

2026 ABC of Oklahoma Excellence in Construction Official Entry Details & Instructions



USB drive return deadline - August 10th

Excellence in Merit Shop Construction

ABC's Excellence in Construction Awards are designed to recognize and celebrate the outstanding achievements of our general and specialty contractors. Your company has the opportunity to compete for honors in the commercial construction industry's premier annual awards program recognizing the outstanding construction projects of the year.

All award winners will be recognized at the awards celebration on Thursday, October 29th at the Osage Casino Hotel Skyline Event Center. All winners will be recognized in a special edition of The Advantage magazine and on the ABC of Oklahoma website. All chapter winners will automatically be qualified to enter the ABC National Excellence in Construction awards program where the winning projects will be honored at the association's National Awards celebration on March 10, 2027 in Denver.

Safety Policy:

A company that experiences a safety-related fatality of a direct employee in the United States within the current program year (Oct. 16, 2025 - Oct. 15, 2026) 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.

Furthermore, all EIC award winners have a continuing duty to inform ABC of a safety-related fatality that occurred after the end of the application process until the time of the awards program. Such a fatality will nullify the EIC award.

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

Eligibility:

Only ABC general contractor or subcontractor members in good standing of Associated Builders & Contractors of Oklahoma are eligible to enter. Only projects completed between October 16, 2025 through October 15, 2026 are eligible. The date on the Certificate of Substantial Completion shall determine the project's completion. There is no geographic limitation on the location of any project entered.

Owner's written approval for projects to be entered and judged should be obtained in advance.

The Awards Committee reserves the right to re-categorize and /or disqualify any entry for cause. An entry will be disqualified if all requirements are not met. No project with a safety-related fatality is eligible to be considered for an award.

Judging:

A panel of judges representing a cross section of the industry will select our winners. Judges will evaluate entries based on the material submitted and will consider factors such as attractiveness of design, complexity, workmanship, innovation, safety, unusual challenges or problems overcome, etc. No member or staff of Associated Builders & Contractors of Oklahoma will participate as judges.

ABC Membership Required:

Only ABC contractor members are eligible to enter. For joint venture projects, all companies must be ABC members in order to enter as a joint venture. If only the majority partner is an ABC member, the project is eligible but not as a joint venture project. If only the majority owner is an ABC member, but not all partners are ABC members, only the majority owner is eligible to enter. Minority partners are not eligible.

Entry Steps and Requirements

ABC's Excellence in Construction (EIC) awards program is Oklahoma's premier commercial construction competition, with projects vying to be named the best of the best in Oklahoma.

Be sure to note all important dates and deadlines.

Each separate entry must be submitted on a USB drive. Label all USB entry drives with your company name and project.

There is a total possible score of 100 points. Listed below are the categories, their point values and how the USB drive should be organized.

Conformance to Entry Requirements 5 points

1) OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

EIC Entry Documents can be found at www.abcokla.org, under the **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT** tab click **Excellence in Construction (EIC)** then **EIC Entry**.

www.abcokla.org/Business-Development/Excellence-in-Construction-EIC/EIC-Entry

Project Information - Required

Complete the Official Entry Form. Make sure this information is correct, as this will be used on EIC materials and awards.

STEP Safety Management System 5 points

Indicate if your company was a STEP award recipient in 2025. Go to www.abcokla.org under the **SAFETY** tab to find out about this ABC National Program and see past ABC Oklahoma STEP recipients.

Accredited Quality Contractor 2 points

Indicate if your company was an ABC Accredited Quality Contractor (AQC) in 2025. Go to www.abc.org/AQC to find out more about this ABC National Program.

Safety Requirements Required

Complete the Safety Questionnaire and describe your company's safety program. Include your company's OSHA Form 300 (project-specific, if available) for the year(s) the project was under construction - in USB Safety Folder titled **OSHA 300**.

Project Category Required

Indicate the category your project is entering. Either General Contracting/Construction Management or Specialty Contracting. Pick only one category.

2) Project Description Required

The Project Description is a 50-word (maximum) paragraph that, should you win, will be read by the emcee the night of the awards banquet. *Note, this is subject to editing and may be changed by ABC staff.*

Using the highlights from your project narrative, the project description should highlight the most impressive/unique aspects/challenges of the job. DO NOT include filler phrases such as 'on time and under budget' nor what the project will be used for (who will play in this park, the students that will go to this school, the patients that will be healed in this hospital, etc.); DO include an overview of your company's scope of the project.

Include a Word document or pdf file titled **Project Description** on your USB Entry Drive.

Narrative / Contracted Scope

Max 40 points

The narrative / contracted scope (4 pages max) tells the complete story of the project. Provide a description of your scope for this project including the following information:

- Type of construction
- Size of project
- Contract value
- Duration of project
- Percentage of labor that is self-performed
- 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 relating to productivity

Use this space to tell what's significant about this project. This is where you can brag about why a project is special and what qualifies it for an award. Enlist the project manager, superintendent or other on-site personnel to help write this.

Although many projects will be used very philanthropically, be sure to talk about the construction, not how the project will be used.

The document may be up to four pages and should be portrait orientation. Photos/images may be incorporated.

Include a PDF file titled **Narrative** on your USB Entry Drive.

