

Important information and major changes from previous years are highlighted in yellow.

## **MODULAR BUILDING INSTITUTE AWARDS OF DISTINCTION**

### **2026 CONTEST RULES & INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **Entry Types.**
  - a. **Commercial modular buildings** with a majority (greater than 50 percent) of the project having been constructed using an offsite method of volumetric modular construction. Modular buildings with a date of occupancy between January 1, 2024 and November 28, 2025 may be entered. Buildings entered previously may not be entered again.
  - b. **Marketing pieces** include print, signs & posters, multimedia, and web. Marketing pieces developed within the past five years may be entered as long as they have not been previously entered. Previously entered websites, however, may be reentered if they have experienced obvious and significant changes in both design and content.
  - c. **Green building** entries must be actual buildings (not conceptual or designs), show considerable improvement over typical modular buildings in certain contest-defined "green" areas, and have achieved a recognized green building rating (such as LEED, CHPS, IGCC, etc).
  - d. **Innovative product** entries must be actual products already in use (by at least one modular builder) and may be part of modular buildings themselves and/or part of the design, manufacture, transportation, or installation of modular buildings. A product in its current version introduced to market within the past five years may be entered as long as it has not been previously entered.
2. **Entry Deadline.** Entries regardless of entry type must be made online at <https://modular.awardsplatform.com> by November 28, 2025. Hardcopies required of certain marketing piece entries must also be received by MBI Headquarters before the deadline.
3. **Entry Fee.** MBI members get one free entry per company, regardless of entry type. Additional entries for MBI members cost US\$100 each through August 31, US\$200 each through September 30, US\$300 each through October 31, and US\$400 each through November 28. The entry fee for nonmembers for all entries regardless of type is US\$750 each through November 28. Payment is by credit card when completing each entry. Late entries will not be accepted.
4. **Multiple Entries.** You may enter multiple entries in the same category or in multiple categories. Each entry must be entered online one-at-a-time.
5. **Affiliate Entrants.** All building entries have a main entrant and may have affiliate entrants. A dealer, lease fleet owner, or contractor should include a building manufacturer as the affiliate. An entry by a manufacturer should include a dealer, lease fleet owner, or contractor as the affiliate. Affiliates may also include architects, engineers, setup and installation

crews, owners and developers, and others. You are highly encouraged to credit all affiliates that contributed to an entry. MBI is unable to acknowledge affiliates that are not included with entries.

Innovative products must be entered by the product owner, manufacturer, or exclusive distributor.

6. **Disqualified Entries.** Incomplete or incorrectly submitted entries or entries recalled by entrants will be disqualified. Recalled entries must be in writing by the original entrant. There are no refunds. At the discretion of MBI, artificially enhanced entry content (text or images), poor quality content, or content that misrepresents the entry may also be grounds for disqualification.

Entrants may be given an opportunity by MBI to correct issues with disqualified entries. If so, corrections must be made by the contest deadline.

7. **Category Changes.** Entries to incorrect categories may be corrected without notification to the entrant. MBI at its discretion reserves the right to combine or divide categories.

8. **Exhibit.** MBI will display all qualified entries at World of Modular.

9. **Scoring.**

- a. **Judges.** MBI Headquarters carefully considers the selection of each judge. Judges are typically nonmembers of MBI and professionals from architecture, construction, engineering, communications, academic, and other fields.

- b. **Criteria.** Entries are judged according to category-specific criteria:

- i. **Modular building entries** have four criteria including architectural excellence, technical innovation & sustainability, cost-effectiveness, and calendar days to complete (from production start to date occupied). For green building entries, judges consider a fifth criterion on green aspects of the project.

- ii. **Marketing pieces** have three criteria including plan and strategy, implementation, and quantifiable results.

- iii. **Innovative products** have three criteria including installation and safety, usability and cost effectiveness, and sustainability.

