



MASTER BUILDERS
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

MASTER BUILDERS AND ASSET CONSTRUCTION HIRE EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

AWARDS ENTRY GUIDE

CONTENTS

▷ ▷ ▷

3 Event Information

Why enter

Key dates

Entry fees

4 Submission information

5 More information

Judging

Photography

CCF Awards

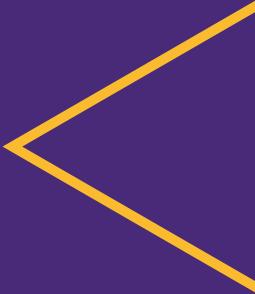
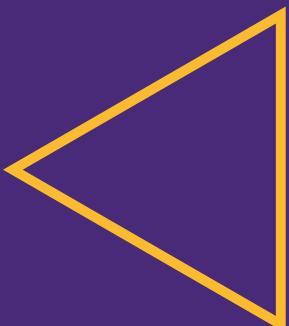
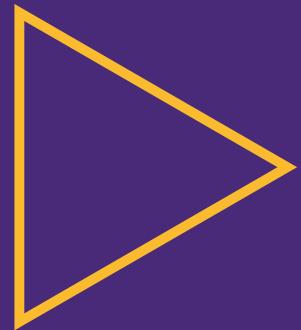
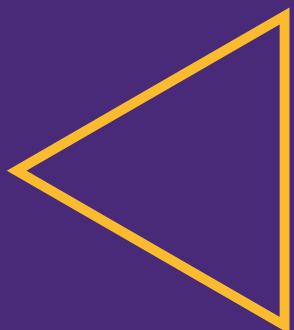
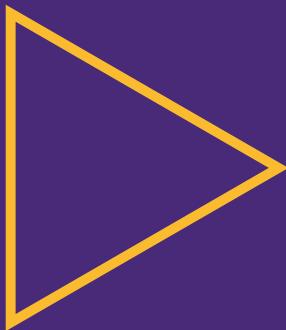
6 2025 categories

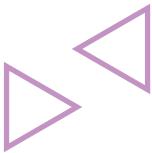
8 Category definitions

14 2025 Entry Checklist

16 2025 Conditions of Entry

18 FAQs





2025 MASTER BUILDERS & ASSET CONSTRUCTION HIRE EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Why enter?

The Master Builders and Asset Construction Hire Excellence Awards showcase outstanding projects in the civil, commercial and residential construction industry. Taking part demonstrates your commitment to quality workmanship. Winning an award provides endless marketing opportunities, and the power of being recognised as an industry leader.

Key dates

Entries open

9:00 am Monday 12 January 2026

Entries close

5:00 pm Friday 13 March 2026*

Judging period

Monday 30 March - Friday 8 May

Judges Review

Mid-May

Finalists/non-finalists notified

Tuesday 3 June

Awards Night Date:

Friday 11 September

**Please note that no late or incomplete entries will be accepted.*

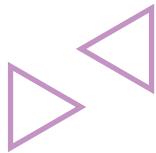
Benefits of taking part

- Acknowledge the high quality work delivered by your staff and contractors
- Have your standard of construction independently assessed
- Demonstrate your commitment to excellence to prospective and existing clients
- Be recognised as an industry leader
- Have your award-winning work promoted in industry media
- Use the nationally recognised award-winning logo in your marketing

Entry fees (incl. GST)

- Commercial Project \$550
- Civil Project \$550
- Residential Project \$440
- Sustainable Construction Project \$350
- Subcontractor Project \$350
- Work Health & Safety \$350
- Individual/Company Awards NO CHARGE
- Joint entries \$300 per entrant (any category)*

**Joint entries are possible. However, the primary entrant MUST be the builder (with the exception of subcontractor and individual categories) and a separate entry fee must be paid by each entrant.*



SUBMISSION INFORMATION



How to enter

Submissions for the 2026 Master Builders and Asset Construction Hire Excellence Awards are completed online through the Master Builders online awards entry platform: masterbuildersact.awardsplatform.com

Entry hints and tips:

Write clearly

Be sure to read each question carefully and keep all entry information as clear as possible.

