



2025 ABC Ohio Valley

# Excellence in Construction Awards

## Project Entry Requirements and Forms

*Ohio Valley Associated Builders and Contractors invites  
your organization to enter its best projects in the 2025  
ABC Awards Excellence in Construction competition.*

You know that you've done some great things in 2023-2024 – submit an entry and join us at the celebration on May 8, 2025!

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## Program Overview

Your company has the opportunity to compete for recognition in the construction industry's premier annual awards program – the ABC Ohio Valley Awards Excellence in Construction (EIC) Gala – recognizing the outstanding merit shop projects of the year. Use this application and the included forms to enter your company's best project(s).

All project and craft professional entries will be recognized at the **May 8, 2025** awards celebration. The ABC Awards Gala will feature a multi-media presentation highlighting the Eagle and Pyramid winners, and an elegant printed program highlighting each submitted project and craft professional.

## Entry Requirements

Each entry must follow the entry requirements outlined in this award application. You may email questions to Claire Schoenfeld – [claire@ovabc.org](mailto:claire@ovabc.org)

### **Project Safety Requirement**

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

### **Completion of Project Requirement**

To be eligible for award consideration, the project must be completed by December 31, 2024.

### **Project Entry Steps**

1. **Intent to Submit** – Each company intending to enter a project must send an “intent to submit” email to [claire@ovabc.org](mailto:claire@ovabc.org) by end of day, February 7, 2025. A return email acknowledging receipt will be sent. Intent to submit does not obligate any project to complete the full application but assists in planning for the event.
2. **Application Forms** – All complete project applications/forms submitted to the portal no later than April 11, 2025. Documents should be submitted in downloadable form, not simply pdf and email. **ABC must have capability to download photos.**
3. **Project Entry Fee** – Each project entry must be submitted with a \$395 check made payable to ABC Ohio Valley. If you are submitting multiple projects, you may combine the fees into one check.

### **Entry Deadlines**

Absolutely no extensions can be made to the indicated deadlines.

### **Mailing Address**

ABC Ohio Valley  
Attn: 2025 ABC Awards Excellence in Construction  
33 Greenwood Lane, Springboro, OH 45066

### **More Information**

Specific questions may be directed to OVABC office by sending an email to Claire Schoenfeld – [claire@ovabc.org](mailto:claire@ovabc.org)

## Overview of Award Categories

Project Awards may be presented in any of 48 categories. Multiple projects may be recognized in the same category. We have modeled these categories after our ABC National Excellence in Construction awards.

### **Excellence Eagle Award**

Submitted projects hope to win our most prestigious award, the ABC Eagle. Award winners will receive a specially designed eagle sculpture to signify construction's highest honor.

### **Merit Pyramid / Honorable Mention Award**

Construction Projects that do not win an Eagle may be chosen with an award of Merit and receive an ABC Pyramid Award or an award for Honorable Mention.

**Craft Professional of the Year**

All nominees for Craft Professional of the Year will receive a plaque recognizing their significant contribution toward a project. Any number of finalists may be invited to the event; one individual will be recognized as Craft Professional of the Year.

**Woman of the Year in Construction**

Women play a significant role in the construction industry, yet their contributions often go unnoticed. By celebrating women in the industry, we aim to lead to more women to consider careers in construction. If you know of a woman to nominate, to be considered for this award, please complete the separate Woman of the Year nomination form. Any number of finalists may be invited to the event, one individual will be recognized as Woman of the Year in Construction.

**OVABC Members working with Members Award**

Special recognition may be given to select Eagle Award winners for projects that identify significant numbers of ABC members involved in a project. Once a project is selected as an Eagle Award winner by the judges, it is then considered for the members working with members Award.

**Community Outreach Award**

OVABC members frequently participate in community events, giving both time and treasure for causes they believe in. Awards may be presented in Special recognition of those companies that give back to their community. To be considered for this award, please complete the separate Community Outreach Award nomination form.

**Awards for General Contracting / Construction Management**

There are many project award categories for companies that perform general contracting or construction management services. Please review the categories below to determine eligible projects.

**Mega-Projects**

All projects regardless of type.

- More than \$100 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**

Projects that enhance the community, using resources partially or fully donated by the contractor.

- All contract amounts up to \$100 million

**Federal Government / Military**

All projects owned by the Federal Government.

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

**Healthcare**

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**

Schools, churches, local government structures and similar types of construction.