- c. **Identifying Winners.** Each entry is given a score of one through ten (ten being the highest score) in each criterion. The entry with the highest cumulative score in a category will receive the First Place award. The entry with the second highest cumulative score in the same category will receive the Honorable Mention award. The highest scoring entry in the entire contest will be deemed Judges' Choice. Judges' Choice awards may also be given for the highest scoring entry in each participating country or region, at the discretion of MBI. Main entrants of winning entries will be recognized as winners. At its discretion, MBI may recognize affiliate entrants.



c. **Digital Origin.** Photos must be of a digital origin, not a scanned image. For example, scanning a printed photograph to convert it to a digital image for submission is not acceptable. Photos must also have live matter that extends to the edge of the photo (no white borders) and may not be collages. You may need to contact the project’s design professional to obtain a floorplan in digital form.

d. **Modification Fee.** There is a US\$100 charge per image for images not meeting the contest’s image requirements.

14. **File Naming.** When uploading images, filenames should contain your company name, project name, and an identifying word like “exterior,” “interior,” “floorplan,” or “marketing.” An example of an acceptable filename is: Acme\_Modular\_Inc\_University\_Dorm\_Exterior.jpg

15. **Character Limitations & Spelling.** To keep entry text concise, limitations are set on how many characters can be typed into text fields on the entry forms. These limitations are noted per field on the forms. Spelling, grammar, and other errors will not be corrected. It is recommended that before entering text into online entry forms, you pre-type the text using a program like Microsoft Word to perform word counts and help avoid spelling and other errors, then copy and paste the text to the online form.

16. Optional information may be included for building entries to help populate an MBI database of actual and reliable data on completed modular building projects to help quantify modular construction as a better way to build. Information collected on the “Optional Project Information” pages will not be used to judge entries, nor will the information be displayed with the entry at World of Modular.

## **DEFINITIONS**

### **Modular Building Categories**

**Relocatable Buildings** are defined as commercial structures with a majority (greater than 50 percent) of the project having been constructed using an offsite method of volumetric modular construction and installed for temporary use, not upon permanent foundations. These buildings are meant to be relocated at a future date and are typically viewed as personal property.

**Permanent Modular** buildings are defined as commercial structures with a majority (greater than 50 percent) of the project having been constructed using an offsite method of volumetric modular construction and placed on permanent foundations. These buildings are typically designed for sale or finance lease and are considered real property.

**Green Building** entries may be relocatable or permanent and must show considerable improvement over typical buildings in "green" areas; have achieved a recognized green building rating such as LEED, CHPS, IGCC, etc.; and/or may be reconfigurations (reuse) of existing modular buildings to meet needs that are different from their original use.

**Education** is defined as structures designed and constructed for educational purposes. These buildings can be utilized in K-12 applications, daycare centers, colleges and universities, and technical and private schools and may be classrooms, administrative buildings, and any other building with an education-related use.

**Office** is defined as structures that are designed and constructed for non-education, non-retail administrative applications. Examples include general, corporate, and municipal offices; as well as sheriff's offices that have no detaining facilities.

**Healthcare** is defined as structures designed for medical or dental applications. Examples include doctor and dentist offices, operating rooms, hospital extensions, medical research labs, magnetic resonance imaging centers, emergency room additions, and therapeutic and counseling centers.

**Retail** is defined as structures designed for face-to-face interaction with the general public. Typical installations include restaurants, clubhouses, real estate sales centers, convenience stores, automobile dealerships, concession stands, and banks.

**Hotel** is defined as structures designed to provide accommodations for travelers and tourists. Examples include motels, hotels, bed & breakfasts, inns, hostels, and "Airbnb"-type rentals.

**Multifamily** is defined as structures designed to house individuals or families in multiple separate units. Typical installations include apartment buildings, condos, townhouses, and mixed-use properties when a majority of the building is used for residential purposes.

**Dormitory** is defined as structures designed primarily to provide sleeping quarters for large numbers of people usually at colleges or universities or in the military. Examples include college residence halls, boarding school residence halls, and military barracks.

