

# COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE

## AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN POST GRADUATE THESIS IN ARCHITECTURE 2026

### GENERAL RULES

#### INVITATION

- 1.1 **The Council of Architecture (Promoter)**, with a view to encourage and motivate the students of Post Graduate Courses has instituted all India Awards for Excellence in Post Graduate thesis in architecture, submitted in compliance to the requirements of the Master's degree program in Architecture and invites students to participate in this prestigious programme by submitting their thesis projects in accordance with the conditions and instructions set out below.

#### ELIGIBILITY

- 1.2 The term 'Student' shall mean a bonafide student of College of Architecture approved by COA, **who has appeared for Final Year M. Arch. Examination at the conclusion of academic year 2025-2026.**
- 1.3 Each thesis must be submitted by the Head of the Institute/ Principal of the college, with consent from the student. **Each college/school of architecture approved by the Council of Architecture may send a maximum of two entries per sanctioned intake of 20 or part thereof for the batch appearing for the Final Year M. Arch. Examination at the conclusion of the academic year 2025-2026.**

#### APPROVAL OF CONDITIONS

- 1.4 This awards program will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines of the Council of Architecture, which also apply in case of points which have not been specifically covered by these conditions.
- 1.5 A copy of the awards guidelines has been filed with the Council of Architecture.

#### PERSONS INELIGIBLE

- 1.6 No blood relative of any member of the Board of Assessors shall take part either directly or indirectly in the awards program nor be entrusted either directly or indirectly with work connected with the award-winning thesis.

No member of the promoting body or an associate or an employee or any member concerned with the preparation or organizing of the competition shall be eligible to assist a student participating in the program.

#### ENTERING IN THE AWARDS PROGRAM

- 1.7 The conditions for participation and Online Google Registration Form will be available on the website [www.coa.gov.in](http://www.coa.gov.in)

**Last date of online registration and other deadlines shall be announced on [www.coa.gov.in](http://www.coa.gov.in) shortly**

The hard copy of the complete set of original Declaration Forms A & B duly filled in and completed in all respects and Pendrive should be sent to the **Director, COA-TRC, Pune**, by registered speed post or forwarding agent to reach the given address before the declared deadline.

No registration fee is charged.

**Director, Council of Architecture Training & Research Centre (COA-TRC),**

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, A-4(B), Abhimanshree, Off Pashan Road, Pune - 411 008.

Tel: +91-9764-000-352 Email: [director@coatrc.in](mailto:director@coatrc.in)

Each thesis project received as an entry for the awards programme shall be allocated a code number by the Promoter and the author shall be duly informed of the same via e-mail not later than the declared deadline.

### **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

1.8 The members for Zonal Jury shall be appointed on the Board of Assessors to advise on the conduct of the awards program, adjudicate on the thesis reports submitted and make the award. The appointments shall be made by the promoter from amongst the eminent architects.

### **ADVISERS**

1.9 If necessary, the Board of Assessors may consult the advisory committee of the awards program. The advisory committee may be consulted on any aspect of the competition and one or two members of the advisory committee may remain available during the judging to give advice on various aspects of competition when invited to do so.

### **PRIZES AND MENTIONS**

1.10 The promoter undertakes to accept the decisions and the awards of the Board of Assessors and pay the following awards:

#### **At each Final Event:**

1. To the author of the **best Three** thesis projects - **Rs 100,000/-** each
  2. To the author of the **Three runner up** thesis projects - **Rs 25,000/-** each (Selected to the Final Jury)
- The awards mentioned above shall have two components - Cash & Certificate for all winners.

Certificate of Excellence will be given to the authors of the best three entries

Certificate of Merit will be given to the three runners up entries

Certificate of Participation will be given to all the entries after the attending the final jury.

### **SUBMISSION OF THESIS PROJECTS**

- 1.11 Submission of the thesis report implies acceptance of the awards program conditions. Participants are advised to retain copies of the material submitted.
- 1.12 No symbol, motto or distinguishing mark will be placed on any part of the report, presentation and poster except the title of the project at the designated location. The entire entry and all the documents of each competitor shall be dispatched in a single packet using the label.
- 1.13 Each participant must be prepared to satisfy the Board of Assessors that he is the bonafide author of the thesis he/she has submitted.
- 1.14 Submission of Registration through online Google Form, declaration forms both A & B, posters, presentation not later than declared deadline.

