



Where we stand update: Sexual harassment & the architectural profession

The AIA is committed to working with its members and firms to change the culture of our profession to one that is diverse, welcoming and treats each individual with dignity and respect. In addition to what it has already delivered, the Institute has the following deliverables in development to supporting this [commitment](#):

- AIA plans to deliver harassment and respectful workplace e-learning courses for all members by the fourth quarter of 2018.
- On June 4, AIA sent component presidents and CACE information and a [Model Harassment Policy](#) to assist components with adopting a sexual harassment policy, which is a new Core Member Service requirement for component accreditation. Components are required to submit their adopted proposal by January 2019.
- In April, AIA's President asked the National Ethics Council (NEC) to make recommendations regarding how the Code of Ethics addresses sexual harassment. The NEC has met twice since then and will provide formal recommendations for consideration by the Institute's Board of Directors at its upcoming September meeting.
- The AIA will require all nominees for AIA national awards to sign a declaration that certifies adherence to tenets of the AIA Code of Ethics.
- AIA will offer two sessions on sexual harassment at A'18. The first is a [compliance training](#) on June 22 that will address building a respectful and harassment free workplace. At the [second session](#) on June 23, experts will answer questions and provide guidance based on various scenarios.
- A number of additional sessions will also be offered at A'18 supporting equity, diversity and inclusion issues.
- A'18 will feature a "Commitment Wall" on the Expo Floor from June 21-23 where members can post commitments to making their workplaces equitable, diverse and inclusive.
- AIA is continuing to educate members and others through its various communication vehicles, including its newsletter, AIA Architect, and ARCHITECT Magazine. Recent articles have included ["Meeting the #MeToo Moment"](#) and ["Ethics in Practice for an Equitable Profession."](#) Upcoming articles will feature a column from Emily Grandstaff-Rice, FAIA, Chair of the Equity & The Future of Architecture Board Committee, and a Q & A piece with Dr. Shirley Davis on why compliance with anti-sexual harassment policies is important for practitioners and firm owners. Another article in the July issue will report on the AIA's conference sessions, focusing on how a strong commitment to combatting sexual harassment requires architects to understand and act on prevention, reporting, and long-term remedies. Meanwhile, ARCHITECT Magazine is reporting on [how to establish a sexual harassment policy](#).
- In addition, the Institute is actively building on more than a decade of work addressing equity, diversity and inclusion, including underlying issues involving sexual harassment, in the profession. The AIA is currently developing ["Guides for Equitable Practice,"](#) which will provide architects and firms with guidance on best practices in equity, diversity and inclusion principles, and how those values can be a part of any architectural practice. The first three guides—"Cultural Competence + Implicit Bias," "Pay Equity," and "Workplace Culture"—are scheduled to be available at the end of the year.
- Finally, AIA is committed to launching a firm recognition program that celebrates and promotes exemplary workplaces, firm culture and equity practices.

[Learn more about our values >](#)