3) References

Max 5 points

Endorsements, third party comments and letters of recommendation from third parties involved with the project should be included in a folder labeled **References**. General contractors should submit letters from at least the owner and the architect. Specialty contractors should submit a letter from at least the general contractor.

4) Project Partners

3 points

List ALL subcontractors and vendors (including contact information) involved in the project in a folder labeled **Project Partners**.

A PDF document containing a list of current ABC members is included in the EIC entry documents. Highlight ABC members who participated in this project and save this **ABC Members** file in the **Project Partners** folder. Be sure to include ABC member professionals supporting the project (bank, insurance, attorney, etc.).

5) Photos and Artwork

Max 40 points

Include your company logo and up to 10 project photos in a file folder named **Photos**.

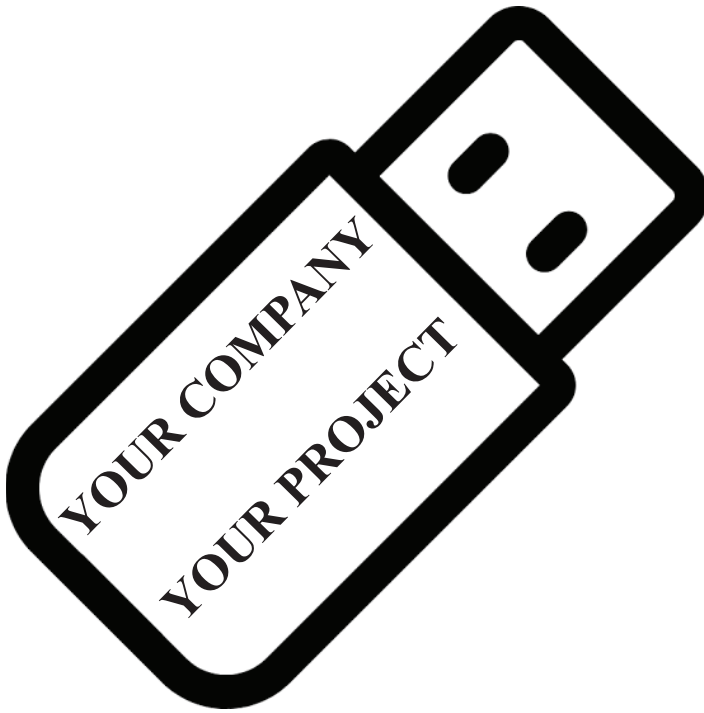
The judges will not visit project sites; therefore, the photos are very important and must adequately depict the project. It's helpful to provide 'in progress' photos for new construction or 'before and after' photos for restoration and renovation projects.

Safety, safety, safety! Analyze each photo submitted for any possible safety violations. Safety is a priority at ABC, and points will not be rewarded for a photo that contains a safety violation. Involve the company's safety expert when selecting photos.

If any photos being submitted were taken by a third-party photographer, the photographer's written authorization to use the photos is required. The **Photographer's Use Authorization** form is included on the EIC entry webpage.

- Photos should be in a photo file folder named **Photos** on the flash drive.
- Photos should be saved at no less than 300 dpi resolution, 4"x6" or larger.
- Photos should be high-resolution .jpg or .png files.
- Photos taken in landscape format (not portrait) are preferred for the winner's program.
- Photos must NOT be submitted with a picture collage or embedded in a software program, such as PowerPoint or Adobe.
- Photos must NOT include any text, framing or watermarks.

Entry Checklist - *Deadline August 10*



Included on the USB should be the following files:

ABC 2026 EIC Official Entry Form

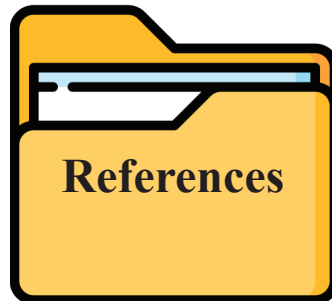
Project Description

Project Narrative

Also included on the USB should be the below folders:



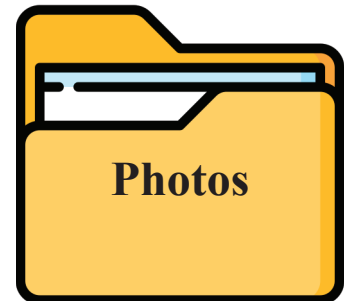
OSHA 300
Other Safety Files



Reference Letters



ABC Members
Sub & Vendor List



Company Logo
Project Photos

Important Dates & Deadlines - *Absolutely no extensions can be made to the posted deadlines.*

Monday, August 10 - Deadline to submit the Official Entry on a USB drive. Applicants will have until 5pm to turn in USB drives to **ABC of Oklahoma, 1915 N. Yellowwood Ave., Broken Arrow, OK 74012.**

Mid-September – All applicants will receive an email with the results. Local winners are qualified to enter the ABC National Excellence in Construction Awards Competition.

Go to www.abc.org/eic for the National EIC details.

Thursday, October 29 - Winners will be celebrated at the Annual ABC of Oklahoma Excellence in Construction Awards Gala in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

News releases will be held until after the actual awards ceremony. Until that time, winners agree to not send a press release or social media posts.

Questions? Contact Becky Taylor at btaylor@abcokla.org or (918) 254-8707.
Return the Official Entry on a USB to ABC of Oklahoma by August 10.