

➤ 2025 CALL FOR ENTRIES

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY:



AUSTRALIAN
CONSTRUCTORS
ASSOCIATION



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

aca.net.au

THE AWARD

The Australian Constructors Association and Engineers Australia are proud joint presenters of the Australian Construction Achievement Award (ACAA).

Now in its 28th year, the ACAA is the industry's most prestigious award recognising the best construction projects, delivered by the nation's very best construction companies.

The judging of the Australian Construction Achievement Award (ACAA) is a two-stage process by an independent panel.

STAGE 1

(INITIAL ENTRY)

COMPLETION OF AN ONLINE ENTRY FORM

STAGE 2

(FINALISTS)

DETAILED SUBMISSION AND PARTICIPATION IN A JUDGING PANEL SITE INSPECTION

 **FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

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KEY DATES

6 NOVEMBER 2024

CALL FOR ENTRY OPEN – STAGE 1

6 MARCH 2025 (5:00 PM AEDT)

CALL FOR ENTRY CLOSE – STAGE 1

17 MARCH 2025

FINALISTS NOTIFIED

17 MARCH 2025

STAGE 2 OPEN

20 MAY 2025 (5:00 PM AEDT)

STAGE 2 CLOSE

2–13 JUNE 2025

JUDGING

21 AUGUST 2025

WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY:



INDUSTRY PARTNERS:



2025 AWARD PROCESS

OVERVIEW

The merits of the project entered for the ACAA will be assessed on the entrant's submission and presentation of the project through the Award evaluation process.

Entrants are asked to present a case in support of their project, responding to the following Award assessment criteria in the order listed below.

ENTRIES AS COMPONENTS OF LARGER PROJECTS

The Award recognises the proliferation of mega projects and the fact these projects often take many years to deliver. Potential entrants should understand that size or value of a project are not criteria for the Award.

The Award recognises that some larger projects are delivered by way of separable components that are, or could be, regarded as projects that would qualify for entry for the Award. Accordingly, entrants are encouraged to consider the nomination of separable parts of larger projects, on the same basis that smaller projects exemplifying excellence should be nominated. However, where entrants nominate separable parts of a larger project, they should ensure that the entry provides sufficient focus on

the component and the subject of the entry rather than the balance of the project. While important in contextual terms, an overall project may not be considered for the purposes of assessment when a component part is being considered for the Award.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Projects must be delivered within time (inclusive of client agreed extensions) and within 10 per cent of the client budget (inclusive of agreed variations).

Projects must be delivered to agreed quality requirements with no material defects.

Projects will be excluded where fatalities or serious injuries causing permanent or long-term harm have occurred or where material breaches of environment and heritage requirements occurred during construction.



ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ENTRANTS WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA



Value for money outcomes (40 per cent weighting)

The entrant is expected to showcase expertise in delivering a complex construction task while maximising social and economic benefits.

- » Complexity, difficulty, and optimisation of the construction task, including approach to effective risk management.
- » Time, cost and quality outcomes.
- » Prioritisation of local suppliers (including social and indigenous enterprise—if not applicable state the rationale) and legacies provided to the community.



Outcomes achieved against capacity, capability, and skills targets (30 per cent weighting)

The entrant is expected to have helped lift the skill base of the workforce and driven productivity improvements.

- » Evidence of an environment conducive to innovation and investment or the uptake of tools and processes that enhance productivity. This includes embracing digital technologies with the potential to provide whole-of-life asset cost savings.
- » Training and development initiatives aimed at equipping the workforce with critical skills.
- » Evidence of meeting or exceeding applicable social performance objectives around female participation, indigenous employment and other relevant targets.



Outcomes achieved against positive culture (30 per cent weighting)

The entrant is expected to have nurtured the physical and mental health and wellbeing of the workforce, as well as promoted environmentally responsible outcomes.

