



# 2024 EXCELLENCE IN HOUSING AWARDS

## ENTRY GUIDELINES

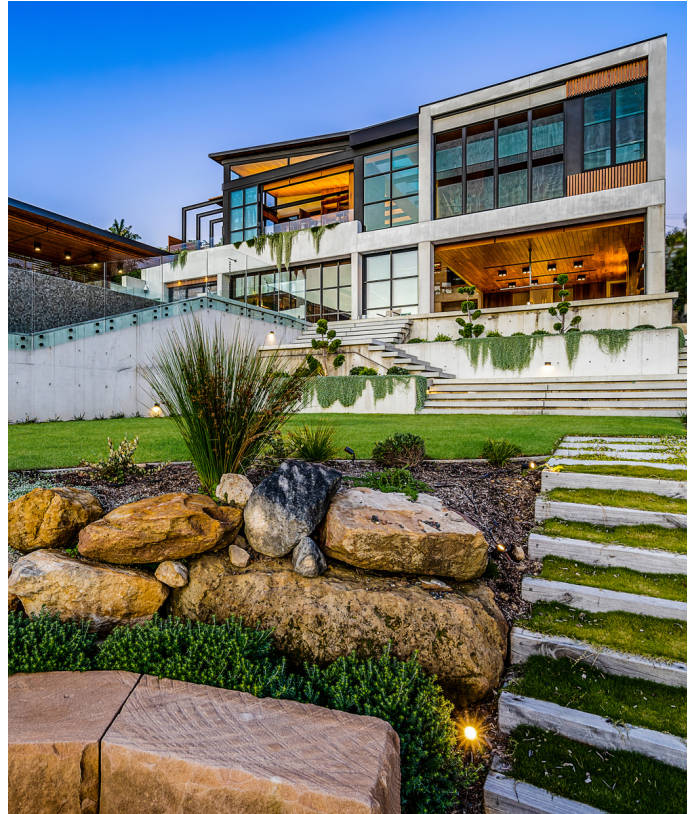


# THE AWARDS

The Master Builders Association of NSW Excellence in Housing Awards stand as the most esteemed accolades in the realm of residential construction within the state. These awards serve as a platform to highlight the finest achievements in residential building and draw participation from a diverse range of professionals in the residential building industry. This includes builders of display homes, those undertaking contracted building projects, constructors of apartments, and specialists engaged in home additions, alterations and renovations.

# ENTRY CRITERIA

- Entries must be submitted by **Friday 15 March**.
- Open to both members of MBA NSW and non-members.
- Projects must have been completed within the period of **15 March 2022 to 15 March 2024**.
- Projects must have obtained HBCF Certificate and must not be Owner Builder.
- Projects judged previously may not be resubmitted.
- Builder/Site Manager responsible for the project must be available for onsite visits/judging between **April 2024 – Mid July 2024**.



# KEY DATES:

**ENTRIES CLOSE:**  
Friday 15 March

**JUDGING PERIOD:**  
April 2024 - Jul 2024

**AWARDS EVENING:**  
Saturday 28 September

# JUDGING CRITERIA

All entrants must demonstrate excellence in the following criteria:

- Quality of Construction
- Design Challenges
- Use of Materials
- Value for money
- Innovation





## JUDGING

The entrant must obtain permission from the client prior to judging which will take place between **April - Mid July 2024** approximately. Internal and external access to the project is required. Any time that is not suitable for onsite judging must be declared on the online form; if judging restrictions are not declared changes to allocations cannot be made. Entrants will receive at least one weeks' notice once a judging date has been allocated. The onsite contact must be the builder responsible for the project. The judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The judges reserve the right to reclassify any entry. Should this occur, affected entrants will be notified. A winner may not necessarily be declared in all categories.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

Both entrants and winners of the MBA Excellence in Housing Awards receive media coverage as part of their participation in these prestigious industry awards. All entrants are featured in the MBA's Excellence in Housing Annual published in conjunction with Universal Media Co and distributed, via sales in newsagencies to the wider consumer market.



