

MICHIGAN MASS TIMBER

CATALYST PROGRAM

INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR



Introduction



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Program Purpose

The **Michigan Mass Timber Catalyst Program** provides funding and technical assistance to support early adopters of mass timber in Michigan. *The program aims to catalyze:*



Broader understanding of mass timber's benefits and feasibility



New forest products opportunities that support forest health and resilience management using regional wood



Wider mass timber adoption across building types, including multi-family housing



New forestry, manufacturing, and construction jobs across the state



Reduced carbon footprint in built environments, per MI Healthy Climate Plan

Partners & Funding



Funding to support this program is being provided from a one-time State General Fund appropriation to the Department of Natural Resources in Public Act 121 of 2024. The purpose of this allocation is to aid in the development of a mass timber market in the state of Michigan.

Steering Committee

Sandra Lupien, MassTimber@MSU, Michigan State University

Tori Irving, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Office of Public Lands

Patrick Mohny, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Office of Public Lands

Jennifer Cover, WoodWorks

Anthony Harvey, WoodWorks

Cheri Holman, Michigan Green Building Collaborative

Kayla Snyder, Michigan Green Building Collaborative

Joel Schultz, InvestUP

Jonathon Paradine, Michigan Bureau of Construction Codes

Brent Connell, Michigan Bureau of Fire Services

Program Staff

Calista Rockwell, MassTimber@MSU, Michigan State University

Anna Heise, MassTimber@MSU, Michigan State University

Why, What and Who?

Why

Program provides funding and technical assistance to support the successful use and implementation of mass timber by early adopters in Michigan

What

**Selected project teams will receive a cash award
\$25,000 - \$75,000
+ 1 Year of Technical Assistance**

Awards are intended to help offset additional time and resources invested by early mass timber adopters. Award amounts are at the discretion of the review committee and will be determined based primarily upon project size and budget, but other factors, such as need, may be considered.

Who

Eligible applicants include property owners, design professionals, or real estate developers with an active commissioned project in Michigan that is prioritizing or considering mass timber design and construction.

Applicants must be registered in the U.S., and licensed (if applicable) to practice in Michigan. State of Michigan government agencies are not eligible applicants

MASS TIMBER

Mass timber is a category of framing styles characterized by the use of large, engineered wood panels, often paired with engineered wood columns, and beams.



Cross-laminated timber (CLT)



Nail-laminated timber (NLT)



Dowel-laminated timber (DLT)



Glue-laminated timber
(glulam or GLT)



Some types of structural
composite lumber (SCL)

DEFINITION OF MASS TIMBER PROJECT

Michigan Mass Timber Catalyst Program eligible mass timber project:

- | A building with one (1) or more of its main structural systems (floors, walls, or roof) utilizing mass timber products
- | The building's superstructure must include mass timber components equal to or greater than 80% of that structural system (floor, walls, or roof) in the superstructure above the finished grade (ground-level)
- | Any below-grade superstructures are not included.
- | Single-family homes are not eligible projects

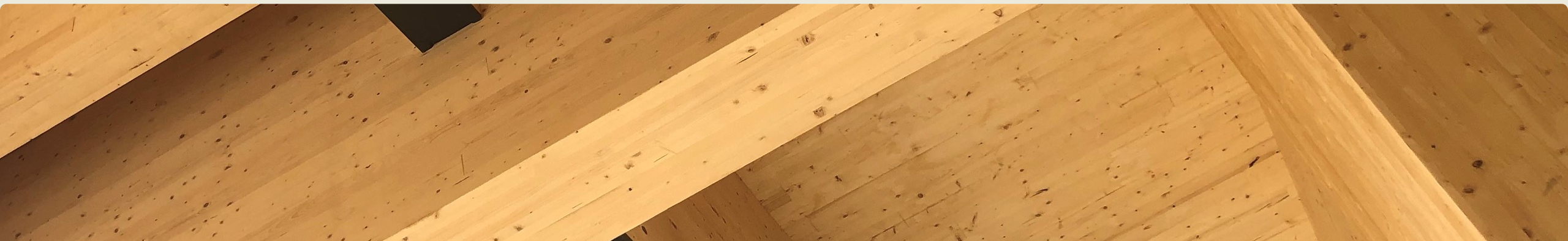
Project Eligibility

The proposal must be for an active, commissioned project in Michigan that is intended, or under serious consideration as, a mass timber construction project.

Important: Proposed projects must be early enough in design/development that Catalyst Program support and participation will be timely and influential.

Projects can be eligible in all stages of design development (Schematic Design, Design Development, Construction Documents).

Projects that are already under construction are not eligible.



Project Eligibility

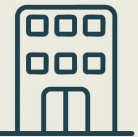
Building uses/typologies may include, but not be limited to:



Multi-family housing: Apartments and Condominiums; Bonus points are available for affordable/attainable/workforce housing types



Commercial: Large office buildings and laboratories; warehouses; industrial facilities; data centers; arenas, stadiums, auditoriums; retail spaces



Public/government: Office buildings; laboratories; sports and entertainment facilities; community centers; penal institutions (State of Michigan agency projects are not eligible); pavilions, market halls



Schools: Pre-K; K-12; Colleges and Universities

Other uses/typologies that meet the mass timber definition in the section above are welcome and encouraged. Single family homes are not eligible for this program.

