

SkillsUSA Maryland / 2026 State Championship
Architectural Drafting Contest Update - (posted 4/6/26)

SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):

Start of Competition – 8:00 am

Task 1 – Site Plan – Complete by 9:30 am

Task 2 – Sketches – Complete by 12:00 pm

Task 3 – CAD Drawings – Complete by 1:30 pm

Conclusion of Competition: 1:30 pm

TOOL LIST Provided by Contestants:

Bottled water, if necessary

Tracing or sketch paper

Drafting tape or dots

Pencils

Scales (architectural & engineering)

Laptop with your preferred CAD program. Students are always allowed to bring their own computers. (Software already available on school computers in the competition lab will be shared when available).

CONTEST TIPS:

Task 1 - Site planning design sketch & questions.

Task 2 - Building design sketches & explanation of design intent.

Task 3 - CAD drafting of the design & questions.

Grading approach: total of 1,000 points weighted as follows:

- **100 possible points for the hand sketching.**
 - Site Plan Sketch (30 Possible Points)
 - Floor Plan Sketch (40 Possible Points)
 - Elevation Sketches (30 Possible Points)
- **100 possible points for answers to questions regarding your design.**
 - Answered all 6 questions clearly (60 Possible Points)
 - Explained interior design ideas (20 Possible Points)
 - Explained sustainability choices and site connection (20 Possible Points)
- **350 possible points for the overall design of building & design intent.**
 - Smart use of space (no wasted areas), meeting or exceeding minimum sq ft (100 Possible Points)
 - Included all spaces in programming (100 Possible Points)

- Site Fit (repetition strategy for the site is logical) (25 Possible Points)
- Comfort (natural light, privacy between spaces, functional use (50 Possible Points)
- Creativity (thoughtful exterior and interior design) (75 Possible Points)
- **450 possible points for CAD drawings (floor plan & elevations).**
 - 1 x Floor plan (walls, floors, roofs, steps, doors, windows, furniture) (150 Possible Points)
 - 2 x Elevations (150 Possible Points)
 - Dimensions, labels, and clear linework (100 Possible Points)
 - Sheet layout and presentation (50 Possible Points)
- **-10 points penalty for not providing resume.**
- **-10 points penalty for not wearing the required clothing.**

Other- answer 6 questions; finish required elements at times requested for each.

- **Upon completion of the competition, please clear the room for the jurors to begin reviewing student work. Students will be allowed back into the room to collect their materials once scoring is complete.**
- If a student is planning to use board drafting equipment, they must bring their own drawing board, equipment, and drafting supplies.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Familiarize yourself with **sustainable design** in architecture (**Building & Site**). A few sources are listed below.

American Society of Landscape Architects: <https://www.asla.org/sites/>

American Institute of Architects: <https://www.aia.org/resource-center/putting-sustainability-into-practice>

Become familiar with **affordable housing design aspects** and **planned housing community design**.

Selected Building Typology for Competition: Small **affordable housing residential cluster prototype**. The design should demonstrate how one unit can serve as a **repeatable model**, allowing 4–8 units to be arranged efficiently on the lot while maintaining access, light, privacy, and shared outdoor space. The competition will include shared exterior green spaces, typical interior residential housing spaces, and support spaces. There will be some focus on **sustainability**.

Selected Building Site for Competition: [1240 Hillshire Rd, Baltimore, MD 21222](#)

