

## **Multifamily Housing Notice 26-4**

**March 19, 2026**

**To:** Developers, Sponsors and Local Housing Contacts

**From:** Alvin Lawson, Director, Multifamily Operations

**Re:** Revised Design Professional Liability (Errors and Omissions [E&O]) Insurance Coverage; 2026 DHCD Annual Multifamily Award Nominations

### **Revised Design Professional Liability (Errors and Omissions [E&O]) Insurance Coverage**

In response to market trends, the Department is updating the minimum coverage amounts for professional liability (E&O) coverage limits required for multifamily rental projects.

For projects with construction budgets less than \$50 million, the architect or engineer shall provide professional liability insurance coverage in an amount equal to the greater of 7.5% of the total aggregate dollar amount of construction, or \$1,000,000 for a period of not less than two years after the date of substantial completion.

For projects with construction budgets greater than \$50 million, the professional liability insurance coverage is equal to the greater of 7.5% of the total aggregate dollar amount of construction, or \$5,000,000, for a period of not less than two years after the date of substantial completion.

These coverage amounts more closely align the Department's requirements with industry practice. It also shifts some of the design insurance costs over to the project budget, which we anticipate will reduce costs for design firms.

### **2026 DHCD Annual Multifamily Award Nominations**

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is accepting nominations for our annual multifamily awards. The awards will be presented at the DHCD/MAHC Breakfast with the Secretary on April 21st, 2026.

Nominations will be accepted for the following categories:

- Construction Excellence
- Excellence in Affordable Housing Preservation
- Outstanding Community Revitalization

### ENTRY GUIDELINES:

1. All entries must be submitted via the [2026 award nomination form](#) on our website. In addition, please provide no more than a one-page statement describing why the project is deserving of receiving one of the awards.

Examples include projects that excel in innovative design, adaptive reuse, and meaningful integration of public art (such as community murals); exceed energy standards; feature efficient systems; provide community service facilities that help local residents; or incorporate other community-oriented designs that transform communities into lovable places.

Applicants may also submit up to three pages of additional supporting materials such as photographs, press releases, testimonials, and other awards. These materials must be combined into a single PDF file for submission.

2. The nominated projects must be financed with DHCD multifamily resources.
3. The submissions are not limited to MAHC members, and self-nominations are encouraged.
4. All entries must be received by April 3, 2026.

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### *IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING EMAILING OF MULTIFAMILY NOTICES*

*Multifamily Housing issues periodic notices (such as the one above) to announce new initiatives, provide important news, announce funding round deadlines, significant application changes, bond program amendments, and other key dates and facts on our website and by email only. You can [subscribe to receive Multifamily Housing Notices](#) on DHCD's website.*

*Notices are posted to the [Multifamily Library](#) on DHCD's website.*