### **INSURANCE OF THESIS PROJECT**

1.15 Each participant is responsible for insuring his entry against loss, damage or non-delivery up to the time of its receipt at the address given on the website [www.coa.gov.in](http://www.coa.gov.in)

### **JUDGING PROCEDURE**

- 1.16 The promoter will place a secretariat at the disposal of the Board of Assessors to minute their meetings and record their decisions.
- 1.17 The deliberations of the Board of Assessors will be confidential. No member of the Board or Technical Adviser or member of the promoter's staff or competition secretariat may disclose any details of the competitions, deliberations or decisions.

**The decisions of the Board of Assessors are final and binding on the promoter.**

1.18 The judging of the entries are scheduled to take place in two stages as listed below

**Stage1 (Short listing)**

Each entry will be assessed by a panel of experts. Each coded entry shall be assessed in strict confidence by a team of jurors to shortlist ten entries. These entries will be forwarded for Stage 2. The jury shall also select two entries as standby, (to be listed in order of merit), to be forwarded for Stage 2 in addition to the shortlisted ten. The authors of entries selected as standby shall present their entry in stage 2 only if authors of any of the shortlisted entries, are not present at jury, and only after presentations of other shortlisted participants are complete.

**Stage 2 (Jury)**

All the participants are invited to remain present for the stage 2 (jury). Authors of the ten short listed thesis projects shall make an audio-visual presentation to the members of Jury (Assessors) in a public jury attended by eminent citizen, public and students, held on the date of the Final Jury. The participants must make the presentation himself/herself.

The promoter or his representative will announce the code number of each shortlisted project 30 minutes before commencement of presentation. The sequence of presentation will be decided and announced by draw of lots. Before the beginning of the first presentation, code number of the second presenter will be announced. At the end of first presentation the code number of the third presenter will be announced, and the end of second presentation the code number of fourth presenter will be announced and so on. Each participating student will be given a minimum of 20 minutes & maximum of 30 minutes for the entire Jury. It will consist of maximum of 15 minutes for the presentation on screen & approximately 15-20 minutes for the question-answers.

Three thesis projects will be selected as winners on completion of the Jury.

Three thesis projects will be selected as runners up on completion of the Jury.

1.19 The promoter will announce awards of excellence after completion of presentations of the final Jury, on the declared date.

1.20 A copy of the report of the Board of Assessors will be made accessible for inspection to participants at the same time as the Board's award is made public.

**DISQUALIFICATION**

1.21 The Board of Assessors may disqualify entries for the following reasons:

1. If received by the promoter at the address given on the website [www.coa.gov](http://www.coa.gov) by post or through forwarding agent after the declared deadline.
2. If the participant disregards any of the conditions of the program.
3. If the participant attempts to influence any member of the Board of Assessors.

**TERMINATION OF AWARDS PROGRAM**

1.22 If against all expectations entertained by the promoter, the result of the awards program is such that none of the participants could be declared by the Assessors as the winners of the awards, the program could be regarded as terminated and the promoter will on the advice of the Board of Assessors award ONLY the consolation awards to all the thesis projects selected for Final Jury.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD AND EXHIBITION**

1.23 The promoter will publish the award of the Board of Assessors and inform the Council of Architecture after having first informed the authors of the award-winning thesis projects.

**RIGHTS**

1.24 All Pen drives will be retained by the promoter as his property.

1.25 Copyright of all thesis projects including the thesis projects winning the first prize will be that of the authors of the projects, however, the promoter will have the right to publish the projects received, in

architecture journals and as compilation of entries received, for the purpose of records and academic interest.

### SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

1.26 In the event of dispute not related to the judging procedure or the award of the Board of Assessors, the settlement will be by arbitration without recourse to the legal authorities.

### AWARDS PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

1.27 The competition will be run in accordance with the following time table:

IMPORTANT DATES	
Awards guidelines will be made available by the promoter	Dates will be published on <a href="http://www.coa.gov.in">www.coa.gov.in</a> shortly.
Deadline for online submission or upload of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration through (Online) Google Form</li> <li>• Scanned images of declaration forms both A &amp; B duly filled (stamped &amp; signed)</li> <li>• Scanned image of College Nomination form duly filled (stamped &amp; signed)</li> </ul> Deadline for submission of nominations by Head of Institute to TRC by email	
Allocation of code numbers to participants by email	
Deadline for upload <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PDF of A2 sized Posters [Single PDF file having all Posters of the entry (Min.01 &amp; Max.02)]</li> </ul>	
Deadline for hard copy of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declaration forms both (A &amp; B in original)</li> <li>• Pen drive</li> <li>• 02 copies of a spiral bound report, printed on A4 size paper to be received at COA-TRC, Pune</li> </ul>	

