

Innovations in American Government

Strives to identify and celebrate outstanding examples of creative problem solving in the public sector. All units of government—federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial—within the United States of America are eligible for recognition and awards under the following guidelines:

- Programs must be administered under the authority of one or more governmental entities
- Programs must receive at least half of their funding from one or more governmental entities
- Programs must have been implemented before January 1, 2002
- Applications must be submitted by the governmental entity responsible for the innovation; nonprofit, private-sector, and union initiatives are eligible only with significant governmental involvement and oversight

While Innovations in American Government encompasses all levels of American government, it focuses on domestic programs. Innovations that arise within defense and international agencies are eligible if they have significant domestic policy content -- e.g. job training, base conversion, procurement reform, energy conservation, or environmental protection. Weapons systems will not be considered.

T H E A W A R D S P R O C E S S

The deadline for receipt of paper applications is 5:00 P.M. (EST) on Friday, May 28, 2004 (expected due date).

We encourage you to instead submit an on-line application, which can be found at (www.innovations.harvard.edu). The on-line application is an easy and safe way of applying for an Innovations Award. To encourage its use, the deadline for receipt of the on-line application is 8:00 P.M. (EST) on Friday, June 4, 2004 (expected due date). All submitted applications become the property of Innovations in American Government.

S E L E C T I O N C R I T E R I A

Each program will be evaluated according to the following four criteria:

- Its novelty, the degree to which the program demonstrates a leap of creativity
- Its effectiveness, the degree to which the program has achieved tangible results
- Its significance, the degree to which the program successfully addresses an important problem of public concern
- Its transferability, the degree to which the program, or aspects of it, shows promise of inspiring successful replication by other governmental entities

B E F O R E S U B M I T T I N G T H E A P P L I C A T I O N

- Make sure you have completed the data sheet
- Make sure you have responded to each of the eight essay topics
- Make sure the agency director has reviewed the completed application

S U B M I T T I N G T H E P A P E R A P P L I C A T I O N

Send your data sheet and essay responses to:

Innovations in American Government
John F. Kennedy School of Government
Harvard University
79 John F. Kennedy Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

See Sample Application on next page. Note: <http://www.innovations.harvard.edu> indicates that in early 2004, the application for the 2005 Innovations Awards will be available on the above site. If you have any questions, please refer to the Staff at email: innovations@harvard.edu.

2003 APPLICATION: PROGRAM DATA SHEET

Before filling out the application, please detach this sheet and read the instructions on pages 4 and 6.



1. Program's Start Date: _____ / _____ / _____
2. Policy Specification Number: 3. Jurisdiction:
4. Name of Jurisdiction (selected above): _____
5. Name of Sponsoring Unit: _____
6. Population of Jurisdiction: _____
7. Program Name: _____
8. Prior Application Status: _____
If the program has previously applied for an Innovation Award, list year(s) and to what stage it advanced.

9. Contact Information:

NAME _____

TITLE _____ DEPARTMENT/DIVISION _____

SUITE/ROOM NUMBER _____

ADDRESS 1 _____

ADDRESS 2 _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL _____ WEBSITE _____

10. Agency Director Information:

NAME OF AGENCY DIRECTOR _____ TITLE _____

AGENCY _____

11. Application Source: _____
NAME OF SOURCE

For internal use.
m1 m2 m3 m4 m5 m6 m7 m8