**Workforce Housing** is defined as structures designed primarily for lodging and accommodations for laborers, typically at remote oil, gas, and mining operations.

**Assembly** is defined as structures designed for a variety of purposes where people assemble. Typical installations include churches, community centers, and libraries.

**Correctional** is defined as structures designed to detain people. Examples include jails, prisons, sheriffs offices, substance abuse centers, and behavioral centers.

**Special Application Buildings** are defined as structures that do not qualify for any of the applications defined above. Typical installations include mobile laboratories, data centers, telecommunications shelters, guard kiosks, bathroom pods, and industrial applications.

**Social & Supportive Housing** is defined as structures designed and constructed for individuals, families, and others experiencing homelessness and/or in need of transitional or onsite support services; regardless of short- or long-term use; and regardless of individual or communal sleeping, bathroom, kitchen, and other facilities.

### Marketing Piece Categories

**Web** is defined as images and audio specifically designed for viewing on the World Wide Web that promotes companies engaged in the modular building industry.

**Print** is defined as all printed material published specifically for the promotion of companies engaged in the modular building industry. Typical entries are brochures, catalogs, white papers, folders, and postcards.

**Signs & Posters** is defined as all large scale printed material published specifically for the promotion of companies engaged in the modular building industry. Typical entries are billboards, posters, trade show graphics, and vehicle wraps.

**Multimedia** is defined as all non-print, non-web images and audio that promotes companies engaged in the modular building industry. Typical entries are interactive CDs and videos.

### Innovative Product Category

**Innovative product** entries may be any product used in the design, manufacture, transportation, or installation of commercial modular buildings. Examples include building materials, fixtures, finishes, tools, equipment, and software.

## **CHECKLIST**

### **Building Project Entries**

- Completed online entry form
- Entry fee
- 1300 pixels high x 2000 pixels wide horizontal exterior digital photo
- 700 pixels high x 1100 pixels wide horizontal interior digital photo
- 700 pixels high x 500 pixels wide vertical interior digital photo (different view than above)\*
- 700 pixels high x 800 pixels wide horizontal floorplan as a digital image

\*Each building entry must have at least one interior photo. There are no exceptions to this rule. However, MBI staff may allow at its sole discretion a second exterior photo instead of the vertical interior photo when a building is particularly small, for example a guard stand or retail kiosk. Please contact MBI headquarters in advance for permission.

### **Marketing Piece Entries**

- Completed online entry form
- Entry fee
- Print entries: five copies of the piece mailed to MBI Headquarters
- Sign & Poster entries: include photos of the piece installed/in place (billboard, car wrap)
- Multimedia entries: five copies of the piece mailed to MBI Headquarters
- Website entries: be sure to include the URL on the entry form
- A digital image of your entry, no less than 1300 pixels high x 2000 pixels wide horizontal, which will be used to represent the entry at World of Modular, on the MBI website, in MBI literature, and/or elsewhere

### **Innovative Product Entries**

- Completed online entry form
- Entry fee
- A digital image of your entry, no less than 1300 pixels high x 2000 pixels wide horizontal, which will be used to represent the entry at World of Modular, on the MBI website, in MBI literature, and/or elsewhere

**Modular Building Sample Entry Form**

Do not submit this sample form as it will not be accepted.

Check one box in each column.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-Category</b>	<b>Size</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Under 10,000 sq. ft.
<input type="checkbox"/> Relocatable	<input type="checkbox"/> Office	<input type="checkbox"/> Under 10,000 sq. ft.
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Retail	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Multifamily	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Social & Supportive Housing	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Dormitory	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Workforce Housing	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Assembly	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Correctional	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Application	

**Main Entrant Information**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Province, Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Affiliate Entrants:** (Examples include lease fleet owners, building manufacturers, contractors, architects, engineers, setup & installation crews, owners & developers, etc.)

