

## Reviewer Guidelines for DESIGN 2026 Submissions

Dear Reviewers,

As we embark on the review process for DESIGN 2026 submissions, we would like to provide you with specific guidelines to ensure a thorough and fair evaluation. Your unbiased analysis is essential in maintaining the quality and integrity of the DESIGN 2026 conference. Below are the key factors to consider in your reviews:

### 1. Originality and level of innovativeness (15% of score)

- Assess whether the contribution introduces new ideas, concepts, or approaches.
- Evaluate how the submission challenges existing paradigms or practices in its field.
- Consider the uniqueness of the approach and whether it pushes the boundaries of current knowledge or application.

### 2. Clarity and appropriateness of the scientific methodology and research framing (25% of score)

- Review the clarity and appropriateness of the research methodology. Is the approach rigorous, well-justified, and suitable for the objectives?
- Examine the extent and relevance of literature review. Does the submission situate itself well within the existing body of work?
- Evaluate the clarity in defining research questions or hypotheses and their alignment with the overall goals of the research.

### 3. Justification of the research, references to literature, and conclusions (20% of score)

- Assess the logical coherence and depth of the discussion. Does the discourse effectively build upon the data and findings?
- Evaluate the use and citation of literature. Are references current, relevant, and appropriately integrated into the argument?
- Critically review the strength and validity of the conclusions. Do they follow logically from the research and are they supported by the evidence presented?

### 4. Reflection on application, research impact, or industrial perspective (25% of score)

- Consider the potential impact of the research on the field, industry, or society. Does the research address real-world problems or needs?
- Evaluate the practical applicability of the research. How might the findings be implemented in practical scenarios?
- Assess the contribution's potential for inspiring future research, influencing policy, or driving innovation.

### 5. Quality of narrative and paper layout (15% of score)

- Evaluate the clarity, coherence, and readability of the narrative. Is the paper well-organized and easy to follow?
- Consider the quality of writing, including grammar, syntax, and style. Is the language clear and precise?
- Review the formatting and presentation of the paper. Does it adhere to the provided guidelines and standards for layout, figures, tables, and references?

Submissions under review are confidential and unpublished scholarly works. Reviewers must not share manuscripts with third parties or upload them to external systems, including AI-based tools. Reviews must reflect the reviewer's own independent scholarly judgement and must not be generated or substantially shaped using AI-assisted systems. By submitting a review, the reviewer accepts full responsibility for its confidentiality, ethical integrity, and scholarly quality.

Thank you for your diligent work in reviewing the submissions.

Best regards,

DESIGN 2026 Programme Chairs