

# 2026 Craft Professionals of the Year

ABC Keystone will be accepting nominations for the 2026 Craft Professional Awards in the following trades:

- Carpentry
- HVAC
- Exterior veneers
- Electrical
- Sitework
- Plumbing
- Interiors

Criteria are based on the nominee's mastery of skills, safety performance, job site performance and productivity, leadership, and on-the-job project information.

---

**Submission Deadline:** Friday, March 27, 2026 by 4:30 pm

*\*Each entry must adhere to all entry requirements.*

**Send to:** Laura Chanoski @ [laura@abckeystone.org](mailto:laura@abckeystone.org)

*\*Applications and all supplemental materials must be submitted as one PDF.*

## 2026 ENTRY RULES AND REGULATIONS

### Entry Requirements:

1. Nominees must be currently employed by an ABC member in good standing.
2. Approximately 90% of the nominees' daily job duties must include either daily use of the tools or equipment.\*
3. Nominees must currently possess a journey-level designation and can provide proof of their designation.
4. Award categories will include: carpentry, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, sitework, interiors, exterior veneers.

*\*Office, corporate, or management personnel not limited to, but including project managers, engineers, sales representatives, estimators and other non-field positions are ineligible for award recognition.*

### Entry Rules:

- Self-nominations are prohibited.
- Each nominee must have worked on a project that has been completed by December 31, 2025, and made part of this submission (may submit more than one project – maximum of 3 projects)

### Award Criteria:

All Nominations must include the following in the single pdf file electronic entry:

1. Completed Application Form
2. Proof of Journey-level Designation – in lieu of a copy of a Journeyman's card, you may submit a signed letter from your company stating that your nominee is a Journeyman as described by your organization.
3. Nominator provides a General Skill Set Essay – This provides an overall picture of the nominee's general skill set. A 250-word (maximum) essay explaining the nominee's:

**a. Mastery of Skills – 6 pts.**

- Displays the ability to perform job at a high level with little to no supervision.
- Understands complex situations and the ability to solve jobsite problems strategically.
- Uses technology in the craft to provide a better deliverable for the client.

**b. Safety Performance – 12 pts.**

- Supports a value of safety throughout his/her own personal commitment.
- Encourages safety among peer groups and with the company management team.
- Trained to deal with medical emergencies onsite.

**c. Jobsite Performance and Productivity – 19 pts.**

- Displays a productive work ethic that drives company profitability.
- Provides innovative solutions that keep the project on time and under budget.
- Participates and promotes the need for continual skills upgrades for employees to stay current with the construction trends and materials.
- Strives to provide a quality product for the client.

**4. Nominee's documentation of current craft certificates, licenses, certifications, awards, etc. within the past three (3) years.**

**5. Nominee's skill set as worked on your jobsite(s) – up to three projects max. – 23 pts. (regardless of number of projects highlighted)**

*This provides more specific info on the nominee's skill set from a jobsite. Note: It is not required that the projects featured on the Craft Professional Award application be entered in the ABC Excellence in Construction Awards.*

- Include up to one page, ensuring legibility when selecting font design and size.
- Provide a written narrative indicating why the nominee and his/her work is special and why it qualifies for an award. Be sure to include the following items:
  - Describe innovation relating to quality control.
  - Describe innovation relating to scheduling.
  - Describe innovation relating to productivity.
  - Describe innovation relating to problem-solving.
  - Describe any opportunity for the nominee to mentor other field employees.
  - Indicate any special obstacles the nominee overcame in completing the project.

**6. Photographs of project(s) submitted with application – 5 photos maximum per project.**

- High-resolution color photo of the nominee.
- JPEG file
- 300 dpi
- CMYK color mode

Send to: Laura Chanoski at [laura@abckeystone.org](mailto:laura@abckeystone.org)

**Judging and Selection of Winners**

- The application will be judged on all categories and how well the nominee identifies with each category.
- Nominees may be asked to sit for a brief interview with a panel of independent judges.
- Winners will be notified by April 24, 2026, and asked to attend the ABC Apprenticeship Graduation & Craft Professional of the Year Ceremony on May 21, 2026.
- Each winner (nominee only) will be invited to attend the May 2026 event as a guest of ABC Keystone.