SIA Endowment Program Fact Sheet

What is the SIA Endowment Program?

The SIA Board of Directors established the endowment fund to fund new, unbudgeted initiatives that will provide value to SIA members, cover operating losses resulting from extraordinary events not anticipated in the budget, and support the development of industry talent. The Endowment Fund initiative is guided by a new SIA Endowment Committee comprised of individuals with different perspectives through their leadership roles on SIA committees and the Board of Directors.

The SIA Endowment Program has transitioned to a biannual acceptance process. The 2026 endowment program will accept proposals to be approved for funding for the 2027 budget.

What are we looking for?

The endowment committee seeks proposals that will enhance the security industry, enhance the SIA member benefit, and that focuses on security industry trends to be prepared for where the industry is going in areas including, but not limited to, the following:

- Industry Research
- Professional Development
- Vertical Market Content
- Recommended Practices
- Industry Standards
- Technology Trend Information

Do I need to be a SIA member to submit an endowment proposal?

Yes, submission to the endowment fund requires SIA membership. Please visit: Membership Options for more information on SIA membership levels.

Do I need SIA committee input on an endowment proposal?

Yes, for a successful endowment proposal request it is required to have some committee support/sponsor the endowment proposal.

How should content be organized (example of good endowment proposal)?

Download example of endowment proposal

What criteria does the Endowment Committee use to evaluate and approve a proposal?

The endowment committee's selection criteria are intended to ensure that SIA maintains a reputation as an unbiased review entity.

1. Executive summary review – Provide a clear description of the endowment project, clearly align project with endowment fund mission and SIA goals.
2. Goals and Deliverables – Clearly define deliverables and provide project timeline.
3. Market and Industry Analysis – Clear explanation of why the endowment project is needed in the industry.
4. SIA Committee Input – Which committees have contributed to the development of this proposal.
5. Financial Review – Detailed use of funds

How does the review process work?

After the submission process is complete, the endowment committee will review the submitted proposals using a 1-5 scoring system to identify proposals that met the criteria for further review. The committee will then break into focus groups, select 1-3 proposals to review/discuss, before coming back to the full committee to deliberate on the focus group's findings. Before making final selections, the committee will request a meeting with the submitters to get answers to any questions that may have come from the review process.

From there, the endowment committee recommends the proposals they believe should be accepted to the SIA board who will review and process the endowment committee's recommendations

How do I submit an endowment proposal?

To submit a proposal, please log into your SIA account and visit: https://www.securityindustry.org/about-sia/sia-endowment-program/

What is the timeline from review to notifications sent to submitters?

To access the 2026 Endowment Program review schedule please visit: https://www.securityindustry.org/about-sia/sia-endowment-program/

Who should I contact if I have additional questions?

Please reach out directly to DeAndre Thornton, Associate Director of Learning and Development: dthornton@securityindustry.org.