Write enough

Your answers must be over the minimum required word count noted on each question.

Create a quality project summary

The project summary is a great place to outline the key aspects of the project and highlight the features of your entry that make it an award-winning project.

Use references and videos

Whilst not mandatory, reference letters, videos or time lapse videos are a great way to showcase your entry and set it apart from the rest. Please note there is a maximum of two of each of these attachments accepted per entry.

Take great photos

We highly recommend engaging a professional photographer for your

submission images. These images are a crucial reference point for MBA judges. They will also be used to represent and highlight your project across Master Builders ACT's social media and publications, should your entry proceed to the next stage.

Allow enough time

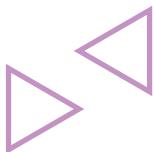
Avoid leaving your submission until the last minute. All submissions require approval from the Master Builders ACT team before they are formally accepted. With the chance that your entry may require further information or resubmission, we recommend that you allow several days for this process before the closure of entries on Friday 13 March. Any entry that is not entirely complete, submitted and paid for by 5pm on 13 March will not be accepted.

Make yourself available for judging

Judging appointments cannot be altered. Due to the large volume of entries and limited judging time, the time that you are issued cannot be re-scheduled. It is the responsibility of the entrant to provide details of the inspection time to the home owner/client.

Have your experts on hand

At the time of your onsite inspection, be sure to have the builder and/or project manager present, or a builder's representative with expert knowledge regarding the project. This will help ensure that the judges receive all of the relevant information and that the project's merits are accurately represented.



MORE INFORMATION



Judging criteria

Specific judging criteria relating to each category can be found on the Master Builders ACT event website.

Location eligibility

In order for a project to be eligible for entry in the ACT awards, the project must be located within the official Canberra regional footprint, and located within a 100km radius from Canberra GPO. A map of the region can be found at www.canberraregion.com.au.

If a project is located outside a 100km radius from Canberra GPO or eligible for another state's MBA Awards, the entry will not be eligible for the ACT Awards.

Judges

The judging panel appointed have expert knowledge and experience in all sectors of the industry. Judges are independent of Master Builders ACT. Master Builders ACT has the right to disqualify award entrants, award recipients and withdraw an entry/ award if, in the opinion of the judges, misleading or incorrect entry information has been provided.

Submission photo guidelines

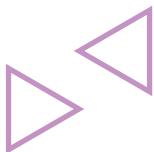
It is important to ensure that your submission photos are in the appropriate format and style as these are crucial for judging and Awards media throughout the year.

- Photos must be over 1MB and highlight each key area of the project.
- Entrants are required to label a 'Hero Image' that will be used as the main image for the entry moving forward. Please note that

a different hero image may be selected by the MBA team where required to avoid repetition in publications or if the original format is not suitable.

- Important note on photo editing:** images that have been doctored or altered using Photoshop or AI technologies (e.g. ChatGPT) may result in your entry being ruled ineligible. Any alterations to a photo that change the subject matter being judged, such as alterations to the appearance of the finishes or inclusions on the project, will result in the entry being ruled ineligible. Colour correction, cropping and subtle image enhancements are acceptable.
- Master Builders ACT is now offering professional photography services for our 2026 entrants!**

For further information and fees, please contact marketing@mba.org.au



2026 CATEGORIES



Please note that some of the categories for the 2026 awards have been changed, and new categories added. Pay special attention to the categories to determine which to enter your project in.