JUDGING DATES	
Short listing of coded projects	Dates will be published on <a href="http://www.coa.gov.in">www.coa.gov.in</a> shortly.
<b>Final Jury</b> Presentation by the 10 shortlisted presenters	
Declaration of Awards	

### SUBMISSION FOR AWARDS

**Submission to the promoter at COA-TRC Pune:**

**To be submitted, as per 1.28 and 1.29 at the time of registration, (for receipt on or before the declared deadline). The entry shall be sent to the Director, COA-TRC, Pune at the address given in 1.30:**

1.28 Each entry should be submitted in the form of:

1. **A completed set of original Declaration Forms both A & B** duly filled in and completed in all respects.
2. **2 copies of a spiral bound**, printed A4 sized volume containing a report on the thesis project of the participating student in approx. 6000 words in not less than 25 A4 sized pages limited to a maximum of 40 pages.
3. **A Pen drive** (bearing the code number provided by the promoter) adequately protected for handling and containing documentation supported by editable drawings and high-resolution photographs as stated in 1.29

1.29 The Pen drive shall contain:

- 1 Scanned copies of the completed declaration forms both A & B.
- 2 Scanned image of College Nomination form duly filled (stamped & signed)
- 3 Passport size photograph of the participant
- 4 Minimum four photographs of Models or 3D visualizations. (All the photographs and visualization shall be in jpg format at resolution of 300 DPI.) If required, short films/documentaries may also be submitted. Maximum length of a video submitted should be not more than 20 minutes
- 5 A synopsis of the thesis project in approximately 2000 to 2500 words
- 6 Project report: The participant should submit a high-resolution editable file of the submitted essay, the project report as a MS word file in Arial 12 points, double spacing in A4 portrait format
- 7 AutoCAD/Photoshop/Corel draw drawings: Drawings included as part of the report in simple line drawings with line thicknesses (without render) in proper layers - Purged files in AutoCAD format or suitable format
- 8 jpeg/pdf files: 3d views, conceptual drawings, model images, rendered plans, sections, elevations should be in Jpeg images/PDF format
- 9 Power point presentation: A copy of the presentation to be made to the jury at the Finals.
- 10 Single PDF file containing all A2 sized posters (minimum 01 but not more than 02)

1.30 Items to be uploaded by competitors online:

- 1 Single PDF file containing the thesis report, size limit upto 30MB).
- 2 Power point presentation: A copy of the presentation to be made to the jury at the Final Jury in ppt format and video (optional) in mp4 format, total size limit upto 30MB.

1.31 Name Address and Contact Details

**The Director,**  
**Council of Architecture Training & Research Centre (COA-TRC),**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, A-4(B), Abhimanshree, Off. Pashan Road, Pune - 411 008.  
Tel: 0-9764-000-352  
Email: [director@coatrc.in](mailto:director@coatrc.in)

1.32 Any changes in dates or details of zonal and all India events will be displayed on the website [www.coa.gov.in](http://www.coa.gov.in)

1.33 Label for Dispatch of Declaration forms both A & B and Pendrive

To, <b>The Director,</b> <b>Council of Architecture Training &amp; Research Centre (COA-TRC),</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, A-4(B), Abhimanshree, off. Pashan Road, Pune - 411 008. Tel: 0-9764-000-352 email: <a href="mailto:director@coatrc.in">director@coatrc.in</a> <b>COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE TRAINING &amp; RESEARCH CENTRE</b> <b>AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN POST GRADUATE THESIS IN ARCHITECTURE 2026</b>
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1.34 Sticker for Envelope containing the Pen Drive

<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; background-color: #cccccc;"> <b>ENTRY Pen drive</b> </div>	<p><b>CHECKLIST:</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Declaration forms (A &amp; B)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Passport Photos</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>All Sheets (PDF)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Photographs of Model</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Synopsis</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>AutoCAD / Photoshop/Corel Draw drawings</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Images</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Presentation</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>PDF of posters</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Declaration forms (A & B)		Passport Photos		All Sheets (PDF)		Photographs of Model		Synopsis		AutoCAD / Photoshop/Corel Draw drawings		Images		Presentation		PDF of posters	
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