- » Workplace health and wellbeing including initiatives aimed at improving mental and physical health, including flexible working in an inclusive and safe environment.
- » Diversity of the workforce including attempts to remove barriers.
- » Collaboration between client, project teams and the supply chain.
- » Evidence of efforts aimed at reducing the impact of the project on the environment, including innovations (e.g. recycling initiatives).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Before submitting a stage 1 entry, please consider whether your application meets the following requirements:

- **The project must be located within the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Australia.**
- **The project must be a major construction project involving engineering and/or building activities.**
- **The content of the project must be predominantly Australian.**
- **The project must demonstrate that it will have been substantially completed in the 12 months prior 1 April 2025.**
- **More than one entry may be received from any one company, but entries will not be accepted for a completed project as well as an integral part of the same project.**
- **Submissions for which entry fees have not been paid will not be considered.**
- **The nominated project will be made available for inspection by the judging panel at a mutually convenient time between 2 June and 13 June 2025.**
- **Where any rules or conditions associated with the Australian Construction Achievement Award are disputed or require clarification, the matter will be referred to the chairperson of the judging panel. The decision by the chairperson shall be final.**
- **The Australian Constructors Association and Engineers Australia reserve the right to retain and publish photographs, videos and other multimedia materials and descriptions of the projects entered for the Australian Construction Achievement Award.**
- **The Australian Constructors Association and Engineers Australia accept no responsibility or liability regarding any loss of patent rights, other commercial privileges, or any other thing, which constitutes loss or damage as a result of entry in the Australian Construction Achievement Award.**

STAGE 1 ENTRY

STAGE 1 ENTRIES WILL BE RECEIVED UP TO 5PM AEDT, WEDNESDAY 6 MARCH 2025.

WHERE DO YOU START?

Click the submission link <https://acaawardsplatform.com/> and register your details. Once this is done you can start your entry stage 1.

The information needs to be provided in text form in the online portal. You can copy from a word document and paste the answers in the online entry form.

YOUR ENTRY:

TAB 1 DETAILS OF ENTRANT

Start by providing answers to a few questions including the name and contact details of the entrant.

TAB 2 PROJECT DETAILS

Provide the following:

- » official project name
- » location of the project
- » summary of scope of work (60 words max)
- » purpose of the project (150 words max)
- » contract period: Commencement date
- » contract period: Completion date
- » contract value
- » contract type

TAB 3 MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Agree to the mandatory requirements:

- » Project delivered within time—inclusive of client agreed extensions.
- » Project delivered within 10 per cent of the client budget—inclusive of agreed variations.
- » Project delivered to agreed quality requirements with no material defects.
- » No fatalities or serious injuries causing permanent or long-term harm occurred during construction.
- » No material breaches of environment and heritage requirements occurred during construction.

TAB 4 STAGE 1 CRITERIA (REFER TO PAGE 3)

USING SHORT NARRATIVES, ADDRESS THE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

(note should you entry process to Stage 2, criteria will be addressed in detail).

1 Value for money outcomes (400 words)

Outline the construction task and the social and economic value delivered by the project.

2 Outcomes achieved against capacity, capability, and skills targets (400 words)

Outline how the project helped lift the skills base of the workforce and drive productivity improvements.

3 Outcomes achieved against positive industry culture (400 words)

Outline how the physical and mental health and wellbeing of the workforce was supported in delivering the project along with any proactive steps to reduce the impact on the environment.

TAB 5 LOGO AND PHOTOS

Provide:

- » a high-resolution logo of the company and/or project including corporate branding guidelines.
- » up five (5) high-resolution photographs of the project.

TAB 6 ENTRY DECLARATION

Sign the entry declaration.

- » Tab 7: Terms and Condition: agree to the Terms and conditions list in the important information section on page 4.
- » Once your submission has been process. Pay a non-refundable entry fee of \$1,100 AUD inclusive of GST

STAGE 2 SUBMISSION

Finalists for the Award will be announced in March 2025. Finalists will then be required to prepare a final submission by **20 May 2025 5:00 PM AEDT**.

Start here click the submission link <https://acaawardsplatform.com/> to log back to your entry. Once this is done you can start your entry stage 2.

The information needs to be provided in text form in the online portal. You can copy from a word document and paste the answers in the online entry form.

