



2026 UDIA QUEENSLAND

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

PRESENTED BY MITCHELL BRANDTMAN

ENTRANT INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

This information should be read in conjunction with the individual category criteria

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KEY DATES

SUBMISSIONS OPEN Monday, 16 February

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT EXPIRES 5.00pm, Friday, 1 May

AWARDS INFORMATION SESSION Wednesday, 20 May, 10.30am – 11.30am

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE Midnight Friday, 5 June

ONSITE JUDGING Monday, 17 August – Friday, 28 August

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE LUNCH Friday, 6 November, from 12.00pm

For further information on the Awards entry process please refer to the [How to Enter page](#) on our website.

ENTRY FEES

DIVERSITY AWARDS (CATEGORIES 1 – 3):

Young Leaders & Women in Leadership – FREE

Employer of Choice – \$500

ALL OTHER AWARDS (CATEGORIES 4 – 22):

Early Bird – \$925 per submission

To secure the Early Bird price, payment must be received before 5.00pm Friday, 1 May.

Standard – \$1,250 per submission

Standard pricing applies after Early Bird closes, 5.01pm Friday, 1 May.

SUBMISSIONS

Category criteria is available on our website [here](#). Double check your project eligibility by cross checking the categories below. You can start your submission from 16 February in our Awards portal [here](#).

Criteria responses should highlight the projects attributes and are limited to 200 words and/or dot points, per question. Clear, succinct answers are encouraged.

JUDGING PROCESS

Each Award category is judged by an independent panel of professional industry members.

After submissions close the Institute will conduct a health check to ensure all projects are entered in the appropriate categories. We reserve the right to reallocate submissions to another category if it is considered to be a more appropriate fit. In this instance, the entrant will be notified and they will be given the option to amend their submission. Once the health check is complete, the Institute will coordinate the judging.

Judging of entries is a two-step process:

1. A review of the written submission against the criteria for each category; and
2. An on-site inspection by the panel of judges (except for categories 1, 2 and 3, which have an interview instead).

The on-site presentation is a key component of the judging and should be delivered by your most senior representative who is intimately familiar with the project e.g. CEO, Chairman, Director, Founder etc.

Entrants are requested not to provide gifts (including alcohol) to the judges in any capacity.

Entrant changes to the site inspection date and time are not permitted under any circumstances. It is strongly recommended that you block out the judging period (Monday, 17 August to Friday, 28 August) in all key company representatives' diaries in advance to ensure the right people (i.e. CEO, Chairman, Development Manager, Project Lead etc) are available.

The decision of the judging panel is final and will not be subject to challenge by an entrant or other parties.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS AND FINALISTS

The announcement of winners and finalists will be made at the Institute's Award for Excellence event to be held on Friday, 6 November in Brisbane. Tickets to Awards will be available to submitters, ahead of other UDIA members.

We recommend preparing accordingly should you be named a winner on the day:

- Consider who will accept the trophy. We understand, in most cases, it takes a village to bring developments to life, and although we wish our stage could accommodate everyone – the person at the highest level who can speak on behalf of their team is recommended
- Speeches should be short and sweet, however, we encourage you to take the time to enjoy the celebration and thank those who contributed to the success of the project. This is your time to shine after all!

A link to tickets will be provided to the submitter, using the contact details provided for each submission.

There will be no correspondence with submitters regarding results, prior to the announcement of the winners and finalists at the Awards for Excellence event.

By proceeding with a submission, entrants understand that nomination of finalists and/or winners is at the judges' discretion, and the judges' decision is final. Judges' discretion extends to decisions relating to the awarding of finalists and the Panel may elect to only recognise a category winner in a particular category. It should be noted that an entry does not automatically equate to being recognised as a 'finalist' and that the judges will select and award finalists based on quality, innovation and commitment to excellence.

LEVEL OF COMPLETION

Projects entered must be at practical or substantial completion by 17 August 2026 for all categories, with the exemption of Marketing, Community Engagement, and Innovation.

UDIA QUEENSLAND MEMBERSHIP

The entrant must hold current membership of the UDIA Queensland. Members entering the following categories must also ensure that the developer of the project that is the subject of the submission, is also a member of the Institute:

- Construction
- Design
- Consultants'
- Innovation
- Community Engagement.

MANDATORY DOCUMENTS

AS PART OF THE AWARDS ENTRY PROCESS THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED FOR CATEGORIES 1, 2, AND 3.

Women in Leadership

- CV (maximum of five A4 pages)
- High resolution headshot.

Young Leader:

- CV (maximum of five A4 pages)
- High resolution headshot.

Employer of Choice:

- Company Profile (maximum of five A4 pages) .

AS PART OF THE AWARDS ENTRY PROCESS THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED FOR CATEGORIES 4 - 22:

SIGNED CONSENT FORM (UPLOADED AS A PDF)

- Project details
- Developer/consultant name
- Development/project name
- Development/project address
- Local Government Area of the development/project
- Developer consent (if applicable).

