, and Cultural Innovation and Revitalization. The



competition aims to encourage college students from various countries to explore key issues such as infrastructure development, urban regeneration, architectural heritage conservation, and the revitalization of historic cultural districts through research, design, and practice. The competition has garnered enthusiastic participation and attention worldwide from students, faculty, and professionals in architecture and construction. It has played a vital role in advancing the integration of innovation and entrepreneurship education with professional training.

To build on the momentum of the competition and respond to the new forms of urban-rural relations and coordinated development, the 6th edition of the competition centers on urban ecological civilization and the concept of urban renewal and ecological restoration. This year's competition is based at the Eden Eco-Education and International Living Demonstration Zone in Tianjin, China (abbreviated as “the Eden Zone”), inviting outstanding design proposals aimed at enhancing both the landscape and functionality of the site. By meeting the growing demand for a higher quality of life among both urban and rural residents, the goal is to transform the site into a livable, beautiful space—an integrated urban-rural living circle where people can live, work, travel, learn, and relax in harmony. The initiative promotes shared efforts in shaping a high-quality living environment, boosting development momentum, and offering visitors a richer, more immersive experience of urban-rural culture through the distinctive and lasting impression of the Eden Zone.



Eden Eco-Education and International Living Demonstration Zone, located in Jizhou District, Tianjin, China, is the world's first eco-education town themed around the Eden Project. As a flagship Belt and Road cooperation project between China and the UK, it brings together the original UK Eden Project design team to jointly develop the site. With a total investment of RMB 10 billion, the project aims to create an innovative cultural tourism destination that integrates nature, education, health, technology, business travel, and leisure.

II. Organization

Initiated by:

- Belt and Road Architectural University International Consortium

Organized and hosted by:

- Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture

Co-organized by:

- Eden Eco-Education and International Living Demonstration Zone
- China Silk Road Group Ltd.
- Beijing International Peace Culture Foundation
- Looker Global Education

Supported by:

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing



1. Topic selection is not limited. Interdisciplinary and cross-professional team collaboration is encouraged to foster knowledge sharing and synergy. Participants are required to base their proposals on the Eden Zone project materials and design within the designated scope. Eligible submission formats include digital architectural design, digital structural design, geographic scene modeling and visualization, construction economics and management, and other creative formats. For detailed base materials, please refer to the *Annex 2: Designated Site Details*.

2. Submissions should highlight the unique local culture and history, integrate current regional characteristics, and provide functional, rational designs that promote urban-rural cultural integration and present an inspiring vision of modern rural life.

3. Proposals must holistically consider the relationship with surrounding landscapes, ecological conditions, and street patterns. Designs should reflect a balance between architecture and environment, and a unity of regional identity and cultural character. Proposals must also be feasible for practical development and operation, demonstrating creativity, functionality, cultural depth, and visual appeal.

4. Registration shall be organized by universities, and the number of entries is not limited.

5. A participating team may consist of up to 7 members, with no more than 3 supervisors. Participants may come from different academic disciplines, and the formation of cross-disciplinary teams is encouraged.



6. The submissions shall not contain any words or patterns indicating the names of the participants or the university, and participants who fail to meet this requirement will be disqualified.

7. The participants have the copyright of the entries, while the organizers have the right to exercise other copyright except the authorship of the entries, including the right to use the entries (without additional payment), and retain the right of post-processing of the entries, such as publication, exhibition, video production, model exhibitions, and technology promotion, etc.

8. It is strictly prohibited to copy the existing design works. The participants shall be responsible for the similarity, plagiarism, and intellectual property disputes of the technical solutions.

9. Submitted entries will not be returned.

10. All submissions shall be in English.

IV. Eligibility

Open to both graduate and undergraduate students with no restrictions on majors and programs.

V. Awards



S.N.	Awards	No. of Winners	Prizes	Remarks
1	The First Prize	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● RMB 60,000; ● Prepaid Gift Card: RMB 10,000; ● Trophy and Certificate; ● Priority for Project Implementation. 	There are other awards such as Organizational Achievement Award and Outstanding Supervisor Awards.
2	The Second Prize	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● RMB 40,000; ● Prepaid Gift Card: RMB 5,000; ● Trophy and Certificate; ● Priority for Project Implementation. 	Excellent works will be selected for the exhibition. The Jury Committee may add or omit any prizes according to the quality of the submissions.
3	The Third Prize	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cash Award: RMB 10,000; ● Prepaid Gift Card: RMB 3,000; ● Trophy and Certificate; ● Priority for Project Implementation. 	All cash awards are pre-tax, and the organizing committee will withhold personal income tax as required.
4	Honorable Mentions	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Certificate; ● Prepaid Gift Card: RMB 1,000. 	Prepaid gift cards can be used at Eden Eco-Education and International Living Demonstration Zone.

* To encourage and support in-depth site research by participating students and faculty, the organizing committee will provide meal and accommodation subsidies for shortlisted teams conducting on-site visits to the Eden Zone. One to two site visits will be arranged in batches, tentatively scheduled for mid-July and mid-August.

VI. Registration

Add: No.1 Zhanlanguan Road, Xicheng District, Beijing, P.R.China 100044

Tel: +86-10-68322203

Fax: +86-10-68322188

E-mail: brauic@163.com

Website: brauic.bucea.edu.cn



(I) Sign-up

1. Deadline: July 10, 2025

2. Please send the *Work Recommendation Form (See Annex 3)* to brauic@163.com with the email title of “university name + 2025 BRAUIC Competition Sign-up”.

(II) Work submission

1. Deadline: August 20, 2025

2. Please send the *Entry Information Form (See Annex 4)* and work materials to brauic@163.com with the email title of “university name + 2025 BRAUIC Competition Work Submission”. For each recommended work, you shall include design drawings and relevant documents with the file title of “university name + work name + first author’s name”.

Considering the difficulties in sending large files via email, you’re suggested to share the work documents through WeTransfer, and fill the WeTransfer Link in the *Entry Information Form*.

VII. Schedule

S.N.	Time	Arrangement
1	June 2025	Call for participation & Competition



		Sign-up
2	July–August 2025	Work Submission & Site Visits to the Eden Zone
3	September 2025	Jury Selection
4	October 2025	Award Announcement
5	November 2025	Award Ceremony & Work Exhibition (The Eden Zone, Tianjin, China)

VIII. Welfare opportunities

1. Media coverage of the stories of university students from various countries participating at the Competition.
2. For universities winning the Organizational Achievement Award, the BRAUIC will offer International Summer School Scholarship (tuition-free) to one student from each winning university to attend the next year’s International Summer School on Smart Cities organized by the BRAUIC.
3. Other opportunities provided by member universities.

IX. Contact Information

The secretariat of the organizing committee is set at Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture.

Contacts: Ms. Liu Lu, Ms. Qu Yao