TAB STAGE 2 SUBMISSION

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (maximum 500 words)

2 NAMES AND BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF THE PROJECT LEADERSHIP TEAM

3 MANDATORY INFORMATION: *mark n/a if not applicable*

Budget

- » Contract tendered value or equivalent (E.g. TOC)
- » Client directed budget additions
- » Final approved project budget
- » Actual project cost

Schedule

- » Initial schedule (months)
- » Client directed additional schedule (months)
- » Latent conditions additional schedule (months)
- » Final approved project schedule (months)
- » Actual project schedule (months)

Safety

- » Total hours worked
- » Target recordable incident rate
- » Actual recordable incident rate
- » Details of any significant injuries on the project

Workforce development

- » Goal - opportunities for cadets, apprentices, and trainees (total hours)
- » Actual - opportunities for cadets, apprentices, and trainees (total hours)
- » Goal - opportunities for cadets, apprentices, and trainees (% of workforce hours)
- » Actual - opportunities for cadets, apprentices, and trainees
- » Goal - local workforce (total hours)
- » Actual - local workforce (total hours)
- » Goal - local workforce (% of workforce hours)
- » Actual - local workforce (% of workforce hours)
- » Goal - Aboriginal workforce (total hours, % of workforce hours)
- » Actual - Aboriginal workforce (total hours, % of workforce hours)

Procurement

- » Social procurement goal (% of TOC)
- » Actual social procurement (% of TOC)
- » Local content goal (% of TOC)
- » Actual local content (% of TOC)

Sustainability

- » Target ISCA score
- » Actual ISCA score

- » Target Green Star Rating
- » Actual Green Start Rating

Innovation

- » Percent target of contract value
- » Percent delivered of contract value

Industrial Relations

- » Working days lost due to industrial relations

4 A TECHNICAL PAPER ON THE PROJECT FOR INCLUSION ON THE ACAA WEBSITE
see past technical papers for guidance here: (<https://acaanet.au/project-insights/>)

5 ANY RELEVANT PLANS AND GRAPHICAL OR PHOTOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL

6 TEN HIGH-RESOLUTION PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PROJECT

7 BROADCAST QUALITY VIDEOS

- » 1 x 60 second video clip for the award presentation event. We request that the clip feature the project manager and not exceed 60 seconds in duration. This video will be aired at the winner announcement in August 2025.
- » 1 x 3-minute video for the ACAA website. This video an extended version of this video is to be uploaded to the ACAA website and promoted through various channels managed by the Australian Constructors Association and Engineers Australia before and after the event. This extended version must not exceed 3 minutes in duration.
- » Supporting video footage and photography should illustrate the development of the project from concept to completion and may include diagrams, 3D renderings, construction time-lapse videos, progress construction stills, and raw or edited video footage. The video must include the project manager, or other relevant person/s involved in the management of the project, speaking about key issues that the project addressed or encountered and how those issues were addressed or overcome. This video footage will be used on the ACAA website to showcase the project.

TAB STAGE 2 CRITERIA

Please include details with supporting examples and evidence, addressing the evaluation criteria in the order stated in the assessment criteria, the case in support of the project that warrants the winning of the Award (maximum 850 words per criterion). You can copy and paste your responses from a word document.

Pay a non-refundable fee of \$12,100 (AUD inclusive of GST) with the final submission.

Please note:

Finalists should take care to focus on the content quality of Stage 2 submission to enable the judging panel to give appropriate recognition to project quality and outcomes.

Ownership of the photos and footage is given to the ACAA for promotional use.



**THE FINAL SUBMISSIONS
MUST BE RECEIVED NO
LATER THAN 20 MAY 2025
5.00PM AEDT**

STAGE 2 SITE INSPECTIONS

Site inspections of finalists' projects will be an integral part of the evaluation process. It can be assumed that the judging panel will inspect the project on one occasion, for approximately four hours between 2–13 June 2025.

Note: Finalist are to make all on-site and other local arrangements for the site inspection of the project and make available supporting data.

- » The judging panel will expect to see other data at the same time of the inspection. A single copy of additional data will suffice. This would normally include detailed plans and specifications, and possibly contract documents.
- » The judging panel will welcome the opportunity to view relevant videos or other audio-visual material during the visit.

In addition to meeting the project leadership team during the inspection, the judging panel will expect to meet with a senior client representative. The finalist should make the necessary arrangements.

PAYMENT DETAILS

Stage 1 entries require payment of a non-refundable entry fee of \$1,100 (AUD including a Goods and Services tax of 10 per cent).

Stage 2 entries require payment of a non-refundable fee of

\$12,100 (AUD including a Goods and Services Tax of 10 per cent) with the final submission.

Payment can be made by the following methods:

- » Invoice for EFT payment (please request invoices 10 working days before payment is due).
- » Credit card.



SUBMIT ONLINE

acaawardsplatform.com

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INDUSTRY PARTNERS:





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