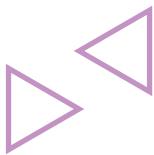
Residential Project Awards

- Apartments and Units up to 3 storeys
- Apartments and Units 4 storeys to 8 storeys
- Apartments and Units 8 storeys and above
- Custom Built/Project Home less than \$350,000
- Custom Built/Project Home \$350,000 to \$500,000
- Custom Built/Project Home \$500,000 to \$750,000
- Custom Built/Project Home \$750,000 to \$1million
- Custom Built/Project Home \$1million to \$2million
- Custom Built/Project Home \$2million to \$4million
- Custom Built/Project Home more than \$4million
- Display Home up to \$750,000
- Display Home more than \$750,000
- Medium Density Dual Occupancy/Habitable Suite
- Medium Density Townhouses and Villas

- Renovation/Extension less than \$250,000
- Renovation/Extension \$250,000 to \$450,000
- Renovation/Extension \$450,000 to \$1million
- Renovation/Extension more than \$1million
- Renovation/Fitout, Apartment, Unit or Townhouse
- Special Purpose/Adaptable Dwelling

Subcontractor Project Awards

- Bathroom Project**
- Best use of Material in a Commercial Project
- Best use of Material in a Residential Project
- Kitchen Project**
- Landscape Design and Construction Commercial
- Landscape Design and Construction Residential
- Project Displaying Technical Difficulty or Innovation – Subcontractor



2026 CATEGORIES

Civil Project Awards

- Civil Bridgeworks
- Civil Hydraulic
- Civil Entertainment/Sporting/ Recreation Facility
- Civil Education
- Civil Other
- Civil Roadworks

Civil Subdivision

Commercial Project Awards

- Commercial or Retail Fitout, Refurbishment or Alteration less than \$1million
- Commercial or Retail Fitout, Refurbishment or Alteration \$1million to \$5million
- Commercial or Retail Fitout, Refurbishment or Alteration \$5million to \$10million
- Commercial or Retail Fitout, Refurbishment or Alteration more than \$10million
- Commercial Construction less than \$5million
- Commercial Construction \$5million to \$20million
- Commercial Construction \$20million to \$50million
- Commercial Construction more than \$50million
- Project Displaying Technical Difficulty or Innovation – Contractor
- Special Purpose/Adaptable Commercial Project

Individual/Company Awards

- Commercial Subcontractor of the Year
- Residential Subcontractor of the Year
- Construction Woman of the Year
- Onsite Construction Manager of the Year
- Professional of the Year
- Project Manager of the Year
- Supplier of the Year
- Young Builder of the Year*

Sustainable Construction Awards

- Sustainable Civil Project
- Sustainable Commercial Project
- Sustainable Residential Project

Work Health Safety Awards

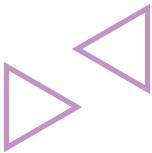
- WHS Commercial
- WHS Residential
- WHS Targeted Risk Management System

Top Awards

- 2026 Project of the Year*
- 2026 House of the Year*

**Note: These categories are determined by our judging panels and entrants cannot submit a nomination.*

***Note: These categories will be broken down to subcategories based on judges' appraisal once entries close.*



AWARD CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS



Residential Awards

Apartments and Units

- Apartments and Units up to 3 storeys: as covered by Home Warranty insurance
- Apartments and Units 4 storeys to 8 storeys: multistorey residential building or development with a height lower than 25 metres (less than 8 storeys)
- Apartments and Units 8 stories and above: multistorey residential building or development with a height of at least 25 metres measured from the lowest exit at or near ground level to the floor of the topmost story (or 8 storeys)

Projects entered into these categories must be a Class 2 or Class 3 building. All definitions are determined as per the Building Code of Australia.

Custom Built/Project Home

Custom Built/Project Home refers to a residential project built under a contract specifically for a client. This category is exclusive to separate dwellings that are free standing with no common walls. Final contract price must be provided to determine eligibility in a category. This figure will not be published at any time.

Please note: in the event that a home has been built without a contract (e.g. a builder constructing their own home), the entrant must seek special permission from Master Builders ACT to enter. The home must be entered into the category that best represents the market value of the cost of the build. Evidence must be supplied, including a copy of the Home Warranty Insurance Certificate, to support this category selection. Master Builders ACT reserves the right to reject an entry or move entries between categories.

