



Southern  
California  
**2025 Excellence  
in Construction®**  
Awards

# Project Entry Requirements

We invite you to enter your company's best projects in our 2025 ABC SoCal Excellence in Construction Awards competition.

\*Winners of this competition will be eligible to compete in National ABC Excellence in Construction Competition

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# PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Your company has the opportunity to compete for honors in the construction industry's premier annual awards program—the ABC SoCal Excellence in Construction Awards competition—that recognizes the outstanding local merit shop projects of the year. Winners can compete in the ABC National Excellence in Construction Awards competition. Use this guide to enter your company's best project(s).

All local award winners will be recognized at a date to be determined at the ABC SoCal Excellence in Construction Awards. National award winners will be recognized on March 19, 2026, at the 36th Annual National EIC Awards Gala in Salt Lake City, Utah. The national ceremony will feature a multimedia presentation highlighting the Eagle and Pyramid winners, and an elegant printed program highlighting each award-winning project. All national winners will be recognized in a special section of the Construction Executive magazine, and news releases will be distributed to regional and national construction-related media outlets



# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Each entry must follow the entry requirements outlined in this award application. You may email questions to Luke Hobbs at [lhobbs@abcsocal.net](mailto:lhobbs@abcsocal.net)

## ABC Membership

Only ABC contractor members are eligible to enter. Projects completed through a joint venture must include a document outlining the ownership percentage and responsibilities of each partner. Include the document with the Project Information section. If the majority partner is an ABC member, but not all partners are ABC members, only the majority contractor is eligible to enter. If your project was completed by a joint venture and not all parties are ABC members, email [eic@abc.org](mailto:eic@abc.org) for additional eligibility requirements.

## Safety Policy

A company that experiences a safety-related fatality of a direct employee in the United States within the current program year (August 15, 2024 – August 15, 2025) is NOT eligible for an Excellence in Construction Award. If a subsidiary is a direct ABC member versus part of a larger holding company member, then the subsidiary with a safety-related fatality is not eligible, but another subsidiary of the same holding company may be.

A company that experienced a safety-related fatality of a direct employee in the United States within two or three years of the current program year (August 15, 2024 – August 15, 2025) is required to provide additional information regarding action that has been taken following the fatality.

No project that involves prime, multi-prime or sub-trade contractors with a safety-related fatality is eligible to be considered for an award.

If there is a question regarding this policy and application requirement, the applicant may request clarification from the National EIC Committee by emailing [eic@abc.org](mailto:eic@abc.org) prior to submission of the project.

## ABC SoCal Award Winner

To be eligible to compete in the National competition, the project must have won at the ABC SoCal competition. An exception to this requirement may be granted if the applicant submits a letter from the ABC SoCal Chapter President explaining the reason the project qualifies to be entered at the national award level.

## Completion of Project

To be eligible for award consideration, the project must be completed by Friday, August 15, 2025

## Chapter Project Entry Steps

1. **Chapter Completion of Project** – Projects must be completed by Friday, August 15, 2025.
2. **Online Project Registration and Payment** – Projects must be registered online no later Friday, July 18, 2025. Each project must be submitted with payment online or via check in the amount of \$250 made payable to ABC SoCal Chapter. Payment must be received on or before Friday, July 18, 2025. No refunds.
3. **Submission Deadline** – Entries must be completed online no later than Friday, August 15, 2025.





# JUDGING CRITERIA



## Read each section carefully.

The panel of judges represents a cross section of construction industry experts. The competition is comparative, using a point system to assist in the comparisons. A project entry can earn a total possible score of 100 points. The different evaluative sections and their point values are listed below. Answers to questions should be clear and succinct, as directed; the quality of an entry's presentation will have a great impact on its opportunity to win. Use the checklist at the end of this document to review your entry prior to submittal.

## Overall Presentation and Conformance to Entry Requirements (5 points)

- Documents should be pleasing to the eye and legible. Points will be deducted for font that is too small to easily read.
- Points will be deducted for grammatical errors, spelling mistakes and other typographical errors.

## Contracted Scope (10 points)

- Include up to one full page, ensuring legibility when selecting font design and size.
- Provide a description of your scope for this project including the following information:
  - type of construction
  - type of contract (i.e. Lump Sum, Time & Materials, Construction Management at Risk, Cost Plus, etc.)
  - size of project
  - contract value
  - duration of project
  - percentage of labor that is self-performed
  - any subcontracted work performed by fellow ABC members, suppliers or associates/industry professionals, if applicable
- Include up to one full page, ensuring legibility when selecting font design and size.
- Provide a description of your scope for this project including the following information:

\*\*Samples of Contracted Scope may be viewed online at [abc.org/eic](http://abc.org/eic)

## Project Narrative (30 points)

- Include up to four pages, ensuring legibility when selecting font design and size. Four pages are highly recommended, and photos/images may be incorporated.
- Provide a written narrative indicating why this project is special and why it qualifies for a national award. The focus of the narrative should be the construction (i.e. erection, installation, modification, grade footprint, etc.) of the project. Be sure to include the following items:

- Describe any innovative programs relating to quality control.
- Describe any innovative programs relating to scheduling.
- Describe any value analysis/engineering process used on the project.
- Indicate any special obstacles you overcame in completing the project.
- Describe any difficulties or extenuating circumstances encountered in completing the project.
- Describe any innovative programs or methods related to productivity.
- Projects entered into the Community/Public Service categories may include one additional page (for a total of five pages) dedicated to describing why the project qualifies for the category. Include a detailed description of the resources donated by your company.

