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Innovation Award

The purpose of the Innovation Award is to recognize innovation in public sector finance in the areas of accounting, budgeting, treasury, debt administration/issuance, procurement, risk management, and technology. No more than three awards will be granted in any one year. Awards will be granted based on the discretion of the application review committee, using the information submitted in this application and other supporting information submitted by the applicant to assist in the scoring process. Applicants not selected for an award can reapply in a future year, provided that the program is ongoing.

The Background Questions tab contains questions to which you must respond. The responses are weighed in the overall evaluation process, and the reviewer has the discretion to award up to 100 points to each submission based on the following criteria:

1. Originality - Is there evidence of creativity and imaginative thinking in the development of the innovation and/or the implementation of the best practice?
2. Purpose - Is the purpose clear and concise? Does the purpose of the innovation link to the goals of the innovation?
3. Effectiveness - Does it appear that the innovation produced the intended effect?
4. Practicality - Does this seem like a reasonable expenditure of time and resources given the stated purpose and goals?
5. Transferability - Is the innovation relevant to other local governments? Would it be easy for other local governments to implement the innovation?

There is no cost to apply for the Innovation Award. The application must be received by November 30th.

If you have any questions, please contact:

James Russell-Field
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Entry name

Entity Legal Name (as it will appear on award certificate)

This is the information that will be used for the Award.

Jurisdiction

Population (or Customer Count)

Name

Title

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone

Fax (optional)

Email address

AFFIDAVIT and RELEASE:

By selecting the checkbox below, you are verifying that the information submitted to California Society of Municipal Finance Officers is true and correct. I hereby grant permission to CSMFO to publish information included in or related to this application and to reproduce any enclosed documentation for publication.

☐ **AFFIDAVIT and RELEASE**

Indicate the type of program nominated.

- ☐ Accounting
- ☐ Budgeting
- ☐ Treasury
- ☐ Debt Administration/Issuance
- ☐ Procurement
- ☐ Risk Management
- ☐ Technology
- ☐ Other

Provide a brief description of your local government's innovation and summarize all materials included with this application. If the innovation is the implementation of a best practice, describe the best practice and specify what your local government did that was unique or innovative in implementing the best practice.

1. Most, if not all, innovation awards applications should include supporting documentation that provide additional perspective on the innovation.
2. To ensure that a comprehensive application is submitted, please make sure that your application is a minimum of 1,000 words.

What is the purpose of the innovation? What goals is the local government attempting to achieve in implementing the innovation? Provide evidence to show how the innovation had a direct effect on the goals desired.

1. Purpose should tell the reader what the innovation does.
2. Goals should outline what the local government expects the innovation to accomplish.

Discuss the effect of the innovation after completing its implementation. Identify the performance measures that your local government used to evaluate the effectiveness of the innovation with respect to its purpose and the goals desired.

1. Performance measures should evaluate the effectiveness of the innovation.
2. For example, if one of the goals of the innovation is to reduce costs in the Finance Department, there should be a performance measure to benchmark the expected cost reductions and an evaluation of how effective the innovation was in achieving cost savings.

Describe the time and resources required to implement the innovation. Would the innovation be easy for other local governments to replicate? Describe any factors that you believe are unique to your implementation of the innovation that other local governments would need to tailor to their own organization.

1. Provide the budget and/or actual costs in terms of staff hours and other discretionary services and supplies.
2. Insights into the implementation process will give other local governments a good idea regarding the level of complexity in implementing the innovation.

Attach electronic copies of documents to submit with your completed application.

How would you like to provide your electronic document?

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