## PHOTOGRAPHY ASSISTANCE

A professional photography service is available at a cost of \$682 (inc GST) per entry located in the Sydney metropolitan area. Additional costs will apply for entries outside the Sydney metropolitan area. Please opt for this option whilst completing the online entry form. MBA will arrange this service with the photographer on your behalf. The photographer will contact you to lock in a date and time to photograph your project.

## ENTRY FEES

**MEMBERS:**  
\$572 (inc GST)

**NON-MEMBERS:**  
\$880 (inc GST)

# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entries are judged by a team of expert judges. The following information is required to give judges guidance prior to the onsite inspection. You are required to provide the following information:

## A. Online Entry

Please complete and submit an online entry form at [mbansw.awardsplatform.com](https://mbansw.awardsplatform.com) by **5:00PM** on

**Friday 15 March 2024.**

## B. Documentation

- Declaration to confirm HBCF (formerly Home Owners Warranty) has been obtained where applicable.
- Description of entry
- Company profile
- A4 floor plans; relevant categories should also include simplified 'before' floor plans
- List of manufactures and/or suppliers
- Sales brochure for Display Home entries only

## C. Digital Images

Digital images MUST be submitted with entries. Images provided will be used in the audio-visual presentation and print media; good quality images will better profile your entry. Entrants are responsible for the quality of all images. Relevant categories must also supply before photos.

- Minimum resolution of 300 dpi
- Format: JPEG or PNG

## D. Authorisation

The builder and the client must each signify their consent to the project being entered into the awards and willingness to be bound by the rules including accompanying publicity, by signing the authorisation form.

# 2024 AWARD CATEGORIES

Some of the below categories are broken down into price categories dependent upon the total construction cost of the project. Other categories remain as open price.

Category definitions can be found on [Page 5&6](#).

- Adaptive Re-Use
- Affordable Housing
- Contract Houses
- Design & Construct – House
- Display Homes
- Excellence in Sustainability - Housing
- Granny Flats
- Home Unit Renovation
- Home Units
- House Alterations/Additions
- House Restoration/Additions
- Project Homes
- Residential Warehouse Renovation
- Roof & Attic Conversions
- Town Houses or Villas/Dual Occupancy
- Special Purpose Housing Project
- Young Builder of the Year –  
*Nominations must accompany an entry*



# CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

## **Adaptive Re-Use**

Entries in this category must showcase the conversion of an existing property, repurposing it for residential use instead of its original design or intended purpose. The focus is on transforming the property creatively and effectively to accommodate residential living.

## **Affordable Housing**

Entries in this category must be units, properties, or housing developments specifically designed, built and priced to be available and affordable for individuals or families with low to moderate incomes.

## **Contract Houses**

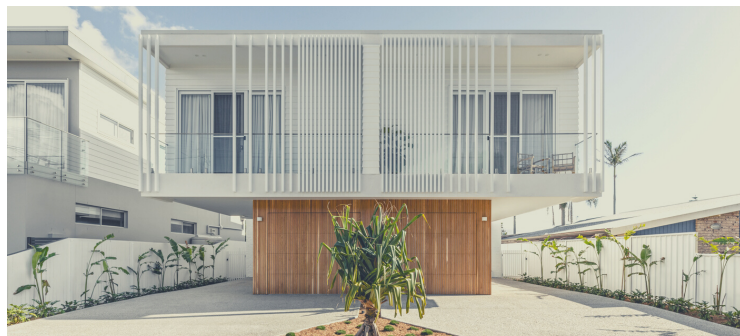
Entries in this category must be residential properties constructed under a contract arrangement between a builder and client. Projects must be a newly built single home that has been completed according to a specific contract agreement. This category is exclusive to single dwellings that are free standing with no common walls. Projects in this category must not be used for display purposes.

## **Design & Construct – House**

Entries in this category must be designed and constructed by the builder. The builder may collaborate with in-house architect and must retain full control over the project. Entries in this category must feature a unique and original design, distinct from any repeatable or standardized designs. Entries using pre-existing or replicated designs are not eligible in this category. Projects must not be used for display purposes.