## Photographs (8 points)

- Submit up to ten high-resolution photographs (jpg format only) of the project. To obtain maximum points, all projects should include “in progress” photos in addition to the completed project. Restoration and Renovation projects should include “before and after” images.
- It is recommended to include photos that are relevant to the challenges and solutions outlined in the narrative.
- Single jpg files may include up to two photographs, but no more than four files should include split images.
- Ensure the photographs do not include any safety violations.
- The **photographs must be a minimum of 300 dpi resolution.**
- The photographs must not be submitted within a software program such as PowerPoint or Acrobat and must not include any text or framing that affects the photo.
- Absolutely no videos are accepted.
- Photographer’s Use Authorization: If any photos being submitted were taken by a third-party photographer, the photographer’s written authorization to use the photos is required. There are two ways to comply: (1) the photographer can sign and date the licensing agreement included in this document, or (2) the applicant must submit a letter from the photographer giving ABC authorization to use the photos, which must follow the licensing agreement in this document. No changes are allowed to this document. The letter may be emailed to Luke Hobbs at [lhobbs@abcsocal.net](mailto:lhobbs@abcsocal.net).

## Project Safety (31 points)

- No project that involves a prime, multi-prime, subcontractor or any trade-related work (regardless of the type of contract) with a safety-related fatality is eligible for an Excellence in Construction Award.
- No company that experiences a safety-related fatality of a direct employee within the current program year (August 15, 2024 - August 15, 2025) is eligible to submit a project. Additional details follow on the Safety Form.
- You must include your company’s OSHA Form 300A (project specific, if available) for the year(s) the project was under construction.
- You must also include your company’s OSHA Form 300 (project specific, if available) for the year(s) the project was under construction, **with personal information redacted.**
- Include the additional documents requested on the Project Safety Form.

- In order to be eligible to win an award, the company must sign the Drug- and Alcohol-Free pledge found at [drugfreeconstruction.org](http://drugfreeconstruction.org).
- In order to be eligible to win an award, the company must have a written Safety and Health Policy Manual.

## References (10 points)

- Include letters of recommendation from third parties involved with the project, such as the owner and design team. If the owner is unable to provide a letter of recommendation due to company policy, include a letter from the owner on its letterhead stating it is unable to provide a reference (this letter will qualify for only 5 points).
- General contractors must submit letters from at least the owner (or the general contractor's prime contracting entity, if not the owner) and the architect. If submitting in an industrial category, general contractors must submit letters from at least the owner (or the general contractor's prime contracting entity).
- Specialty contractors must submit a letter from at least the general contractor, if working under a general contractor. If not working under a general contractor, specialty contractors must submit a letter from at least the owner. Second and third-tier subcontractors must at least submit a letter from their prime contracting entity.
- Letters will be assessed for their level of quality (content and position of author). In some cases, a single letter could earn the maximum number of points; however, additional letters are highly recommended.
- Provide a short description in the text box provided of how the author of each letter was involved in the project.

## Supplemental Materials (2 points)

- Up to five pages.
- Provide any miscellaneous supporting materials such as diagrams and other graphics, media coverage, awards and promotion.

## AQC Contractor (optional) (2 points)

- If your company is designated as an ABC 2025 Accredited Quality Contractor (AQC) member, include a copy of the company certificate. AQC status is not required to submit a project for an Excellence in Construction award. If necessary, a copy of the certificate may be requested by emailing [aqc@abc.org](mailto:aqc@abc.org).
- The certificate must indicate the chapter through which you are submitting your project because AQC membership is chapter specific.

\*For more information about AQC and to download an application, visit [abc.org/aqc](http://abc.org/aqc)\*

## STEP Participants (Mandatory) (4 points)

- Include a copy of your Safety Training and Evaluation Process (STEP) certificate from the year(s) the project was performed or from the current year. If you do not have a copy of your certificate or need to apply for it, contact Eric Glover at [eglover@abcsocal.net](mailto:eglover@abcsocal.net).





# PROJECT AWARD CATEGORY FORM



## General Contracting/Construction Management

Check only ONE category indicating the dollar amount of the contract for the project. If the category chosen below is different than the one indicated when registering online, email [eic@abc.org](mailto:eic@abc.org) with the corrected category.

ABC reserves the right to change an entry's original category if it determines that a project's opportunity to win will be enhanced in a different category. ABC also reserves the right to redistribute the contract volume levels within a category.

