

# The Robert Bruce Thompson Annual Student Light Fixture Design Competition

## APPLICATION FORM

### 2026 DESIGN PROBLEM

The property management at a major US airport has hired you to design a luminaire for the boarding gate lounge located along a terminal concourse. The concourse has 20 gates and too often the lighting in these locations is bland, unmemorable and uninspiring. Management would like the lounge area to be welcoming, comfortable and unforgettable. They are experimenting with changing the lighting and interiors in several of the lounges to create a high-quality environment where you would like to stay, catch up on communication and relax as you wait for your flight. Not a place where you can't wait to leave. How can the lighting draw passengers to the gate, support a positive passenger experience and produce a comfortable waiting environment?

The lounge ceiling is 12' high. The architecture is up to you. Take into consideration the light distribution, energy use, and maintenance of the fixture. Consider how the design of the fixture and quality of light will make the space feel. How does the light fixture meet the requirements of the program and encourage you to hang out in the space? Identify all major components and materials of the fixture. Document the fixture as instructed under the Competition Rules.

---

NAME

---

EMAIL

---

ADDRESS

---

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

---

CITY STATE ZIP

---

MAJOR

---

TELEPHONE

---

FACULTY SPONSOR

**ONLINE SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS** You must be a full-time student enrolled in an accredited academic degree program in a United States college or university. Your entry consists of this "Application Form" and your 11" x 17" presentation sheets. These two components must be submitted as electronic files that are uploaded online. NOTE: The file size cannot exceed 15MB. For detailed instructions, visit [rbtcompetition.org/rules-submission](http://rbtcompetition.org/rules-submission)

**DEADLINE** Online submissions must be uploaded by 6pm EDT/3pm PDT March 26, 2026.

I am a full-time student at the above-listed institution, and I warrant that this submission is my original work, that it does not infringe on the intellectual property rights of any third party and that I have not used Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the creation or production of my entry. I retain the copyright in these documents and this design, but I irrevocably grant a perpetual, royalty-free license to The Robert Bruce Thompson Charitable Trust to use this entry, either partially or in its entirety, to promote the Student Light Fixture Design Competition in any way the Trust sees fit.

---

STUDENT SIGNATURE

---

DATE

---

FACULTY SIGNATURE

---

DATE

[rbtcompetition.org](http://rbtcompetition.org)