



# 2025 Mass Timber Competition

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS

*The webinar will begin at*

*2:00pm ET*

*1:00pm CT*

*12:00pm MT*

*11:00am PT*





# 2025 Mass Timber Competition

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS

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Competition Entry Q&A Webinar

November 20, 2024



# INTRODUCTION

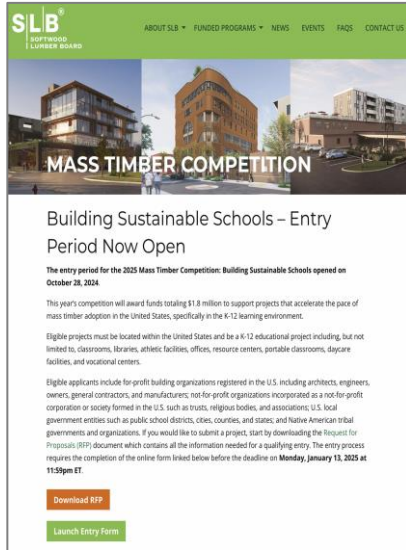
## PROGRAM MANAGERS

- Simon Hyoun, Softwood Lumber Board
- Bill Richards, Softwood Lumber Board

## EXPERTS

- Kevin Naranjo, National Program Lead, Wood Innovations Program, USDA Forest Service
- Ryan Flom, Chief Marketing Officer, Softwood Lumber Board
- Jennifer Cover, President & CEO, WoodWorks
- Scott Breneman, Senior Technical Director, WoodWorks

# IMPORTANT DATES



**January 13, 2025 at 11:59pm ET...Entry period ends**

March 5, 2025 ..... Judging concludes

April 19, 2025 ..... Recipients notified

June 6, 2025 ..... Public announcement

Questions to [sustainableschools@woodworks.org](mailto:sustainableschools@woodworks.org)

To apply:

[softwoodlumberboard.org/masstimbercompetition](https://softwoodlumberboard.org/masstimbercompetition)

To learn more about choosing wood school projects:  
[woodworks.org/learn/education](https://woodworks.org/learn/education)

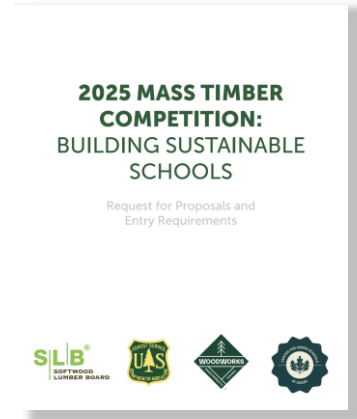
# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Eligibility

### Who is eligible to enter?

The lead applicant on the project team must be:

- A for-profit building sector organization registered in the U.S. (e.g., architect, engineer, developer, building owner, general contractor, manufacturer)
- A not-for-profit organization incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation or society formed in the U.S. (e.g., independent school, trust, religious body, association)
- A U.S. local government entity (e.g., public school district, city, county, state)
- A Native American Tribal government entity or organization



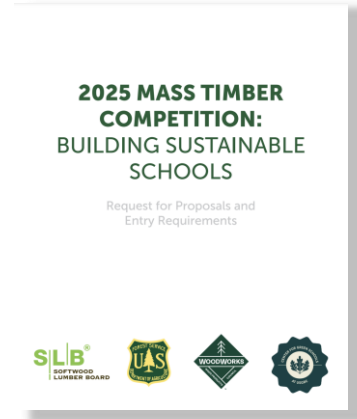
# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Eligibility

### What project types are eligible?

An eligible project must be located within the United States and be a K-12 educational project including, but not limited to:

- Classrooms
- Libraries
- Athletic facilities
- Offices
- Resource centers
- Portable classrooms
- Vocational centers
- Pre-K or daycare facilities



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Eligibility

### Which mass timber systems are eligible?

An eligible project must include one of the following mass timber systems:

- Cross-laminated timber (CLT) of either solid-sawn or structural composite lumber
- Nail-laminated timber (NLT)
- Glued-laminated timber (glulam)
- Dowel-laminated timber (DLT)

Mixed material (hybrid) solutions that have predominantly mass timber components along with other structural materials are also eligible.



**2025 MASS TIMBER  
COMPETITION:  
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SCHOOLS**  
Request for Proposals and  
Entry Requirements



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Eligibility

Can my project be theoretical? Or does it need to be a real project already in progress?

The scoring rubric is such that non-theoretical will score highly in every section.

Also, the judging panel will be asked to consider the impact of a finished project on students and district, as well as the larger community.

It is a goal of this competition to support projects that are on-track to be built.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Scoring and Judging

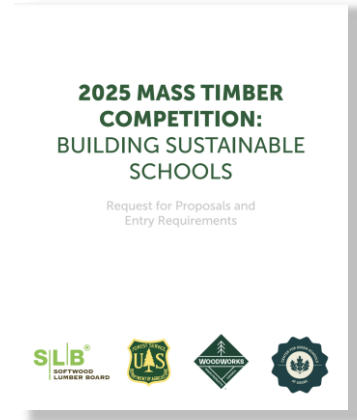
p. 2-7

## How will projects be evaluated?

First: We have an independent panel comprised of a technical committee who will use the following rubric:

- Section 1: Project Description – 250 points
- Section 2: Business Case for Mass Timber – 400 points
- Section 3: Sustainability & Resiliency – 125 points
- Section 4: Impact – 225 points

Total number of points available: 1,000



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

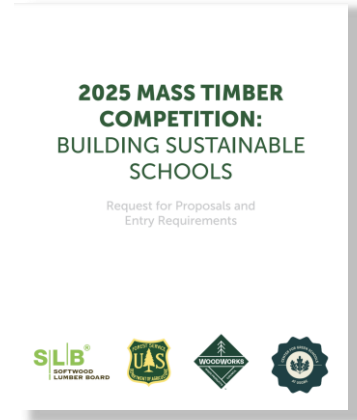
## Scoring & Judging

### How will projects be evaluated? (cont'd.)

Second: A jury—reflecting a range of backgrounds such as architecture, construction, school administration, and sustainability—will deliberate to select winners.