## **Display Homes**

Display Homes must be a residential project built specifically to exhibit a builder's product. Homes in this category must be built to showcase the features, layout, and design options offered by the builder or developer and serving as a visual representation of their homes for sale or construction. The project must be intended for reproduction as shown or with variations to accommodate client requirements. Display Homes must be entered in the price category that accurately represents the AS DISPLAYED PRICE, including all optional extras showcased in the home. Proof of public accessibility, such as advertising or promotional materials, must be provided to demonstrate that the home was open for public inspection.



## **Excellence in Sustainability**

This category refers to the construction process, with a goal of achieving net zero construction and producing a net zero ready finished product. This includes how waste was minimised or avoided, if materials selected were salvaged/reused recycled/renewable/ low emission, as well as water management and any other general environmental management details. Entries should identify what alternative power was used (including Solar (Photovoltaic), wind, hydro, battery storage, heat recovery ventilation systems). Entries should also refer to the project's environmental living standard, including relevant EER, BASIX, Green Star or NABERS rating and working conditions including the use of materials in construction.

## **Granny Flats**

Entries in this category must be a self-contained secondary housing units with its own entrance, kitchen, bathroom, and sleeping area. The Granny Flat should be purpose-built for habitation and not be a display unit. Only functional Granny Flats designed for residential occupancy are accepted in this category.

## **Home Unit Renovation**

Entries in this category must demonstrate the remodelling or improvement of a multistorey building or development with a height below 25 meters of effective height as covered by Home Warranty Insurance. Entries in this category must involve the renovation of the exterior and interior to enhance its functionality, aesthetics, or both.

## **Home Unit Renovation - Internal**

Entries in this category must demonstrate the remodelling or improvement of a single unit within a larger residential building or complex. Entries in this category must involve the renovation of the interior only, to enhance its functionality, aesthetics, or both.

# CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

## Home Units

Entries in this category must be multistorey buildings or developments with a height below 25 meters of effective height as covered by Home Warranty Insurance. The projects must comply with Class 2 or Class 3 building classifications according to the Building Code of Australia.

## House Alterations & Additions

Entries in this category must demonstrate modification of an existing residential property by making structural changes, adding new elements, or expanding its footprint. Projects must have involved renovating or extending the house to enhance functionality, improve aesthetics, or accommodate changing needs. To qualify, a minimum of 20% of the original house structure including 1 existing wall of the residence must be retained.

## House Restoration/Additions

Entries in this category must demonstrate the process of refurbishing and enhancing an existing residential property. Projects must encompass the restoration of the original features and character of the house while integrating new additions or extensions to accommodate living requirements. Projects must demonstrate preserving or renovating the existing structure, repairing or replicating historic elements, and seamlessly incorporating new spaces.

## Project Homes

Entries in this category must be built for residential purposes but based on a design from a display home (accompanied by a sales brochure or similar materials, indicating a replicable design). Project Homes must be constructed outside of a display village and be intended for reproduction as displayed, with standard variations to suit client needs.



## Residential Warehouse Renovation

Entries in this category must have transformed a warehouse or industrial building into a residential dwelling. The builder must demonstrate converting the existing structure into a liveable space while retaining and repurposing architectural features.

## Roof & Attic Conversions

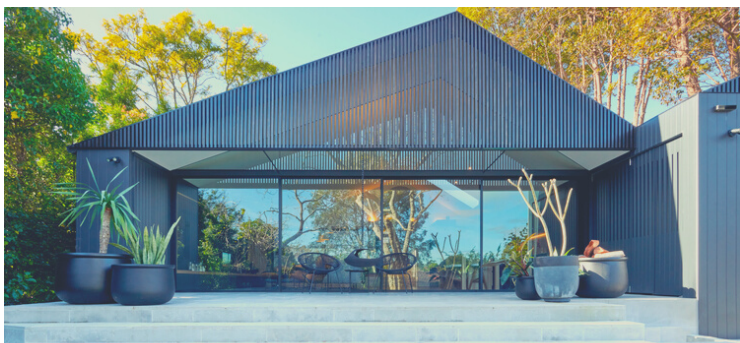
Entries in this category must involve the transformation of roof spaces or attics into functional living areas.

