



2026 PROJECT ELIGIBILITY & INFORMATION PACKET

Associated Builders and Contractors Heart of America celebrates exceptional performance in safety, craftsmanship, best practices, and overall project management and execution.

We are pleased to invite you to enter your project for the 2026 Excellence in Construction Awards.



**INTENT TO COMPETE
DUE JULY 23**

**PROJECT SUBMISSIONS
DUE SEPTEMBER 3**





★ ★ ★ PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Excellence in Construction awards program is the industry’s leading competition, developed to honor innovative and high-quality Merit Shop construction projects. The award honors all construction team members, including the contractor, owner, architect, and engineer. Selected from entries submitted from across Missouri and Kansas, participants are judged on complexity, attractiveness, unique challenges overcome, completion time, workmanship, innovation, safety and cost.

Selected winners will be celebrated at our Excellence in Construction Awards Banquet Thursday, November 5, 2026 at The Gallery Event Space, 5:30-9:30PM.

★ ★ ★ ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Only ABC Heart of America Chapter contractor members in good standing are eligible to enter.
2. Projects must be completed between September 1, 2025 and August 31, 2026.
3. Applications are due by July 23, 2026 and project submissions are due by September 3, 2026.
4. Any company that experiences a *safety-related fatality* of a direct employee in the United States within the current program year (September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2026) are not eligible. 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 during the three years before the current program year is required to provide additional information regarding action that has been taken following the fatality. Any project that involves prime, multi-prime or sub-trade contractors with a safety-related fatality will not be eligible to be considered for an award. There is a \$375 fee for each project submitted in a category. Payment must be received by check or credit card no later than July 23, 2026.

- Projects may only be entered in one category. ABC reserves the right to change an entry’s original category or subcategory based on overall submissions. Detailed category descriptions are listed in this project eligibility and application packet.
- 5.

Entries may only be electronically submitted. No physical entry binders will be accepted.

6. ABC has the right to use photos submitted by the contractor to promote merit shop construction.
- 7.

★ ★ ★ CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions about the application or submission process please contact aubry@abcksmo.org or call 816.994.5990.



PROJECT AWARD CATEGORY

GENERAL CONTRACTOR/CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

All sub-category by cost are subject to change.

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY BY COST	
COMMERCIAL Office buildings, retail facilities, banks, hotels, museums, mixed-use buildings, etc.	Under \$10 Million	Over \$10 Million
HEALTHCARE Hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living, licensed medical facilities, laboratories, etc.	All contract amounts	
INFRASTRUCTURE: HEAVY Streets, highways, parks, dams, bridges, etc.	All contract amounts	
HISTORICAL RESTORATION/RENOVATION Restoration of buildings registered as historical, or eligible to be referred to as so.	All contract amounts	
INDUSTRIAL Manufacturing plants, processing plants, testing facilities, refineries and similar, etc.	Under \$5 Million	Over \$5 Million
INSTITUTIONAL Schools, churches, prisons, stadiums, sports arenas, performing arts centers, zoos, airports, etc.	Under \$5 Million	Over \$5 Million
PUBLIC WORKS/ENVIRONMENTAL Communication towers, statues, locks & dams, water treatment plants, etc.	All contract amounts	
RENOVATION Renovations of non-historical, existing buildings	All contract amounts	
RESIDENTIAL Single family and multi-family dwellings, independent retirement communities, etc.	All contract amounts	
SPECIALTY Not specifically referred to in the above categories	All contract amounts	



PROJECT AWARD CATEGORY

SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR

All sub-category by cost are subject to change.

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY BY COST	
ELECTRICAL COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL New construction, office buildings, retail facilities, banks, hotels, schools, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, laboratories, outdoor lighting, shopping centers, call centers, multi-family residential, fountain features in a commercial facility, sports arenas, alarms, parking lots, etc.	Under \$2 Million	Over \$2 Million
ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIAL Hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living, licensed medical facilities, laboratories, etc.	Under \$2 Million	Over \$2 Million
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR Metal stud and gypsum, ceiling finishes, painting and wall finishes, flooring, glass & glazing, pre-cast, stone, roofing, masonry, tilt-up, etc.	All contract amounts	
MECHANICAL COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL New construction, office buildings, retail facilities, banks, hotels, schools, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, laboratories, outdoor lighting, shopping centers, call centers, multi-family residential, fountain features in a commercial facility, sports arenas, alarms, parking lots, etc.	All contract amounts	
MECHANICAL INDUSTRIAL Manufacturing plants, processing plants, data centers, clean rooms, printing and processing centers, airports, animal facilities or electrical renovation in an existing industrial facility, etc.	All contract amounts	
SPECIALTY Landscaping, paving, parking lots, roofing, artistic scaffolding, unique projects, foundation features, art, etc.	All contract amounts	