Jurors will be asked to compare projects of similar scope and scale against each other.

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# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

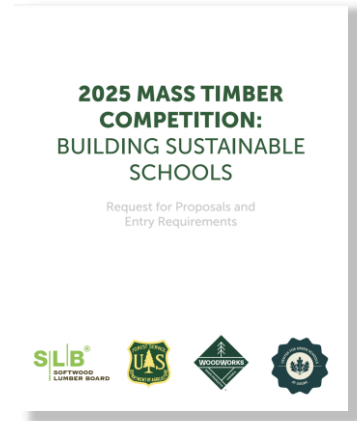
Scoring & Judging

## How much can I ask for?

First: Consider the eligible expenses that the funding can be applied to. Avoid asking for an amount of funding that you cannot use.

See the RFP for a specific list of eligible expenses.

p. 2



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Scoring & Judging

### How much can I ask for? (cont'd.)

Second: The funders will consider the following attributes when deciding the final award amount:

#### Project size or complexity

Projects with high anticipated design and construction costs will be better able to justify larger requested award amounts.

#### Replicability

Proposals that are viable for multiple sites or are part of a Master Plan Prototype may be considered for higher funding.

#### Likelihood to be constructed

Proposals that have a clear path to completion will be more likely to receive higher funding.

**Note that the maximum award amount is \$500,000**



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

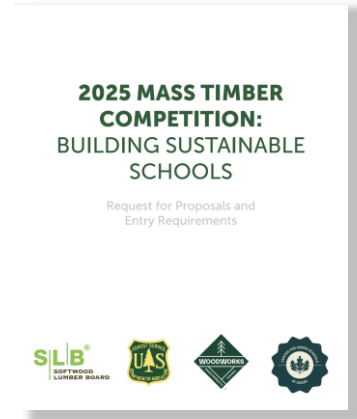
If Awarded ...

## Do I get the full amount at once?

The funding agreement will specify the deliverables and disbursement of funds along the following timeline:

- Phase 1: Schematic Design and Design Development  
– 15 percent of funds
- Phase 2: Construction Documents and Approval  
– 50 percent of funds
- Phase 3: Construction and Building Completion  
– 25 percent of funds
- Phase 4: Post-Construction  
– 10 percent of funds

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# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If Awarded ...

For projects in a conceptual/early schematic design phase, what happens if a structural system is ultimately chosen that's *not* mass timber? Is funding retracted?

Meeting the deliverable and funding schedule is a required part of the award agreement. If a project does not complete a phase in the agreement, then the associated funds will not be disbursed to the recipient.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

p. 9-10

If Awarded ...

## Can funds cover the costs of materials?

No, the purchase of construction materials is not an eligible expense. See the RFP for a specific list of eligible expenses:

- *Bond Planning, Pre-Bond Design, and Master Planning*
- *Schematic Design, Design Development, and Construction Drawings*
- *Research, Testing, and Other Required Support by Third Parties*
- *Building System Code Acceptance, Final Cost Analysis, and Approvals*
- *Construction*
- *Related Activities and Other Costs Not Noted but Directly Attributable to the Development and Construction of a Wood Solution*



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# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Miscellaneous

Can you provide guidance on calculating the carbon impact of a building?

WoodWorks maintains a carbon calculator that you may use to calculate the carbon impact of your project. WoodWorks is pleased to work with anyone to help them understand and utilize other calculators, too.

The goal is to measure, reduce, and report the carbon impact of the building. Embodied carbon emissions are best calculated using a whole building or structural life cycle assessment.

Life cycle assessment standards to consider are ISO standards 14040, 14044, and 21930.

URL: [www.woodworks.org/resources/woodworks-carbon-calculator](http://www.woodworks.org/resources/woodworks-carbon-calculator)



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Miscellaneous

Where can I learn more about biophilic design principles and how important is that to my entry?

[Biophilic Design LookBook](#) by WoodWorks & Think Wood

[Biophilic Design with Wood](#) by Naturally Wood

[14 Patterns of Biophilic Design](#) by Terrapin Bright Green

[Biophilic Architecture + Building](#) on Think Wood

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Miscellaneous

## Is domestic wood favored over international wood?

Yes. One of the objectives of the competition is to grow the domestic mass timber and solid-sawn lumber markets and strengthen the domestic mass timber supply chain.

- Preference will be given to projects that commit to using US-harvested and US-manufactured mass timber.
- As you'll see when you register a project for the competition, you will have an opportunity to cite manufacturers you've been talking to or working with, as well as provide a letter of engagement proving an intentional effort.

# DISCUSSION

Have a question? Post it in the Q&A window!

[sustainableschools@woodworks.org](mailto:sustainableschools@woodworks.org)