SUBMITTER CONTACT DETAILS

(person who is completing the submission).

PROJECT PERSON CONTACT DETAILS

(person who is the main point of contact for the site visit and can answer all enquiries relating to the development/project).

SITE VISIT ADDRESS

(if different to the project details).

PROJECT INFORMATION

- Executive Summary (minimum 350 words, maximum 400 words)
- List of key consultants (company and contact person details).

IMAGES

Digital images are a **very important** component of the Awards process and will be used to showcase your project. The images provided will be used at the Awards Lunch, and for other media, including the Institute's magazine, establish.

- **Image quality** – Images should be professionally taken and supplied as high-resolution JPG/JPEG (300 dpi or higher) or PNG files (Larger than 2000px wide)
- **Number of images** – Please supply ten (10) images as part of your submission. The minimum number which will be accepted is six (6).
- **Image selection** – Images should include a variety of interior and exterior shots and should highlight the features which differentiate your project. We encourage you to include an aerial view or whole-of-site photo as part of your submission.
- **Image orientation** – Please include a mixture of landscape and portrait shots to accommodate different usage requirements

- **Naming conventions** - Please save each photo using the following naming convention: Project Name-P# (# represents the photo number in sequence). For example photo number two for a project called 'Sunshine Hills' would be: Sunshine Hills-P2
- **For multiple category entrants** - If submitting for multiple Award categories, please include unique images per category / submission. We encourage you to consider the elements which differentiate your project on a per category basis.

Please note: During the submission phase, entrants may be requested to resupply digital images if not provided as requested.

HEALTH CHECK

The information provided in this section will be taken as 'true' and 'correct' at the time of the submission closing date and will be used in the AV production, trophies and/or certificates, and print media should you be named a finalist and/or winner.



SITE VISITS

Entrants **must** ensure judges are able to walk through a completed dwelling during the site visit. Entrants **must** ensure they have made the necessary arrangements for this to occur.

Please see some do's and don'ts for the content of your site visit:

- **Don't** provide glossy brochures or books for the judges to take with them offsite; if you need to refer to promotional material during the site visit, have two copies with you on the day, and take these with you at the conclusion of the site visit
- **Don't** ask the judges what they want to hear when they arrive. Your site visit should tell the story of the project, highlight the unique features, what makes the project special, and address the category's criteria directly
- **Do** highlight the story of the project and what you did differently to the rest of the market; highlight what is special about the project
- **Do** conduct a run through with a run sheet. We recommend conducting a run through of your site visit and practicing this ahead of the judges arrival so that you are prepared and stick to time.

More do's and don'ts will be outlined in the submissions briefing on Wednesday, 20 May. Ensure to attend so that you can put your best foot forward.

RE-ENTRY

If submitting a project that has previously won a particular award, significant changes must have been made to the project for your submission to be eligible. These changes should be highlighted in your submission.

Didn't take a trophy home from the awards lunch?

Next year may be your year! Entrants are encouraged to re-enter projects to the next awards program, and take the opportunity to fine tune their submission.

JUDGING

Judging will include an assessment of your written submission worth 30 percent and a presentation or site visit of the project to the judging panel worth 70 percent. **The decision of the independent judging panel is final and will not be subject to challenge by any entrant.**

DIVERSITY AWARDS

Entrants can be nominated by their organisation, a third party, or be self-nominated. To nominate someone, register your details [here](#) and complete the online nomination form by selecting **the relevant category**, then complete the form which asks for the details of the nominee. The nominee will then be emailed information on how to complete their submission.

If you are completing a self-nomination, using the link above register your details and select **the relevant Diversity Awards category**.

Representatives from the Institute's Board will assess submissions based on the criteria outlined on the following page. Following a shortlisting process, representatives from the Board will interview finalists. The Institute may contact referees before determining the winner.

UDIA NATIONAL ELIGIBILITY

UDIA National Awards eligibility is outlined below. Winners of a UDIA Queensland Award in the relevant categories may be eligible for entry into UDIA National Awards. Please note, entry into UDIA National Awards for Excellence attracts a separate entry fee (approx. \$1,300+GST), which is payable by the entrant.

UDIA QUEENSLAND AWARD	ELIGIBLE FOR UDIA NATIONAL
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Affordable Housing	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Community Engagement	✗
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Consultants'	✗
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Sustainability	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Apartments (Mid-Rise)	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Apartments (High-Rise)	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Medium Density Development	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Boutique Development	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Construction	✗
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Marketing	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Design	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Masterplanned Communities	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Industrial and Business Park	✗
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Residential Subdivision	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Retail and Commercial	✗
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Seniors' Living	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Social Infrastructure	✗
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Urban Renewal	✓
UDIA Queensland Award for Excellence – Innovation	✗
Employer of Choice Award	✗
Women in Leadership Award	✓
Young Leaders Award	✓

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Please find a link to some frequently asked questions on our website [here](#).