## Special Purpose Housing Project

Entries in this category must be a residential development designed and constructed to meet the specific needs of a particular group or population. Projects must aim to provide housing solutions tailored to individuals with unique requirements. Homes must be Class 1 homes or dual occupancy style dwellings, with no commercial/communal facilities such as club houses. This category does not include retirement villages or aged care facilities.

## Town Houses/Villas or Dual Occupancy

Entries in this category must be residential properties that consist of two separate and self-contained dwellings located on the same lot of land. Each unit must have its own entrance, living spaces, kitchen, bedrooms, and share common walls or other structural elements. The projects must comply with Class 1A or Class 2 building classifications according to the Building Code of Australia.





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **What are the Excellence in Housing Awards?**

The Master Builders Association of NSW Excellence in Housing are the state's most prestigious residential building awards. The Awards showcase the very best in residential construction and attract a broad cross section of the residential building sector, including display home builders, contract builders, apartment constructors and contractors specialising in additions, alterations and renovations.

## **Who can enter the Excellence in Housing Awards?**

The awards are open to both members and non-members of MBA NSW within the residential sector of the building industry.

## **Is this information for the Regional Awards as well?**

No, this information is for the State Awards, these awards are run independently from the Regional Awards. Regional projects are eligible to enter into the State Awards. Entrants wishing to be judged for the Regional Awards should enter through the relevant regional office. For more information on our Regional Awards, [click here](#).

## **Can I resubmit a project I entered last year?**

No, previous entries that were judged cannot be resubmitted.

## **What documentation do I need to submit an entry?**

All the required documentation can be found on [Page 4](#) of this booklet under section B.

## **Can I submit a project without a HBCF Certificate?**

If you did not obtain a HBCF Certificate, the entry is not eligible. A declaration form to confirm that the appropriate insurance has been obtained is a requirement when submitting the online entry form. Please note some projects (e.g. Home Units under 3 floors) may be exempt from obtaining a HBCF Certificate.

## **Can I submit my own photos?**

We encourage entrants to submit their own photos providing they are at least 300dpi and meet all photography requirements listed on [Page 4](#) under section C of this booklet.

## **I don't have photos, can I still submit a project?**

Yes, you can submit your entry and send photos to [events@mbansw.asn.au](mailto:events@mbansw.asn.au) later. We also offer a professional photography service; you can opt for this option when completing the online entry form. Please ensure all photos are submitted before the scheduled judging date. Any photos not included in the submission by your assigned judging date may impact the judging process.

## **Can I submit a project that is still under construction?**

No, projects under construction at the time of the entry deadline are not eligible.

## **Can I enter a joint venture?**

Yes, you can. Please ensure you add both company names when completing the entry form and ensure the authorisation form is signed by all parties.

## **What is the cost to enter the awards?**

The cost to enter a project for members is \$572 (inc GST). Non-member fees are \$880 (inc GST).

## **Can I enter a confidential project?**

Yes, when entering a confidential project, please add **CONFIDENTIAL** to the company name field. Please note client information will never be published.

## **Can I request early or late judging?**

Specific judging requests can be submitted, however these will be granted at the discretion of the Awards & Events Team. It is deemed the only legitimate reason for this request is due to availability of the client.

## **How old can a project be?**

A project must have been completed within a two year period prior to the entry closing date.

## How to enter:

All entries for the 2024 Excellence in Housing Awards are to be submitted online by **5:00PM** on **Friday 15 March**.

[mbansw.awardsplatform.com](https://mbansw.awardsplatform.com)

[Click here to enter](#)



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[events@mbansw.asn.au](mailto:events@mbansw.asn.au)