Selected Projects: Benefits and Expectations

Selected project teams will:

Support Details:



Receive a cash
award of \$25,000
- \$75,000



Receive robust
technical
assistance
through “office
hours” and as
part of a dynamic
technical
assistance and
peer learning
cohort



Participate in
program-related
engagement
events



Provided by:
WoodWorks,
MassTimber@MSU,
Michigan Bureau of
Construction Codes
and Bureau of Fire
Services, and other
subject matter
experts



Topics:
Project design,
planning,
permitting, cost
estimating,
procurement,
sustainability

Application Timeline

OCTOBER

2025

22nd: Public Announcement/Proposal Submission Period Begins

Online Portal for Applicant Questions Opens

NOVEMBER

2025

7th: Public Information Session (Virtual)

12th: Online Portal for Applicant Questions Closes

14th: Responses to Applicant Questions Posted on Catalyst Program Website

DECEMBER

2025

22nd: Proposal Submission Period Closes at 11:59 p.m.

JANUARY

2026

19th: Awardees Notified

FEBRUARY

2026

Week of the 9th: Catalyst Fund Cohort Kickoff Meeting

MARCH - JANUARY

2026

Cohort Meetings and Technical Assistance Office Hours

DECEMBER

2026

Near-Final Team Lightning Presentations at Michigan Mass Timber Update

FEBRUARY

2027

Final Cohort Presentations

Proposal Requirements

Proposals must be for a single project located in Michigan. The proposed project may be part of a larger development, but must be a single, specific building within that project

Project teams may submit more than one project but must submit a separate application for each project. In addition, individuals and firms may participate on more than one project team

Proposals consist of character-limited responses submitted through a fillable form, along with required attachments. The attachments must comprise a single, PDF formatted document with a total file size no larger than 40 MB

Entry Instructions

Project teams must submit their proposals before December 22, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.

**Applicant Contact
Information**

Project Description

Catalytic Impact

**Project Name and
Location in Michigan**

**Statement of Interest and
Build with Mass Timber**

Bonus Categories

Team Profile

**Statement of Mass Timber
Procurement Strategy**

**Attachments (as a single
PDF no larger than 40 MB)**

Scoring Rubric

	Criteria	Importance	Max Points	Scoring Guidelines
1	Likelihood of Mass Timber Success	Most important	10 points	Project demonstrates strong technical and organizational potential for mass timber to be carried through to final construction. Team has relevant experience and/or support.
2	Commitment to Mass Timber	Most important	10 points	Proposal clearly demonstrates deep commitment to using mass timber, including owner buy-in and intent to move forward with this system.
3	Project Stage	Very important	8 points	Project is early enough in design/development that Catalyst Program support will be timely and influential (e.g., not already fully designed or under construction).
4	Permitting Stage	Very important	8 points	Project is at or nearing the early permitting phase—early enough to incorporate learnings from feasibility, but advanced enough to be real and actionable.
5	Catalytic Potential	Important	6 points	Project has potential to inspire others: through visibility, innovation, or demonstration of leadership in mass timber use in Michigan.
6	Contribution to Project Type Diversity	Important	6 points	Project adds to the diversity of the Catalyst Program cohort (e.g., fills a gap in building type: industrial, multi-family, institutional, etc.).
7	Commitment to North American Mass Timber	Important	6 points	Project shows intent to use mass timber products manufactured in and sourced from North America. Stronger or more specific commitments receive higher scores.

Scoring Rubric

Bonus Criteria

Bonus Criteria	Max Points	Scoring Guidelines
Commitment to Regional Wood	4 points	Project intends to investigate using mass timber made from wood sourced in the Great Lakes region. Proposal must demonstrate preliminary knowledge of how to specify such wood.
Affordable, Attainable, or Workforce Housing	4 points	At least 50% of units are affordable or workforce housing. Proposal must describe unit count and income requirements for unit types.
Priority Communities	4 points	Project is located in or serves a Tribal community or an underserved/underinvested rural or urban community in Michigan. To qualify as an underserved/underinvested community, the project must be in a community with a Socioeconomic Factor Percentile of 60 or greater in the socioeconomic category of the Michigan Environmental Justice Screening Tool.

Questions

Masstimber.msu.edu/Catalyst/faq



Questions

- Will the grant cover the cost difference, or a portion thereof, between mass timber and conventional framing hard costs?
- Is this grant going to be offered annually, or is this a one-time opportunity?
- For the 80% requirement, what if, through the design and engineering process funded by the grant, the amount of the structural component turns out to be <80%?
- Will you make available a PDF listing the questions that are in the application form?

Questions

Masstimber.msu.edu/Catalyst/faq





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APPLY BY 12/22/25

MassTimber.msu.edu/Catalyst

