

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

**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

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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.