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Role: \_\_\_\_\_

**Building Project Information**

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Province, Country of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Modules: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Square Footage: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Stories: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Production Start (mm/dd/yy): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Occupied (mm/dd/yy): \_\_\_\_\_

Cost Data:\*            Total Construction Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

                                 Design Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

                                 Modular Construction Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

                                 Site Work Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

\*For cost data, please enter actual figures. If using estimates, the figures should be as close to actual as reasonably possible.

**Architectural Excellence:**

In 1000 characters or less, describe building layout, design, interior, and exterior appearance, relationship to surroundings, use of building, quantity, size, configurations of modules, and excellence in visual quality and planning rationale.

**Technical Innovation & Sustainability:**

In 1000 characters or less, describe innovative uses of offsite construction, accomplishment of special features and requirements in the offsite environment, new design, implementation of new solutions to unique problems, energy efficiency, resource efficiently, green building, and other technical innovations.

**Cost-Effectiveness:**

In 1000 characters or less, describe examples of cost-effective methods, materials utilized, method of installation, partnership with other entities, considerations providing for relocatability, and other factors which yield cost-effectiveness for the building user.

**Green Building:**

For Green Building entries only, in 1000 characters or less, describe how this project shows considerable improvement over traditional buildings in various "green" areas, like thermal comfort, indoor air quality, daylighting, acoustics, and resource efficiency. Also describe how the project may have achieved a recognized and generally accepted green building rating. For reused buildings, give a history of the entry including past module uses and how they came to be the current completed project.

**Optional Project Information**

Primary Structural Material:            Steel    Wood    Concrete    Other

Project Delivery Method:            Design Build

Design Bid Build

Bid Design Build

Construction Management at Risk

Public Private Partnership

Integrated Project Delivery

Other

Percent of building that is modular: \_\_\_\_\_

Percent of completeness of modules when leaving the factory: \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule:                           Design Duration in Days: \_\_\_\_\_

   Date of Groundbreaking (not Date of Production Start): \_\_\_\_\_

   Days in Factory: \_\_\_\_\_

   Days to Install: \_\_\_\_\_

Quality & Safety:               Number of Change Orders: \_\_\_\_\_

   Number of Reported Safety Incidents: \_\_\_\_\_

   Total Labor Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusions:** (1000 characters each)

Why was modular construction used for this project? \_\_\_\_\_

What digital technology/software was used on this project? \_\_\_\_\_

Was additional/special documentation required by jurisdictional authorities because of the use of modular on this project? \_\_\_\_\_

Where were the primary advantages gained by using modular on this project? \_\_\_\_\_

Where were the primary disadvantages of using modular on this project? \_\_\_\_\_

**Marketing Piece Sample Entry Form**

**Do not submit this sample form as it will not be accepted.**

**Entry Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Category** (check one box):

Print    Multimedia    Signs & Posters    Web URL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Entrant Information**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Province, Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry Information** (indicates the format or maximum number of characters permitted)

Initial Distribution Date (mm/yy/dd): \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Medium Used, e.g.: brochure, postcard, CD, VHS tape. (20): \_\_\_\_\_

Target Audience (100): \_\_\_\_\_

Creative Process (100): \_\_\_\_\_

Message to be Communicated (100): \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution (100): \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Objective (1000): \_\_\_\_\_

Effect on Awareness, Sales, Visits, or Inquiries (1000): \_\_\_\_\_

**Innovative Product Sample Entry Form**

Do not submit this sample form as it will not be accepted.

**Product Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Entrant Information**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Province, Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry Information** (indicates the format or maximum number of characters permitted)

Date the entry in its current version was introduced to market (mm/yy/dd): \_\_\_\_\_

Describe generally the purpose of the product in the design, manufacture, transportation, or installation of modular buildings (1000): \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how the product is innovative in the areas of productivity, safety, and product installation (1000): \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how the product is innovative in its usability, durability, and cost-effectiveness (1000): \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how the product is innovative in the area of sustainability (1000): \_\_\_\_\_