Display Home

Display Home refers to a residential project built for the specific purpose of displaying or showing a builder's product. The project must be intended for reproduction as displayed or with standard variations to suit the client's needs. The price category entered is to represent the repeatable price of the project as displayed at the time of judging, inclusive of all exact fixtures, fittings and variations. Please ensure that the nominated contract price is the exact cost of the house including all exact fixtures and fittings as displayed. This is to be inclusive of benchtops, flooring and all other variations.

Medium Density

This category celebrates residential designs that offer repeatable, high-quality living solutions tailored to modern lifestyles. Whether it's a contemporary townhouse, a charming villa, a dual occupancy arrangement, or a self-contained habitable suite, each project is presented with all fixtures, fittings, and variations included. The nominated contract price reflects the complete cost of the home as built, inclusive of benchtops, flooring, and all specified finishes. These homes exemplify thoughtful design, efficient use of space, and adaptability to suit a range of client needs.

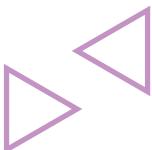
Definitions

Townhouse: situated in a row of houses, that is not class 2, and can be attached

Villa: standalone, class 1 in a cluster development

Dual Occupancy: two new dwellings on the same block

Habitable suite: secondary residence that can be a separate or attached dwelling up to 90m²



AWARD CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

Renovations/Extensions

This category includes substantial changes or additions to an existing residential dwelling (standalone home, apartment/unit or townhouse). This includes extensions, renovations, decks, pergolas and outside pavilions and adaptable or accessible fitout elements. For apartments, units and townhouses, to be eligible for this category the project must meet body corporate requirements and/or structural and facade variations must be limited.

Special Purpose/Adaptable Dwelling

This category includes houses that incorporate facilities for people with disabilities, and adaptable housing. Homes must be Class 1 homes or dual occupancy style dwellings, with no commercial/communal facilities such as club houses. This does not include retirement villages or aged care facilities.

Civil Awards

Civil Bridgeworks

The Civil Bridgeworks category encompasses all civil projects completed in the judging period in which the project's main focus is the installation or construction of any type of bridge. This includes all types of bridgeworks including, but not limited to, road, pedestrian or rail bridges.

Civil Hydraulic

The Civil Hydraulic category is open to any civil project focused on the development and construction of infrastructure designed to manage the movement, storage or protection of or against hydraulic substances such as storm water, sewerage, drinking water or mains infrastructure.

Civil Entertainment/Sporting/Recreation Facility

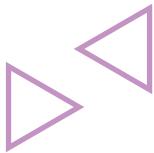
This category includes all civil projects focused on the development of any facility that supports or provides for entertainment, sporting or recreational activity, either for paying customers or free for use by the community. This can include, but is not limited to, playgrounds, sporting fields, amphitheatres or performance venues.

Civil Education

This category refers to any civil project focused on the building and delivery of education facilities. This can be the development of additional facilities for an existing education facility, or the development of a new facility.

Civil Roadworks

The Civil Roadworks category includes projects focused on the development and construction of roads and related infrastructure. This includes the redevelopment of existing roads or infrastructure, or the construction of new roads and infrastructure.



AWARD CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

Civil Subdivision

This category is open to civil projects focused on subdividing land for future development.

Civil Other

The Civil Other category is for any civil project that does not fit into the above categories, but is still considered a civil construction project.

2026 Civil Contractors Federation ACT Earth Awards

In addition to submitting for the 2026 Excellence Awards, all Civil projects from the above categories will automatically be entered into the 2026 Civil Contractors Federation (CCF) ACT Earth Awards. The category in which a project is entered will be determined by the Master Builders ACT team based on the CCF category definitions, unless otherwise requested.

