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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for reading our 2021 IIDA Student Design Competition Questions and Answers document.

In addition to providing answers to the questions below, we also want to remind students that we have published the 2020 IIDA Student Design Competition Project Showcase to help participants better understand what the jury is looking for when selecting a winner for this competition.

THE CHALLENGE + GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. The floor plan files appear to be incomplete. It is not clear what some elements of the plan represent. Employee and patient entrances are not marked.
   The PDF floor plan for the partial renovation has been updated to reflect an employee and patient entrance. For the full renovation, designers can decide if they want to keep the entrance(s) as they are.

2. Regarding the image below, what should participants know regarding the duct space and wall applications?
   The walls in this example are furred out in the existing floor plan. There are no specific wall treatments or applications that need to be taken into consideration. Duct space is not necessary in the fully renovated exam rooms.

3. Can participants get the dimensions and annotated floor plans uploaded in a PDF format?
   We would recommend downloading AUTODESK’s DWG TrueView. This free application will allow you to pull all of the necessary dimensions. For international students seeking assistance with the conversion between imperial and metric units, we suggest this tool.
4. With the ongoing need for occupancy reduction in the built environment, can we look at the floor plate and create satellite waiting areas? Is there a lobby plan or other amenity floors? While the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the procedures of healthcare and primary care clinics such as this one, we cannot predict or guarantee what, if any, permanent changes will be made in the future or what exactly they will look like. Designers are not required to use social distancing guidelines within your submission(s), but solutions pertaining to the guidelines may be considered.

5. The design brief states that the office will be on the 14th floor of a hospital building located near 875 Michigan Avenue. Is this referring to the Northwestern Memorial Hospital? If so, which part/location of the hospital is the floor plan indicating? This is an entirely fictitious project and is not affiliated with Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

6. In the partial renovation, are participants allowed to build supplementary walls? Yes, the partial renovation design can include additional walls.

7. In the partial plans, are the spaces with lines through them areas that participants are not responsible for? Hatched areas should not be included within the design.

8. There are two entrances indicated in the floor plan. Which one is for check in and which one is for check out? The two entrances represent patient and employee entrances.

9. What are the functions of empty rooms in the existing floor plan? The design brief includes a thorough explanation of the space planning requirements for this competition.

10. What is the height of the window itself? In the brief the overall window height is 60” AFF, but windowsill height is 36” AFF. Window is 60”H overall and sits 36” AFF.

11. What does “true north is at your design discretion and plan north is as drawn” mean? We are not defining north and it is at the designer’s discretion.

12. Is the statement “the square footage is approximate 5,200 to 5,900 square feet (partial vs. full renovation)” regarding both spaces? Assume approximately 5,200 square feet for partial renovation and 5,900 square feet for full renovation.

13. In the partial renovation, can the interior existing walls have different materiality or are they restricted as a solid concrete? Additionally, is it possible to have small openings (such as windows) added to the existing interior walls? Yes, designers can change the materials on the walls to meet their design plan. Designers can also add any small openings and/or windows to the existing interior walls.

14. Is the entrance into the lobby from the elevator, through the double doors, and then through another set of double doors immediately to the right? See red line drawing to the right. Yes, correct.

15. Are all samples to be sourced from OFS and Carolina or would other local sources be allowed? Only half of the products are required to be from OFS and Carolina. The other half can be local sources or other manufacturers.

16. Will live plants and/or open water features be permitted within the space? Yes, biophilic elements are permitted in this space.
THE CHALLENGE + GENERAL QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

17. In the design brief under “General Notes and Clarifications,” the fifth bullet states: “The original floor plate has structural columns throughout the space. The structural columns were removed for this competition.” Does this mean there need not be any interior columns within the space other than those remaining on the plan provided?
   While this may not occur normally, removing the interior column allows space planning to be maximized and does not limit design. It provides designers with the most flexibility.

18. Are there allowances for program flexibility if participants choose to incorporate rooms not included in the program? For example, could supply rooms, medication rooms, laboratory services, or storage areas be considered?
   Yes, this is at the designer’s discretion.

19. Are there specific square footage requirements for any of these spaces?
   No, this is at the designer’s discretion.

20. What programs are participants not allowed to use, if any?
   There are no limits on what programs participants can use to complete their submission.