- 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**

Renovation or restoration of non-historical, existing buildings.

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

**Residential**

Residential, including independent living retirement communities; all contract amounts up to \$100 million.

- Single-family projects
- Multi-family projects and condominiums

**Other Construction**

Examples include theme parks, zoos, skate parks, water parks and other unique types of projects.

## Awards for Specialty or Sub - Contracting

There are 17 project award categories for companies that perform specialty contracting and/or do not act as the general contractor or construction manager.

### Community / Public Service

Projects that enhance the community, using resources partially or fully donated by the contractor.

- All contract amounts

### Electrical

All projects.

- More than \$10 million

### 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

### Mechanical

All projects.

- More than \$10 million

### Mechanical: Commercial

Schools, hospitals, institutional, and shopping centers.

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

### Mechanical: Industrial

Manufacturing plants, processing plants and pneumatic controls.

- Less than \$10 million

### Exteriors

All contract amounts.

- Masonry, precast or stone
- All other exterior finishes

### Interiors

- Acoustical, drywall, millwork or plaster
- All other interior finishes

### Sitework / Landscape / Hardscape

Interior/exterior, landscaping and parking lots.

- All contract amounts

### Other Specialty Construction

Construction not specifically referred to in the above categories.

- Less than \$1 million
- More than \$1 million

## Judging Criteria

Please read each section carefully.

The panel of judges represents a cross section of construction industry experts, including owners, architects, engineers and other industry leaders. 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.

### Overall Presentation and Conformance to Entry Requirements

(5 points)

- Entry documents must be named in the format of [Entry Category – Company Name – Project Name]
- Use headers labeled for each of the (9) sections. Project information form/short description will be in front of header 1.
- Include digital copies of photos as well as any video or media coverage from the project.

### Contracted Scope – Header Section 1

(5 points)

- Up to one full page.
- Provide a description of your scope for this project with the following information: **type of construction, size of project, contract value, length of project, and percentage of labor that is self-performed.**
- Describe the opportunities you provided to the construction community to participate based on merit.
- An example of Contracted Scope narratives may be viewed online at <https://www.abc.org/Portals/1/Documents/Membership%20Docs/Excellence%20in%20Construction/Contracted%20Scope%20Examples/MiddlemanCS.pdf>

## Judging Criteria (continued)

### **Project Narrative** – Header Section 2 (25 points)

- In up to four pages, tell the “story” of this project by providing a written narrative highlighting why the project is special and why it should be recognized with an Excellence Award. Describe any innovative programs relating to personnel management, quality control, scheduling, use of technology, and value analysis.
- Indicate any special obstacles that were overcome in completing the project by detailing difficulties or extenuating circumstances encountered in completing the project.

### **Project Participation List** – Header Section 3 (10 points)

- Provide a list of every contractor (prime and sub) and regional supplier involved in this project. **Include primary contact name, phone AND email information for each.**

### **Craft Professional / Woman of the Year Recognition** – Header Section 4 (10 points)

- Complete at least one of the separate nomination forms for a Craft Professional of the Year or Woman of the Year in Construction. Submit same information and digital photograph of at least one individual craft worker or woman or both to be recognized for outstanding work on the specific project as a part of the project award submission. This information will be shared as a part of the event program and some finalists may be invited to attend the gala. If you do not employ craft workers/women, or were only operating as a project manager with no self-performance of labor, identify and nominate an individual craft worker or woman from a subcontractor on the project.

### **Diversity** – Header Section 5 (5 points)

- Submit details of your corporate diversity efforts. Did the project include goals and were they met?
- Submit details of your corporate efforts to increase diversity in the construction industry through outreach, training, and hiring practices. How does your company work to partner / mentor WBE/MBE/DBE/SBE firms in the industry? Did you submit a nomination for Woman of the Year in Construction?

### **Photographs** – Header Section 6 (5 points)

- Submit photographs of the project (5-10 total photos are recommended). See recommended guidelines.
- To receive maximum points, provide “in progress” photos for new construction or “before and after” photos for restoration and renovation projects. In the document, you may provide a descriptive caption for photos.
- A link to download high-resolution copies of the images is required.

### **Project Safety** – Header Section 7 (20 points)

- Complete the separate Project Safety form on page 7 of this application and include it in the Project Safety section of the project’s entry. Include this form as the first page behind the Safety header of the entry.
- The second page must be your company’s OSHA Form 300 (project specific, if available) for the year(s) the project was under construction, with personal information redacted.
- Has your company taken the ABC Drug Free Pledge? Have you completed the online STEP application?