The CCF project categories are based on the value of the completed project as follows:

- Project value up to \$2 million
- Project value \$2 million to \$5 million
- Project value \$5 million to \$10 million
- Project value \$10 million to \$30 million
- Project value \$30 million to \$75 million
- Project more than \$75 million

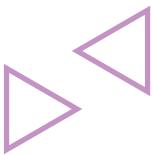
In addition to the above categories, additional categories for the CCF ACT Earth Awards are:

- Civil Subcontractor of the Year
- WHS Civil
- Outstanding Woman in Civil Construction*

**Please note entries for this category will be pulled from entries into the Construction Woman of the Year category for the 2026 Master Builders and Asset Construction Hire Excellence Awards. Entries in this category will also be interviewed in-person or virtually during the Civil judging period.*

All entry opening and closing dates, judging dates and 2026 conditions of entry apply to the CCF categories listed above. Entrants in the CCF ACT Earth Awards must be current financial members of both Master Builders ACT and CCF ACT.

CCF judging will occur at the same time as the Civil Excellence Awards categories, with winners announced at the 2026 CCF ACT Earth Awards on 22 May 2026.



AWARD CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

Commercial Awards

Commercial & Retail Fitout, Refurbishment or Alteration

This category includes the fitout, refurbishment or alteration of an existing commercial building. Final construction price, including GST, will determine the project's appropriate category.

Commercial Project

This category involves construction of a new commercial building or project. Final construction price including GST will determine the project's appropriate category.

Project Displaying Technical Difficulty or Innovation – Contractor

This category recognises principal contractors who have delivered projects involving significant technical challenges or innovative construction solutions. Entries should highlight complex site conditions, structural ingenuity, integration of advanced technologies, or unique design execution. The focus is on the contractor's leadership in managing and overcoming project challenges, coordinating trades, and ensuring successful delivery. Projects must demonstrate excellence in planning, problem-solving, and innovation that sets a benchmark for the industry.

Special Purpose/Adaptable Commercial Project

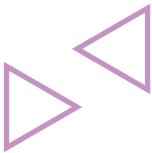
This category includes retirement villages, aged care developments, Government Housing projects, student and group accommodation. Projects may include communal facilities such as club houses, kitchens and/or gardens. A client statement is required with this entry.

Work Health Safety Awards

WHS awards promote best practice work health and safety on building and construction projects and construction-based systems. Each entry should demonstrate a commitment to developing, implementing, integrating and reviewing WHS practices on site. The entry submission should demonstrate the workplace consultation, employee training, and how the WHS solution can be more broadly applied to the industry overall. Submissions for this award are divided into the following three subcategories:

- **WHS Commercial***: for projects focused on the building of commercial spaces and facilities
- **WHS Residential**: for projects focused on the construction of residential properties. This includes but is not limited to single dwelling properties, multi-story apartment complexes and residential subdivisions.
- **WHS Targeted Risk Management System**

**For entries in this category, Master Builders will automatically enter the entrant into the CCF ACT Earth Awards unless requested not to by the entrant.*



AWARD CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

Sustainable Construction Awards

The sustainable construction awards refer to projects with a goal of achieving net-zero construction and a net zero finished product. This includes how waste was minimised or avoided, if materials selected were salvaged/recycled/renewable/low emission, as well as water management and any other general environmental management details. Entries should also refer to the project's environmental living standard, including relevant EER, Green Star or NABERS ratings, and working conditions including the use of materials in construction.

Subcontractor Awards

Bathroom Project

A bathroom constructed in a new or existing home, not including appliances, electrical, plumbing, plastering, painting and ancillary work. Please note that the quality of associated trades is assessed in the judging of this category.

Best Use of Material

This category focuses on the use of a single material across a specific project. This includes materials used for building facades, entrances, roofing, cladding, joinery, painting, tiling, plastering and flooring.

Kitchen Project

A kitchen constructed in a new or existing home, not including appliances, electrical, plumbing, plastering, painting and ancillary work. Please note that the quality of associated trades is assessed in the judging of this category.