21. Is there a labeled initial floor plan for both the partial renovation and the full renovation where all areas are labeled?
   No, the floor plans are empty so as not to influence the design and allow for flexibility.

22. On the initial floorplans, why are some of the rooms hatched?
   Hatching indicates areas that should not be included within the design.

23. The competition says the ceiling height is 108”. How much space would designers truly have from floor to floor elevation if they decide to raise the ceiling? What is the measurement between the 14th floor ceiling and the 15th floor (i.e., the space where the duct work, ventilation, etc. are located)?
   For this brief, assume 24” for duct work and ventilation.

24. For a partial renovation, could existing walls and doors be manipulated, or should they be kept in location as shown?
   Yes, changes can be made to the to the existing interior walls. Doors can be moved.

25. Is there a scale available for the drawings provided?
   We would recommend downloading AUTODESK’s DWG TrueView. This free application will allow you to pull all of the necessary dimensions.

26. What is the material that is used in the corner room in the entry space? Can designers make changes to this? Can the hatched areas be included in the design?
   Hatched areas should not be included within the design.

27. Are the pre-existing support spaces (small rooms) in lobby designated as anything?
   These can re-purposed to meet the new design intent. Hatched areas should not be included within the design.

28. Are any wall changes allowed in the partial renovation stage?
   Yes, designers can add small openings and/or windows to the existing interior walls. Doors can be moved.

29. What is mounted along the wall in the hallway?
   Assume it is an Acrovyn handrail, which can be removed at designer’s discretion.

30. Can participants remove any doors, such as those going into the hallway?
   Yes.

31. Are there any mechanical shafts that we should be aware of?
   Not applicable.
THE CHALLENGE + GENERAL QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

32. Do the products from OFS and Carolina have to be healthcare products, or can they be office-based solutions as well? They can be both office and healthcare solutions.

33. There appears to be a panel system office in the corner of the partial renovation plan—does it need to stay where it is? Or can it be moved or removed for the partial plan? It can be moved or removed as needed.

34. What is the travel distance and means of access to the 14th floor office space? Patients would enter the main lobby and take an elevator to the 14th floor. We have not calculated this distance as it is a fictitious project.

35. Where are building systems located within the building? In the basement.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: PUBLIC SPACES

36. Can designers include an accessible unisex restroom for specimen collection? Yes.

37. In the full renovation, are designers responsible for adding bathrooms? If so, how many, and how many of which should be ADA compliant? Assume one (1) bathroom for staff and one (1) bathroom for patients. One (1) should be ADA compliant.

38. Is the waiting area combined with the staff lounge? These two areas should be separate.

39. Do the check-in and check-out areas have to be adjacent? No, the flow should be determined by designers.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: PATIENT SPACES

40. Does the clinic admit patients to stay overnight? No.

41. What is the flow of taking in a patient? Flow should be determined by designers and integrated into their proposal.

42. How many patients are admitted per day? Could participants estimate the number of patients scheduled to check-in? Assume eight (8) patients per exam room, per day.

43. Is it acceptable for patients to leave though the employee entrance? No, patients should enter and exit separately from employees.

44. What considerations should be contemplated for access to the doctor’s office for people who are sick and/or injured? This is at the designer’s discretion to determine—separate well and sick entrances are not required.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: CAREGIVER SPACES

45. In order to get a better idea of how many lockers to build and for spatial purposes, how many staff members will typically be working in the clinic at one time? Assume 10–20 employees will be working at one time.
**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: CAREGIVER SPACES (CONTINUED)**

46. **What are the differences in function between the consultation room and the exam room?**
   The consultation room will support caregivers discussing treatment plans with patients. Technology will be integral in these discussions in order to aid the caregivers and enhance patient interactions, but it should not overwhelm the space. 12 exam rooms should be flexible and support check-ups, examinations, and consultations. Designers should aim to create a hospitable environment to help to reduce patient stress.

47. **Does the consultation room require an exam table?**
   No, this should be a seating and/or meeting area only.

48. **Does every exam room need to be ADA compliant?**
   No, one to two (1-2) rooms should be ADA compliant for the purpose of this brief.

49. **What is the responsibility of the manager?**
   Managers supervise the practice including physicians, support staff, nursing, medical records, and more. Managers also maintain budgets.