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EXCELLENCE

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Presented by MICHELL BARRINGTON

UDIA



CATEGORY THRESHOLDS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. YOUNG LEADERS:

- Be employed by a current member of the UDIA (in the relevant state) (includes company membership)
- Be under 35 years of age by Thursday, 31 December 2026
- Be based in Queensland and be available for an interview
- Have a minimum of five years' experience in the development industry or an associated industry (predominantly in Queensland).

2. WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP:

- Be employed by a current member of UDIA (in the relevant state) (includes company membership)
- Be based in Queensland and be available for an interview
- Have a minimum of ten years' experience in the development industry or an associated industry (predominantly in Queensland).

3. EMPLOYER OF CHOICE:

- Be a current member of UDIA (in the relevant state) (includes company membership)
- Have a minimum of five years' continual operation in the property industry or an associated industry (predominantly in Australia).

4. AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer and:

- Demonstrate initial affordability of the product, as well as the incorporation of 'whole of life' elements that provide sustained affordability through reduced operating costs.

5. RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer and:

- Have established a satisfactory relationship with nearby facilities to meet the needs of residents and users
- Have at least 25% of built form homes planned for the project delivered to practical completion
- Not include a comprehensive* range of facilities within the development itself.

Stages of masterplanned developments are not eligible to be entered in this category.

*Comprehensive is defined as commercial uses limited to no more than 1,000sqm of GFA

6. MASTERPLANNED COMMUNITIES:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer and:

- Have a coherent design with a relevant range of facilities within the development; whether predominately residential, civic, recreational, entertainment, tourist, commercial or industrial, or a combination of any of these primary uses
- Be developed to the stage where tangible benefits of a 'masterplanned' approach can be demonstrated
- Must be large enough to generate a sense of community (as the size of the project is not defined).

7. SUSTAINABILITY:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer.

8. SENIORS' LIVING:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer.
Entries are not limited to residential projects and may include aged care.

9. URBAN RENEWAL:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer and:

- Demonstrate revitalisation and appropriate use of land and/or buildings in established suburbs or inner city areas
- Can either retain some existing built elements on a site or be inserted into an existing built environment.

10. MEDIUM DENSITY DEVELOPMENT:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer and:

- Have a dwelling density of a minimum of 30 dwellings per hectare
- Be between three and five storeys in height (excluding basements and rooftops).

11. MARKETING:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer.

12. DESIGN:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer or an architect and:

- Be predominantly residential (i.e. small lot housing, villas, town houses, terrace homes, row housing, apartment buildings).
- Architect entrants will also be required to upload written consent from the developer of the project that is the subject of the submission.

13. BOUTIQUE DEVELOPMENT:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer and:

- Be three storeys or less in height
- Consist only of townhouses, terraces or similar product.

14. APARTMENTS (HIGH-RISE):

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer and:

- Be 11 storeys or greater in height (excluding basements and rooftops).

15. APARTMENTS (MID-RISE):

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a developer and:

- Be between six and ten storeys in height inclusive (excluding basements and rooftops).

16. SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a local government, or State Government agency. Developers are eligible to enter if their entry is a public realm project and allows for general community use, such as civic/community buildings, schools, hospitals, parks, and recreational facilities.

Only one submission will be accepted per project. An individual residential development alone, is not eligible for this category.

17. RETAIL AND COMMERCIAL:

Projects eligible for this Award must be submitted by a developer and:

- May be of any size
- Must include retail, or commercial facilities, or any mix thereof
- May include malls, shopping, public spaces and/ or buildings, education or health.

18. INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK:

Projects eligible for this Award must be submitted by a developer and:

- May be of any size
- Must be an industrial development, or a business park

19. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Entries must be submitted by a developer, a local government or State government agency.

Entries must pertain to a specific development project or plan (e.g. planning scheme, neighbourhood plan etc.).

20. CONSTRUCTION:

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a licensed builder and:

- Must be submitted by the licensed builder for the project entered into the award
- Must be a building of two or more storeys and include at least one or more of the following uses:
 - Residential
 - Retail and/or
 - Commercial.

Entrants will also be required to upload written consent from the developer of the project that is the subject of the submission.

21. CONSULTANTS':

Projects eligible for this award must be submitted by a consultant and:

- Demonstrate the application of innovative and problem-solving practices and initiatives
- Should be project specific
- Must be eligible to enter an award category.

Entrants will also be required to upload written consent from the developer of the project that is the subject of the submission.

22. INNOVATION:

Entries into the Innovation Awards are limited to technologies, projects or initiatives which are not eligible for any other category.

Types of projects that may be entered include school/community group projects, public art, IT solutions for the property industry, or any outstanding project that has significantly contributed to the industry and the community.

Projects eligible for this award can be entered by a developer or consultant to the development industry but must not be eligible to enter any other categories.

Consultant entrants will also be required to upload written consent from the developer of the project that is the subject of the submission.



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