### **Training Opportunities (5 pts) School Outreach (5 pts)** – Header Section 8 (10 points)

- Did this project offer opportunities for your skilled workers to mentor those in training? How? Provide examples.
- Submit details of your corporate efforts / commitments to training the next generation of skilled tradespeople.
- Do you participate in a formal training program / registered apprenticeship?
- How does your company assist in recruiting candidates to work in construction? Do you participate in job fairs, school visits, or outreach programs? Do you promote <https://yourfuturecareer.org>? – link via your website?

### **References** – Header Section 9 (5 points)

- Include letters of recommendation from third parties involved with the project, such as an owner, designer, engineer, or subcontractor.

# Project Information Form

Provide the requested information **exactly as it should appear in award-related materials and on the award**. Include this form as the first page of the project's entry. Note that **each project submitted requires a completely separate entry form**. If you have any questions regarding this application, please contact Claire Schoenfeld at ABC Ohio Valley at [claire@ovabc.org](mailto:claire@ovabc.org)

Name of contractor: \_\_\_\_\_

Company principal and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you are (check all that apply):  WBE  MBE :  DBE  SBE

**Primary Contact Information for Project**

Contact name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Information**

Name of project: \_\_\_\_\_

Project location (city/state): \_\_\_\_\_

Contract amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Award entry category (see list): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of primary architect (firm name): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of primary engineer (firm name): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of general contractor (if applying company is a specialty contractor): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of client/owner (firm name): \_\_\_\_\_

Starting date of construction: \_\_\_\_\_

Completion date of construction: \_\_\_\_\_

**Craft Professional / Woman of the Year Information**

Name of contractor: \_\_\_\_\_

Craft Professional recognized on project / title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**And/Or** Woman in Construction recognized on project / title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Project Information**

Was this a design-build project, with design and construction services under one contract with a single point of responsibility?  Yes  No

Was this a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) project through the U. S. Green Building Council?  Yes  No

If it was a LEED project, indicate the status of the LEED certification:  
 Under Review  Certified as \_\_\_\_\_ Level  Did not submit

# Project Award Category Form

Include this form with the project’s entry, immediately behind the Project Information Form.

Provide a short statement on a separate sheet of paper describing what makes this project special. This description may be incorporated into the EIC program description. Place the page with the description immediately behind this form with your entry in front of Header 1.

## General Contracting / Construction Management

For a project with the company performing work as a general contractor or a construction manager.

Mega-Projects

More than \$100 million

Commercial

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

Community / Public Service

All contract amounts up to \$100 million

Federal Government / Military

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

Healthcare

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

Historical Restoration / Renovation

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

Industrial

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

Infrastructure: Heavy

All contract amounts up to \$100 million

Institutional

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

Pre-Engineered Building

All Contract Amounts up to \$100 million

Public Works / Environmental

All contract amounts up to \$100 million

Renovation

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

Residential

- Single-family projects up to \$100 million
- Multi-family and condominium projects up to \$100 million

Other Construction

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

## Specialty or Sub - Contracting

For a project with the company performing work as a specialty contractor.

Community / Public Service

All contract amounts

Electrical

More than \$10 million

Electrical: Commercial

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

Electrical: Industrial

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

Mechanical

More than \$10 million

Mechanical: Commercial

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

Mechanical: Industrial

Less than \$10 million

Exteriors

- Masonry, precast or stone
- All other exterior finishes

Interiors

- Acoustical, drywall, millwork or plaster
- All other interior finishes

Sitework / Landscape / Hardscape

All contract amounts

Other Specialty Construction

- Less than \$1 million
- More than \$1 million

# Project Safety Form

Complete this form and include it **as the first page of** the Project Safety section of the project’s entry document. **This form is mandatory.** No project that involves a prime, multi-prime, subcontractor or any trade related work regardless of the type of contract, that has a safety-related fatality, is eligible for an Excellence in Construction Award.