50. **Does the manager need to access patients and practitioners every day?**
   Yes.

51. **Does the manager’s office have to be adjacent to the administrative workroom?**
   No, this is at the designer’s discretion.

52. **Is a storage room necessary?**
   Yes, for office supplies, small equipment, and medical supplies.

53. **For the staff lounge, are there any requirements regarding a kitchenette?**
   A kitchenette is not required but it is preferred.

54. **For the full renovation, should students provide an equal number of bathrooms and fixtures based on the existing quantities, or could the bathrooms be newly programmed and space planned based on their concept?**
   Assume at least one (1) bathroom for staff and one (1) bathroom for patients. One (1) should be ADA compliant.

55. **Is there any equipment on this floor that would make noise?**
   No.

56. **Do the exam rooms need sinks?**
   Yes.

57. **What type of exam room technology is expected?**
   This is at the designer’s discretion. The clinic is looking for recommendations and innovative ways in which to interact with patients and their families.

58. **How much room is needed for medical supplies?**
   Account for office supplies, small equipment, and medical supplies. Amount of space is at the designer’s discretion.

59. **What healthcare equipment is needed, how much space is required for each, and how should it be labeled?**
   For the manager check in and check out, consider a printer, phone, and computer. For the check in and check out of practitioners and administrative staff, consider a shared printer, one (1) phone per staff member, and one (1) computer per staff member. For the consultation room, consider a TV, a mobile laptop, and some virtual technology at the designer’s discretion. For the exam rooms, consider a blood pressure monitor, a heart monitor, temperature station, eye and ear scopes, nine ophthalmoscopes and otoscopes, a mobile laptop or fixed laptop, and virtual technology at the designer’s discretion.
SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

60. The design brief refers both to a Primary Care Clinic and a Digestive Health Clinic. Are participants to select one or the other?
The line about a “Digestive Health Clinic” in the project summary is a mistake, a carryover from last year’s project. Please only design for the “Primary Care Clinic.”

61. The submissions guide indicates one plan to be included but the design brief notes a partial redesign and a full redesign? Are participants to include the partial design plan on their final posters?
Participants will submit two presentation boards. Please see the submission requirements for additional details.

62. Should the presentation poster be horizontal or vertical?
That is to be determined by the presenters. Please refer to the Additional Documents section at the bottom of this page to view our past winners brochures for help with better understanding what your submission might look like.

63. What is the recommended scale for floor plans?
That is to be determined by designers. Please refer to the Additional Documents section at the bottom of this page to view our past winners brochures for help with better understanding what your submission might look like.

64. In Submission Requirements, page 5, criteria 2, it states there are “two (2) 24x36 digital presentation boards to be submitted, one for partial renovation and one for full renovation,” thus, with the understanding that each solution must not only be on separate boards, but only on one board each. In reviewing the documentation requirements, it is difficult to see how this is possible without reducing size and scale of images to the point of compromising clear conveyance of design solutions. Each solution will exist on a separate board for the purposes of submissions.

65. Is there a date for registration?
Competition submissions will open on January 11, 2021.

66. How do participants pay their entry fee?
The entry fee will be paid online when submitting.

67. If a member of a team is an IIDA Student member, does that member pay $40 and the non-members pay $80, or do all members pay $40?
If any one person on a team is an IIDA Student member, that member can submit for the group and pay the member price of $40 for the team per submission. If no team members are IIDA student members, then the team will pay the non-member price of $80 for the team per submission. The submission costs are per submission not per entrant.

68. For the design challenge, the competition requires two solutions: a partial renovation and a full renovation. Are students supposed to consider each solution with its own corresponding concept, or could they develop a single concept that responds to both solutions?
This can be the participant’s choice, but it is not a requirement that both solutions be entirely different.

69. On page 5 of the submission requirements, it indicates a 500-word project description outlining why your concept demonstrates the best solution for a Digestive Health Clinic. Is this correct?
The line about a “Digestive Health Clinic” in the project summary is a mistake, a carryover from last year’s project. Please only design for the “Primary Care Clinic.”

70. Participants must present two boards—one being full and one being a partial renovation. Can the design on the partial renovation just be repeated or expanded on in the full renovation? Or do they need to be two entirely different schemes?
This can be the participant’s choice, but it is not a requirement that both solutions be entirely different.
IIDA

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