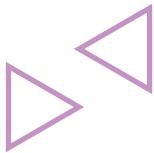
Landscape Design and Construction

Commercial Landscape Design and Construction. This category includes landscaping works for institutions, open spaces, road reserves, Water Sensitive Urban Designs, parks, apartments and aged care facilities.

Residential Landscape Design and Construction is open to subcontractors who have completed a particular residential landscaping project. A builder is welcome to be a joint entrant, however, the contractor that undertook the majority of the works must be the primary entrant.

Project Displaying Technical Difficulty or Innovation – Subcontractor

This category celebrates subcontractors who have played a key role in delivering technically demanding or innovative aspects of a construction project. Entries should showcase specialised skills, creative problem-solving, and the implementation of advanced techniques or materials. Whether through precise workmanship, overcoming site-specific constraints, or introducing new methods, the subcontractor's contribution must reflect a high level of expertise and innovation that significantly enhanced the overall project outcome.



AWARD CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

Individual/Company Awards

These awards will be determined via the resume and supporting letters for each entrant, by the judging team.

- Construction Woman of the Year¹
- Onsite Construction Manager of the Year
- Project Manager of the Year
- Professional of the Year
- Residential Subcontractor of the Year³
- Commercial Subcontractor of the Year^{1/3}
- Supplier of the Year³
- Young Builder of the Year²

¹ Entrants into these categories will automatically be entered in the CCF ACT Earth Awards under the relevant categories, so long as they meet the relevant criteria.

² Please note that entrants in this category are selected by our judges and cannot be submitted for.

³ For all company entries, we request that you provide a company group photo as well as photos of the team in action.

Top Awards

House of the Year

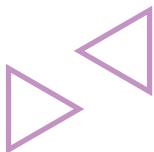
This award will be determined from a shortlist of the winners from each of the following categories:

- Custom Built/Project Home (all subcategories)
- Display Home (all subcategories)
- Renovations/Extensions (all subcategories, where existing home has been altered considerably)

Project of the Year

This award will be determined from a shortlist of the winners from each of the following categories:

- Apartments and Units (all subcategories)
- Civil Construction (all subcategories)
- Commercial Construction (all subcategories)
- Sustainable Construction (all subcategories)



2026 ENTRY CHECKLIST



Information you will need to provide with your entry

- All details of the project (project name, street address, completion date, final contract price etc.)
- Details of the entrant company (key contact information, postal address, contact number etc.)
- An appropriate answer to each selection criteria within the online submission guide
- Entrants are required to digitally sign a declaration stating that there were no serious injuries or deaths onsite AND that there are no outstanding debts or complaints relating to the project at time of entry.

Documents

- Digitally signed declaration stating that all information provided is true and correct to the best of the entrant's knowledge
- Plans, floorplan, elevations and other relevant drawings/documentation
- Certificate of Occupancy confirming the date of occupancy as per 2026 entry conditions
- A signed statement on company letterhead stating that there were no major WHS violations or incidents during the course of the project delivery

Individual Awards

- Entries for Project Manager, Onsite Construction Manager, Construction Woman and Professional of the Year require a resume and corporate headshots of the entrant.

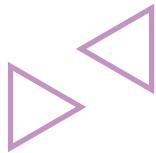
- Entries for individual awards require letters of reference, photographs of the entrant (individual or company) and images of projects worked on/managed by the entrant.

Photographs and logos

Important note on photo editing: images that have been doctored or altered using Photoshop or AI technologies (e.g. ChatGPT) may result in your entry being ruled ineligible. Any alterations to a photo that change the subject matter being judged, such as alterations to the appearance of the finishes or inclusions on the project, will result in the entry being ruled ineligible. Colour correction, cropping and subtle image enhancements are acceptable.