### Mega-Projects

All projects regardless of type

- More than \$250 million

### Commercial

Office buildings, banks, retail facilities, hotels and mixed-use

- Less than \$5 million
- \$5 to \$10 million
- \$10 to \$25 million
- \$25 to \$100 million

### Community / Public Service

Philanthropic projects that enhance the community, using substantial resources donated by the contractor

- All contract amounts up to \$100 million

### Federal Government / Military

All projects owned by the federal government, with the exception of transportation infrastructure and utilities

- Less than \$10 million
- \$10 to \$100 million

### Health Care

Hospitals, assisted living, nursing homes and other licensed medical facilities

- Less than \$10 million
- \$10 to \$25 million
- \$25 to \$100 million

### Historical Restoration / Renovation

Restoration of buildings registered as historical, or eligible to be registered as historical

- Less than \$25 million
- \$25 to \$100 million

### Industrial

Manufacturing plants and facilities, refineries and similar types of construction

- Less than \$5 million
- \$5 to \$15 million
- \$15 to \$25 million
- \$25 to \$100 million

### Infrastructure: Heavy

Streets, highways, parks, dams and bridges

- All contract amounts up to \$100 million

### Institutional

Projects owned by schools, churches and local governments, with the exception of health care facilities

- Less than \$5 million
- \$5 to \$10 million
- \$10 to \$25 million
- \$25 to \$100 million

### Pre-engineered Building

Institutional, shopping centers, banks and manufacturing plants

- All contract amounts up to \$100 million

### Public Works / Environmental

Water treatment plants and sewage treatment plants

- All contract amounts up to \$100 million

### Renovation

Non-historical, existing buildings where more than 50 percent of the contracted dollar value was used for renovation or restoration

- Less than \$4 million
- \$4 to \$10 million
- \$10 to \$100 million

### Residential

Residential, including independent living retirement communities

- Less than \$4 million
- \$4 to \$10 million
- \$10 to \$100 million

### Residential

Residential, including independent living retirement communities

- Single-family up to \$100 million
- Multifamily and condominium up to \$100 million

### Special Projects

Construction not specifically referred to in the prior categories (e.g. theme parks, zoos, skate parks, water parks and other unique types of projects)

- Less than \$2 million
- \$2 to \$100 million



# PROJECT AWARD CATEGORY FORM



## Specialty Contracting

You may select only ONE category indicating the dollar amount of the contract for the project.

ABC reserves the right to change an entry’s original category if it determines that a project’s opportunity to win will be enhanced by the change to the new category. ABC also reserves the right to redistribute the contract volume levels within a category.

### Community / Public Service

Philanthropic projects that enhance the community, using substantial resources donated by the contractor

- All contract amounts

### Electrical: Commercial

Schools, hospitals, outdoor lighting, institutional, shopping centers

- Less than \$2 million
- \$2 to \$10 million

### Electrical: Industrial

Manufacturing plants, processing plants, instrumentation and testing facilities involving motor control

- Less than \$2 million
- \$2 to \$10 million

### Electrical

All projects owned by the federal government, with the exception of transportation infrastructure and utilities

- Less than \$10 million
- \$10 to \$100 million

### Mechanical: Commercial Schools, hospitals, institutional, shopping centers

- Less than \$2 million
- \$2 to \$10 million

### Mechanical: Industrial

Manufacturing plants, processing plants and pneumatic controls

- Less than \$10 million

### Mechanical

All projects

- More than \$10 million

### Exteriors: Masonry / Precast / Stone

Masonry, precast or stone

- All contract amounts

### Exterior Finishes

All other exterior finishes not specifically referred to in the prior category

- All contract amounts

### Interiors: Acoustical / drywall / millwork / plaster

Acoustical, drywall, millwork or plaster

- All contract amounts

### Interior Finishes

All other interior finishes not specifically referred to in the prior category

- All contract amounts

### Sitework / Landscape / Hardscape

Interior/exterior, landscaping and parking lots

- All contract amounts

### Specialty Construction: Commercial

Commercial construction not specifically referred to in the prior categories

- Less than \$10 million
- More than \$10 million

### Specialty Construction: Industrial

Industrial construction not specifically referred to in the prior categories

- Less than \$10 million
- More than \$10 million

# ABC National Excellence In Construction Awards Competition

## (If project wins at local level) National Project Entry Steps

### Project Entry Deadlines

1. **Completion of Project** – Projects must be completed by Wednesday, October 15, 2025.
2. **Online Project Registration** – Projects must be registered online no later than Friday, Oct. 24, 2025.
3. **Submission Deadline** – Entries must be completed online no later than Friday, Nov. 14, 2023.
4. **Project Entry Fee** – Each project must be submitted with online payment in the amount of \$595. The entry fee is non-refundable.

Specific questions may be directed to the ABC National office by sending an email to [eic@abc.org](mailto:eic@abc.org). Frequently asked questions and application tips are listed at [abc.org/eic](http://abc.org/eic).





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