- Did this project have a safety-related fatality?  Yes  No  
If yes, do not submit your entry for this competition.
- Include a copy of the OSHA Form 300 for your company (project specific, if available) for the year(s) the project was under construction immediately behind this form in the Project Safety section of the document, with personal information redacted.
- After completing the online STEP application, please include details of your level and a copy of your participant, bronze, silver, gold, platinum or diamond-level certificate from the year the project was performed or from 2020/21. To apply, go to <http://abcstep.org>. For more information or help with the STEP application, email questions to [wendy@ovabc.org](mailto:wendy@ovabc.org)
- Does your company have a written Safety and Health Policy Manual?  Yes  No  
If yes, provide up to a one-page summary or include one page of its Table of Contents.
- Did you develop a site-specific Safety and Health Policy Manual?  Yes  No  
If yes, provide up to a one-page summary or include one page of its Table of Contents.
- Were toolbox safety meetings held with employees?  Yes  No  
Were these meetings documented?  Yes  No  
Frequency of meetings: \_\_\_\_\_  
Include a one-page summary or an example, up to two pages.
- Was specialized training conducted on this project?  Yes  No  
If yes, indicate types on a separate page.
- Indicate total man-hours for all disciplines included in your contract on this project: \_\_\_\_\_  
(General contractors and construction managers must also include all specialty contractors’ hours on this project.)
- Indicate number of OSHA-recordable accidents on this project: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include accident counts for all specialty contractors under your contract.)
- Indicate number of OSHA restricted day cases on this project: \_\_\_\_\_
- Indicate number of OSHA lost-time accidents on this project: \_\_\_\_\_
- Compute the project’s Total Recordable Incidence Rate:  
TRIR = Number of recordable accidents x (200,000/ total man hours for the project): \_\_\_\_\_
- Provide the project’s organizational chart identifying the person responsible for safety.
- Provide information about the person responsible for safety on this project and attesting to these accident rates:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does your company have a written substance abuse policy?  Yes  No  
If yes, provide a copy of the Table of Contents.
- Additional information regarding any innovative safety and health programs used on this project or the company’s overall safety program may be included.



# Project Entry Qualifications, Rights and Agreement

*Include this form as the last page of the project's entry document.*

**Property**

All entries become the property of Ohio Valley Associated Builders and Contractors (OVABC).

**Entry Category Reassignment**

OVABC 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. OVABC also reserves the right to redistribute the contract volume levels within a category.

**Photographs** (This section may be copied to a separate page for ease of gaining signature. No amendments will be accepted.) Photographs submitted with the application have been licensed by the photographer to be used by ABC. Applicant has obtained the signature of any third party photographer to reprint the photographs without limitations.

**License to Use:** The undersigned photographer hereby grants Associated Builders and Contractors ("ABC") a non-exclusive license regarding my photographs submitted by applicant in support of its entry in the ABC National Excellence in Construction Awards competition ("Competition"). This license grants ABC an unlimited right to use, reproduce, crop, resize, publicly display, distribute, and transmit electronically including on the internet, my photographs in connection with the Competition including but not limited to the promotion of the Competition and the announcement and promotion of any awards, without payment of any royalty or license or other fee by or from ABC or applicant or agent or other representative of ABC or applicant.

Photographer's Name (signature): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Photographer's Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grant of Rights**

The applicant hereby grants to OVABC the following non-exclusive rights: the right to reproduce, distribute and sell copies of the work throughout the year as part of the competition materials described above, including the right to reprint the work, or any part thereof, whenever necessary and to license the use of the work, or any part thereof, in any medium or form of communication; and the right to use the applicant's name, photographs and biography, in connection with the work. The applicant reserves all rights not specifically granted herein.

**Safety Provision**

No project that involves a prime, multi-prime, subcontractor or any trade related work regardless of the type of contract, that has a safety-related fatality, is eligible for an award.

**Warranty**

The applicant warrants that the work is original, that its publication will not infringe on the rights of others, and that it has the full power to make this grant.

**Notification and News Releases**

ABC Ohio Valley may or may not announce Excellence in Construction Award winners in advance of the May 8, 2025 awards ceremony. News releases will be held until after the actual awards ceremony takes place in May 2025. ABC will provide winners with a news release and photograph within several weeks of the ceremony. Until that time the winners' information is embargoed.

**Applicant Agreement**

I have submitted a check for \$395 payable to "ABC Ohio Valley" in accordance with the entry fee requirements. I have also uploaded to the portal a project entry that was prepared in accordance with the requirements indicated in this application.

I hereby give permission to Ohio Valley Associated Builders and Contractors (OVABC) to use the photographs and any information submitted to the Excellence in Construction Awards competition in OVABC awards materials, including presentations and printed matter, as well as promotional materials and news releases.

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_