Entries must include the following:

- Minimum 15 high resolution colour photos of the project*, with no more than 20 photographs per entry. Please include a mix of landscape and portrait image.*Entries for Bathrooms and Kitchens may supply only 10
- For company entries, please include an all-staff group photo as well as 2-3 photos of staff members in action. This is very important for promotional purposes.
- The uploaded images should all be named appropriately with the entrant name and the location of photo e.g. Sesame Building – Main Bathroom.
- EPS and JPG files of the entrant company logo(s).
- Before and after photos are required for renovations and extension categories.
- Video footage (time lapse/promotional) are accepted but are not compulsory.



2026 ENTRY CHECKLIST (CONT)

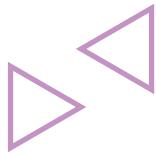
Display Homes

Display Home category entries must include their promotional brochures, inclusions lists and any other marketing activities to verify that the home is or was for display purposes. Ensure that Display Homes are entered into the category that best represents the retail price of the home, including all displayed inclusions, not the trade cost of the build.

Payment

Payment is required at point of entry. Any entries that are submitted without payment will be deemed incomplete and will not be accepted.

Joint entrant fees must all be paid before the commencement of the judging period.



CONDITIONS OF ENTRY



General information

Entry is open to current financial members of the Master Builders Association of the ACT (Master Builders ACT). New members must have their membership approved prior to the closing date.

All entrants must be appropriately licenced in the category entered, and must be a Master Builders ACT financial member through to the night of the event.

Entry

Entries must be completed (including all relevant documentation) and payment made by 5:00pm AEST on Friday 13 March 2026 (the Closing Date) through the online system at www.masterbuildersact.awardsplatform.com.

Incomplete entries will not be accepted and extensions will not be given.

Projects must have been completed and Certificate of Occupancy (or relevant completion certificate) obtained between 1 January 2025 – 13 March 2026 inclusive. Projects that have been entered previously are ineligible.

Joint entries will be accepted, however the primary entrant MUST be the builder or relevant licensed contractor. For all joint entries, each entrant (such as architects, designers, contractors) must EACH pay the \$300 entry fee for the specific award category. Joint entrants must also be a financial member of Master Builders ACT, up to and including the night of the awards.

Master Builders ACT reserves the right to reject an entry based on proximity of the project to the ACT, or the project's eligibility to enter

an Awards program in an alternative Master Builders jurisdiction.

If an entry is located beyond a 100km radius from Canberra GPO, the entry will not be accepted.

Master Builders ACT reserves the right not to accept an entry for any reason and has complete and unfettered discretion in this regard.

Categories

If the judges determine an entry to be entered into an incorrect category, they reserve the right to transfer an entry into the category they deem appropriate. Entrants will be notified of this decision and the reasons, however there is no right of reply or appeal and the judges' decision is final.

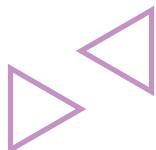
The judges reserve the right to amalgamate categories if the number of entries is deemed insufficient, or split categories if deemed necessary. A winner may not necessarily be declared for each category.

Price per square metre on completion is inclusive of GST.

Photographs and documents

All documents and photographs submitted for an entry remain the property of the Master Builders ACT. By providing the documents and photographs, entrants acknowledge and agree that this material may be used for other purposes, including but not limited to, marketing in the future.

Entrants must ensure they either hold the copyright, or have a license agreement for the use of photographs included as part of their submission. Entrants are encouraged



CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

to submit their professional photographer's details during their submission, to allow them to be credited on our socials and in publications and other materials. If the entrant has not provided this, they must make photographers aware that photo credit lines will not be published.

Judging

Judging appointments CANNOT be altered. It is the entrant's responsibility to ensure there are no issues with access to the project for the judging period. Entrants will be notified of their judging time before the judging period commences on 31 March 2026.

The judges reserve the right to decline to select a winner in a particular category if a minimum standard of excellence has not been achieved.

All information provided in the submission must be true and correct to the best of the entrant's knowledge.

