Application Guide 2026

Coliving Awards is the first award ceremony dedicated to highlighting key innovators, actors and ideas that are shaping the coliving industry.

If you are reading this guide, you are most likely considering and already preparing your application to the Coliving Awards 2026. It is imperative that you follow the instructions and requirements in order to prove your eligibility and position within the competition.

Thank you for joining us on this journey. We look forward to receiving your application and of course wish you the best of luck!

For Frequently Asked Questions, please check our [FAQ page](#).
For any further questions or queries, you can send us an email to connect@colivingawards.com.

Eligibility, Criteria & Process

Phase 1: Eligibility

In phase one, all applications will be reviewed by our internal team to make sure that all criteria are being met. During the eligibility phase our team will not judge or give a specific score to your application. We will simply make sure that the specific set of criteria are well represented in the deliverables from each applicant.

The criteria for each category includes a checklist and a set of relevant questions which need to be answered within the application and presentation in order to qualify. Please note that applications that do not directly respond to the criteria checklist and application questions and are not written in English will not be eligible to be evaluated by our lead judge and jury panel.

Phase 2: Evaluation from Lead Judge (Criteria & Evaluation Questions)

After our team reviews the applications for eligibility, our lead judge will evaluate all eligible presentations from his / her own category for phase two. According to the criteria checklist and required answers to respective questions, our lead judge will give a score for each application, which will result in the selection of maximum 4 finalists and 1 or more honourable mentions.

Phase 3: Jury Panel & Public Vote

Further evaluation by the whole jury panel will also be based on the set criteria and respective questions, and our wider jury panel will be responsible for nominating the winners of each category, alongside the public vote and the previous scores from each jury member.

Transparent Voting Procedure

Our voting system is based on the combination of different voting power percentages, accounting for: the expertise based evaluation by our lead jury member (35%), a congregate of votes by the jury panel (30%) and a public vote by industry stakeholders and audience through LinkedIn (35%).

The audience vote remains visible for the public to follow throughout the process, however the final results will be disclosed during the awards ceremony.

To see more about our voting procedure, you can review our FAQ page.

Building & Architecture

Designing resilient, sustainable, and human-centric shared living spaces

Category Description

The built environment plays a pivotal role in shaping shared living experiences, and today, more than ever, coliving developments must balance functionality, sustainability, and innovation. This category recognises the architects, developers, and spatial designers who push the boundaries of design to create future-proof coliving spaces—harmonising environmental responsibility, social connectivity, and individual wellbeing. From adaptive reuse and modular construction to biophilic design and smart building technologies, this award honours the visionaries crafting the next generation of shared living environments that redefine how we live together.

For whom?

Developers, builders, architects, design studios, urban planners, spatial designers, in-house design teams, and innovators in sustainable and modular construction.

Eligibility Checklist

Your application will be considered eligible according to the criteria below:

1) **Project Delivery & Development Milestones:** Your building is already operational with proven occupancy rates. OR your project is under construction or in advanced planning, with a confirmed timeline for delivery in 2026 or beyond.
2) **Use of Innovative & Sustainable materials**: Your project incorporates materials that meet leading sustainability standards and certifications. You utilise state-of-the-art sustainability technologies or materials, either already in place or planned for integration.
3) **Integration of Property & Construction Technology:** Your building leverages technology to enhance operational efficiency, sustainability, and user experience. If not yet operational, your project has clear strategies for integrating technology into its construction and management.
4) **Fosters Wellbeing & Community**: The design includes elements that promote biophilia, resident wellbeing, and social interaction. If in planning or under construction, your approach is informed by research and best practices in wellbeing-centered design.
5) **Public Accessibility & Social Impact:** Your building includes communal spaces accessible to local neighbours and community groups If not yet open, your project has a defined plan for fostering public engagement and social integration.

Evaluation Questions

Besides the relevant information supporting the eligibility criteria, we have designed a set of questions that supports each of the evaluation points accordingly. Please make sure to answer each of these questions in your presentation in order to be eligible and properly evaluated by our lead judge and jury panel.

1) **Project Delivery & Development Milestones**
   - *If completed:* Was your building delivered on budget and within the projected timeline? What were the key challenges and how were they overcome?

- ○ *If under construction or in planning:* What are the expected delivery timeline, budget frameworks, and development milestones? How are you ensuring project feasibility and success?
- ○ *In all cases:* Please provide planning, budgeting, or feasibility study materials where applicable.

2) **Use of Innovative & Sustainable materials**
- ○ What makes your coliving building or architectural approach unique?
- ○ How are you integrating sustainable and innovative construction materials?
- ○ *If completed:* Provide examples of materials used and their measurable impact on efficiency, durability, and environmental responsibility.
- ○ *If under construction or in planning:* Outline the materials intended for use and their projected benefits.

3) **Integration of Property & Construction Technology**
- ○ What building, design, construction, and technology innovations were or will be integrated?
- ○ How do these solutions (e.g., ConTech, PropTech, automation, prefabrication, modularity) enhance efficiency, flexibility, and sustainability?
- ○ *If completed:* Provide examples of applied technologies and their impact.
- ○ *If under construction or in planning:* Detail planned technologies and their expected outcomes.

4) **Fosters Wellbeing & Community**
- ○ How does your project actively promote resident wellbeing and community-building?
- ○ What design elements or operational strategies (e.g., biophilic design, shared spaces, wellness features) contribute to a healthier, more connected living environment?
- ○ *If completed:* Share specific case studies or resident feedback.
- ○ *If under construction or in planning:* Describe the intended impact and any research or models guiding your approach.

5) **Public Accessibility & Social impact**
- ○ Does or will your project include spaces open to the public to foster interaction beyond residents?
- ○ How do you assess or plan to assess the building's social and economic impact on staff, residents, and the local community?
- ○ *If completed:* Provide data, testimonials, or reports where possible.
- ○ *If under construction or in planning:* Outline strategies for measuring future impact.

Deliverables

In order to participate and submit a valid application to the Coliving Awards you will need to:
- Meet all the eligibility criteria, provide argumentation to prove you are meeting the eligibility criteria, as well as include the answer to the set of questions within the specific category
- Fill in the form you will find on the portal to submit your application.
- In the form you will find a field to provide a **short description** that elevates your project submissions. This description may be used to present your project online on our website and during the Coliving Awards ceremony. Make sure it's representative and provides a high level outline of your project positioning in relation to the specified criteria The length for this description should be between 1200 - 1500 characters including spaces.
- Deliver a presentation containing all information as stipulated in the point above, in PPT or PDF format (size 16:9, horizontal)

- You can create a presentation with your own visual language and branding and provide as much information as you please to strengthen your application. However, we are providing a templated presentation that may guide you through the process. Download the **Building & Architecture** presentation template from the category page here.
- Your presentation should have a maximum of 20 slides.
- Your presentation must as well include the following information:
    - Name / Company representative of the applicant
    - Organisation / Company name and logo (if applicable)
    - General information about the specific project / site / product in English
    - Responses to questions above and additional resources requested in the eligibility and evaluation criteria, such as data on planning, budgeting, development, timelines and user metrics when applicable
- Applications must be in English in order to be processed and accepted
- Upload to the applicant portal the following materials:
    - Supporting images / renders (in hi-resolution JPG / PNG - 150 dpi) in ZIP format (max 10 images)
        - Name your files with the following system: organisation-projectname-image#
    - Representative project image (max 10 MB) to be used as a thumbnail in the application portal and other relevant communication from Coliving Awards about your project
    - All images should be saved in 16:9 ratio, minimum 1920x1080px.