



Call for Entries

The European Convention for Constructional Steelwork invites the ECCS National Associations and their members to submit their projects for the European Steel Design Awards 2026.

The European Steel Design Awards (ESDA) are given by ECCS to encourage creative and outstanding use of steel in architecture and construction in Europe. The awards are dedicated to *the owner, the general contractor, the architects, the engineers and the steelwork contractors* of each project.

In the frame of the ESDA, specific Student Awards are also given to recognized outstanding student architectural or engineering & research projects using structural steel as a prominent feature. The ESDA - Student Awards are open to all ECCS Full Member Associations, which are encouraged to organise contests for students in architecture and engineering in their respective countries. Key data and procedures are similar to the European Steel Design Awards.

An ECCS International Jury will select the projects, except for the Public Award, which will be selected by online public vote.

The European Steel Design Awards and the ESDA - Student Awards will be presented within the European Steel Design Awards Ceremony.

Key dates

Last date for entry submission:	by 30 April 2026
Evaluation and selection:	by 15 June 2026
Press release:	by 30 June 2026
Awards Ceremony:	16 September 2026 in Krakow

The detailed submission rules are available in the following pages. The required entry form and Copyright Transfer Agreement (CTA) form are annexed to this call or can be sent on request addressed to francis.grogna@steelconstruct.com.

Regulations

1. OPERATION OF THE AWARDS

The European Steel Design Awards are open to steel works designed or produced in the ECCS Full Member countries. There can be submitted up to three projects by each Member.

Steel construction projects located outside the member country are eligible, if they have been designed or produced by an ECCS Full Member (National Association).

Both new buildings or bridges, and renovation projects (major retrofit, expansion or rehabilitation) are eligible.

In cases where partners of a project (project owner, general contractor, architectural firm, structural engineering firm and fabricators) are from different countries:

- If several members submit the same project, the nomination will be considered as one.
- If some partners are from an ECCS Full Member country and others are from non-member countries, the Full Member may apply.
- If the partners are from different ECCS Full Member countries:
 - The Full Members may submit the entry together;
 - One of Full Members may submit in coordination with the others;
 - Should it be disagreed, the fabricator of the project will select the submitting Full Member.

The building or construction must have been completed and be ready for occupation or use **between June 2023 and May 2026**.

2. JURY AND EVALUATION

The ESDA Jury consists of :

- The Secretary General of ECCS,

- The Chairperson of the ECCS Architectural Awards Committee,
- The Chairperson of the ECCS Promotion Management Board,
- One representative of the Award Ceremony hosting country member,
- One architect from the hosting nation,
- One engineer from the hosting nation,
- Two international representatives (optional).

The chair of the jury is elected by its members.

Entries are to be evaluated within four phases:

Phase-1. In order to select the best entries, the National Associations assess the entries in their countries in accordance with the following criteria, which will be submitted to ECCS:

- **Architectural design**
- **Structural engineering**
- **Fabrication and erection**
- **Sustainability**
- **Example for structural steel in construction**

Phase-2. The ECCS Architectural Awards Committee approves the entries according to their compliance with the European Steel Design Awards submittal requirements and criteria.

Phase-3. The ESDA Jury evaluates the entries, according to criteria stated above.

The Jury's tasks are to:

- Select one winner from each nation to receive the **'European Steel Design Awards**.
- Select the overall winner to receive the **European Steel Design Award – Laureate**.
- Select projects for the **Special Awards**.

Phase-4. The Public Award winner will be determined by public voting online.

3. LIABILITIES OF FULL MEMBERS

ECCS Full Members are asked to:

- **Call for entries** from their national / member participants according to the ECCS criteria.
- **Assess the entries** regarding the European Steel Design Awards procedure.
- Establish a **national jury** (if possible) composed of representatives from Architecture and Engineering in order to select the best projects nationally.
- Submit up to **three projects** to ECCS.
- Submit up to **three student projects** for the **European Student Steel Design Awards**. Full Members are encouraged to invite and bring the nominated students to the awards ceremony.
- **Invite** the winning teams to the European Steel Design Awards ceremony.
- **Provide** photos, drawings, information and descriptions according to the template provided, as well as permissions (Copyright Transfer Agreement);
- **Disseminate** the press information on national level and inform their national stakeholders (linking to the ECCS website for example).