Any project entered in more than one category (where allowable) must be submitted as a separate entry. Each entry must include a set of plans, all photos, and an additional entry fee paid, with varied written answers meeting criteria for each specific entry. No cross referencing is allowed.

The entrants must obtain permission and the owner/client's co-operation to allow access for judging. All entries are set to be judged between Monday 31 March and Friday 9 May 2026.

Judges must have internal access to the project (where applicable) at the time notified for judging and must be accompanied by the project builder for the site inspection.

If the building is not occupied at the time of entering the awards, but it later becomes occupied, permission and agreement to allow access must be obtained by the entrant from the occupier prior to judging.

The judges' decision is final and NO correspondence directly with judges will be facilitated. Judges are independent of Master Builders ACT.

Judging decisions are based on the condition and presentation of the project at the time of the judging inspection.

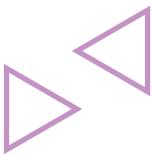
All efforts will be made to ensure judging for 2026 will occur in person, onsite with our judging teams.

Finalists & Winners

Finalists and non-finalists will be notified of their status on Tuesday 3 June 2026. Decisions are made in accordance with the judging criteria and all decisions are at the unfettered discretion of the judges. There is no avenue for appeal and correspondence regarding judging outcomes will not be entered into.

Category winners of the Master Builders and Asset Construction Hire Excellence Awards will be automatically entered into the Master Builders Australia National Awards. Due to the limited number of national categories, only winners with a directly corresponding category will be entered. Master Builders Australia only recognises the builder at a national level, meaning that joint entrants will not progress to this stage.

If you have any questions about the 2026 Entry Terms and Conditions, please contact the Master Builders ACT Events Team via events@mba.org.au or (02) 6175 5900.



FAQ'S



Who can enter the Master Builders ACT Excellence Awards?

All entrants into the Awards must be current financial members of Master Builders ACT, including joint entrants. Membership must be valid both at time of entry and at the time of the awards presentation on 11 September 2026. If you wish to enter the awards and are not currently a member, please reach out to canberra@mba.org.au to discuss becoming a member.

What file size and format should my photos be?

Photos must be over 1000kb/1MB, with the majority of images in landscape format. You must ensure all images are in jpeg format. No PDF images will be accepted.

Please label all images in your entry, including one image as the 'HERO image', which will be the main image used for your entry on all future Awards media except where an alternative is chosen at the discretion of the marketing team for promotional or publishing purposes.

What should I name my entry?

Residential, renovation, sustainable and subcontractor entries

Title your entry under the suburb name only (include the block number if you are submitting multiple entries in the same suburb).

Medium density and apartment entries

Title your entry under the building name and suburb.

Commercial and civil entries

Title your entry as the best representation of the project.

WHS entries

Title your entry under the name of WHS system you are entering.

Individual entries

Title your entry under the name of the individual and/or company.

When calculating the cost of the build per square metre, what is included?

Please ensure all build costs are included in the price per square metre, apart from landscaping, fencing, demolition and non-structural retaining wall costs.

What if my client does not want me to disclose the contract price?

Unfortunately, all contract prices must be disclosed. However, during the entry process, you can ask for this information to be kept confidential (meaning that only Master Builders ACT and judges will be aware of this information).

Can I submit a project that is still under construction?

No, all projects must be completed prior to the entry deadline. Projects under construction are not eligible.

Can I resubmit an entry I put in last year?

No, previously judged entries cannot be submitted. Entries submitted for the 2026 Awards must be completed within the applicable time frame (1 January 2025 – 13 March 2026).

What photos should I provide for my individual entry?

To enter an individual category, a minimum of 10 photos must be supplied. This can include:

- 1-2 corporate, professional headshots of the nominee
- Other images of the nominee in action (ie. training a course, accepting an award, managing or interacting onsite)
- 2 company logos in eps & jpeg format

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Member Engagement Team

(02) 6175 5900

events@mba.org.au