



Twenty-Third Annual Undergraduate Seismic Design Competition (SDC)



Poster Requirements

Teams are required to display a poster providing a comprehensive overview of their project. A balanced poster concisely explains the overall design approach and technical execution. The jury will review each team's display in a dedicated session for detailed grading. How you present and explain your structural and architectural approach is a critical communication tool. Because judges will have limited time with each team, visual hierarchy and concise explanations are essential.

Deadline & Logistics: This year, teams will not be required to submit their poster by email. Having a physical poster in the designated display area by the time listed in the schedule will act as the deadline (Section 4.1.b). Individual teams are entirely responsible for printing and providing the physical poster for display (Section 4.1.b). The SLC will not print posters for any teams.

Penalties & Bonuses: Any team that does not have a poster in the display area meeting all requirements by the scheduled time will receive a penalty of up to 50 points added to V (Section 4.1.b). Furthermore, failure to follow these Poster Requirements will lead to ineligibility to receive the poster Annual Revenue bonus (Section 4.1.b).

Design: Beyond the specific requirements listed below, the overall layout and design of the poster are left entirely to the creativity of the teams.

All architectural visuals shown in the presentation must comply with the Generative AI policy outlined in the Architectural Requirements document.

Required Poster Elements

1. Formatting Constraints

Size: Height is strictly restricted to 30 inches, and width to 20 inches (Portrait orientation).

Typography: All text must be at least 18pt.

Clarity: Visuals and text must be high-resolution and easily readable. Cluttered or crowded layouts are strongly discouraged.

AI Disclosure: Any use of Generative AI for generating visualizations must be clearly disclosed immediately beneath the relevant content.

Design & Visual Coherence: While the specific visual style, colors, and layout are left entirely to the creativity of the teams, the poster must read as a cohesive, integrated document. Teams will be graded on overall clarity, layout organization, and how naturally a reader is guided between the structural and architectural concepts without feeling cluttered.

2. Identification

School Name: Minimum recommended font size of 40pt.

Building Name: Clearly displayed.

Official Logos: Must include both the EERI and SLC logos (available on the competition website).

Sponsors (Optional): May be listed at the bottom of the poster.

3. Project Narrative

Design Intent (Mandatory): A clear explanation of the building's overall design intent (75-word maximum). While teams may include additional text elsewhere on the poster, this specific introductory section is required. *Note: The judges will read this section first, so it must be a strong, clear, and effective introduction to your project.*

4. Technical Compliance & Analysis

Structural Approach: An overview of the primary Lateral Force Resisting System (LFRS) and the engineering logic behind its selection. This should explain how the structural system integrates with and supports the overall form.

Analytical Results: Inclusion of the building's fundamental period, primary mode shapes, and the analysis method/software used.

Competition Metrics: Numerical predictions for peak relative roof drift and peak absolute roof acceleration under GM#1, alongside the predicted structural model weight and the estimated Final Annual Building Income (FABI).

Damping Device (If applicable): Details on any Damping Device.

5. Architecture & Visuals

Architectural Approach: An overview of how the design addresses the problem statement and core objectives. This should demonstrate how your spatial design resolves the required features (e.g., inclusive design, circulation, sustainability, etc.).

Scale & Realism: All architectural visual representations must follow the scale rules set in the Architectural Requirements document, as required by Official Rules Section 4.1.c.

Primary Render: Visualization of either the structural frame or the finished building (presenting the final architectural design is strongly recommended).

Coordinated Floor Plans: Structural elements must be distinctly highlighted in the architectural plans to demonstrate design consistency. (Assessed as part of the Architectural Requirements criterion in the evaluation matrix below.)

Architectural Requirements & Considerations: All architectural productions on the poster must follow rules set in Architectural Requirements Section 2.

Fabrication: Visual documentation of the model fabrication phases.

POSTER EVALUATION MATRIX

Criterion	Meets Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
1 FORMATTING CONSTRAINTS		
Size	Height is 30 inches and width is 20 inches. Poster is in portrait orientation.	Poster dimensions or orientation do not comply.
Typography	All text on the poster is at minimum 18pt. and readable	One or more text elements fall below 18pt. or text is not readable.
Clarity	Visuals are high-resolution and easily readable. Layout is not cluttered or crowded.	Visuals are low-resolution or difficult to read. Layout is cluttered or crowded.
AI Disclosure	Any use of Generative AI for generating visualizations is clearly disclosed immediately beneath the relevant content.	AI-generated visualizations are present but not disclosed beneath the relevant content.
Design & Visual Coherence	The poster reads as a cohesive, integrated document. A reader is guided naturally between structural and architectural concepts without the layout feeling cluttered.	The poster lacks visual coherence. The reader is not guided naturally between structural and architectural concepts, or the overall layout feels cluttered.
2 IDENTIFICATION		
School Name	School name is displayed at a minimum recommended font size of 40pt.	School name is absent or displayed below 40pt.
Building Name	Building name is present and clearly displayed on the poster.	Building name is absent or not clearly displayed.
Official Logos	Both the EERI and SLC logos are included on the poster.	One or both official logos are absent.
3 PROJECT NARRATIVE		
Design Intent	A clear explanation of the building's overall design intent is present, at 75 words or fewer. It is positioned as the introductory section and serves as a strong, clear, and effective introduction to the project.	The Design Intent section is absent, exceeds 75 words, is not positioned as the introductory section, or does not function as a clear and effective introduction to the project.

4 TECHNICAL COMPLIANCE & ANALYSIS		
Structural Approach	An overview of the primary LFRS and the engineering logic behind its selection is present. It explains how the structural system integrates with and supports the overall form.	The structural approach overview is absent, or it identifies the LFRS without explaining the engineering logic or its integration with the overall form.
Analytical Results	The building's fundamental period, primary mode shapes, and the analysis method and software used are all included.	One or more of the required analytical results — fundamental period, mode shapes, or analysis method and software — are absent.
Competition Metrics	Numerical predictions for peak relative roof drift and peak absolute roof acceleration under GM#1 are included, alongside the predicted structural model weight and the estimated FABI.	One or more required numerical predictions or metrics — roof drift, roof acceleration, model weight, or FABI — are absent.
Damping Device	If a damping device is incorporated, details on the device are included on the poster.	A damping device is incorporated but no details are provided on the poster. Not applicable to teams without a damping device.
5 ARCHITECTURE & VISUALS		
Architectural Approach	An overview of how the design addresses the problem statement and core objectives is present. It demonstrates how the spatial design resolves the required features.	The Architectural Approach section is absent, or it lists required features without demonstrating how the spatial design resolves them.
Scale & Realism	All architectural visual representations follow the scale rules set in the Official Rules (Section 4.1.c) and the Architectural Requirements document.	One or more architectural visual representations do not follow the scale rules set in the Official Rules or the Architectural Requirements document.
Primary Render	A visualization of either the structural frame or the finished building is present and good quality.	No visualization of the structural frame or finished building is present, or the visualization is low quality.
Architectural Requirements	Architectural productions fully follow the requirements set in the Architectural Requirements document.	Architectural productions don't follow the requirements set in the Architectural Requirements document.

Architectural Considerations	Architectural productions fully address the considerations set in the Architectural Requirements document.	Architectural productions don't address the considerations set in the Architectural Requirements document.
Fabrication	Visual documentation of the model fabrication phases is included on the poster.	No visual documentation of the model fabrication phases is present.

This document must be read in conjunction with the Official Rules, Design Guide, Architectural Requirements, and Presentation Requirements. For any questions, please reach out via email or the dedicated SDC Discord channel.