European Independent Promotional Organisations (IPOs) without ECCS Full Member representative may also submit up to three projects to ECCS, for a fee of **450 €** per project.

4. AWARDS

Nominees may be awarded a **European Steel Design Award**, and/or **The European Steel Design Award - Laureate** as overall winner. In addition, they may be awarded a **Special Award** and the **Public Award**.

ESDA:

The best project from each Full Member country is presented as the '**European Steel Design Award**', if it lives up to the standards set in these regulations.

ESDA - Laureate:

Out of the ESDAs winners, **one** project will be selected as the overall winner and awarded **The European Steel Design Award - 2026 Laureate** prize.

Public Award (optional):

Out of the selected projects, one project will be determined by online voting.

Special Awards:

In addition, the ESDA Jury may award Special Awards relating to i.a.:

- Sustainability
- Façade & Surfaces (with steel structures)
- Bridges
- High-rise / tall buildings or towers

Prizes

- The **European Steel Design Award – Laureate** winning team receives a Trophy, a plaque and Diplomas for each representative.
- Winners of the **European Steel Design Awards** receive Diplomas for each representative.
- Winners of the **European Steel Design Public Award** receive Diplomas for each representative.
- Winners of the **European Steel Design Special Awards** receive Diplomas and plaques for each representative.

The Awards will be presented in **Krakow on 16 September 2026**, during a ceremony held in the frame of the ECCS Annual Meetings and the **Eurosteel** Conference.

5. TIME-TABLE

- December 2025 : Dissemination of the **Call for Entries**;
- By **30 April 2026**: Communication of the entry forms, high-resolution pictures and drawings, and copyright transfer agreement to ECCS (only via email or www.wetransfer.com to francis.grogna@steelconstruct.com);

- By **15 June 2026**: Evaluation and selection of entries by the ESDA jury.
- By **end of June 2026**: Official information by ECCS and national associations about the ESDA-Country nominations.
- By **31st August 2026**: Delivery of the winners' PowerPoint and video presentations to ECCS (only via email or www.wetransfer.com to francis.grogna@steelconstruct.com).
- **16 September 2026**: European Steel Design Awards Ceremony held in Krakow.

6. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

Entries can be submitted to the ECCS National Member Associations (NAMs) by architects, engineering firms, fabricators, clients, IPOs or other interested parties, or nominated by the national jury. In any case, all projects must be approved and submitted to ECCS only by the NAMs.

7. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

The documents are to be communicated **by the NAMs** via email or www.wetransfer.com to francis.grogna@steelconstruct.com by **30 April 2026**.

The submission must contain:

- The ad hoc Entry Form (see annex), containing key information, structured description and technical data;
- High-resolution photographs¹ and design drawings².
- The Copyright transfer agreement (CTA) (see annex).

These documents are for publication in context of the ESDA by ECCS, NAMs and the press and must therefore be of best quality and include CTAs.

7.1 - PowerPoint or PDF Presentation

PowerPoint and PDF presentations or film clips to be used during the Awards Ceremony will be requested to the Laureate and to the Special Awards winners. They will have to be delivered by 31st August 2026 together with additional material that may be included within the press package.

It is recommended not to include links to videos in the PowerPoint presentations but increment the videos.

8. CONTACT

All questions and submission files (entry form + high resolution photos and drawings + Copyright Transfer Agreement) are to be addressed to

Francis Grogna, ECCS Financial Manager
(francis.grogna@steelconstruct.com)

Thank you and good luck !

¹ Minimum 300 dpi resolution, format 16x24, .eps, .jpg or .tif

² 600 dpi, .eps or vectorised .pdf (or .dxf), black/white; without description and measure layer