

CELEBRATE POWERFUL COUNTY INNOVATION AND BEST PRACTICES



# SUPER COUNTY PROGRAMS



CALIFORNIA  
*Counties*

2018 CSAC CHALLENGE AWARDS

DEADLINE JUNE 22, 2018!

call for entries

# The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) invites you to enter our 2018 Challenge Awards competition!



Spotlight your county's best practices while recognizing your staff for developing innovations in county government!

These unique awards recognize the innovative and creative spirit of our California Counties as they find innovative, effective and cost-saving ways to provide programs and services to their citizens.

Please read the following instructions and consider entering your county's programs/projects to win one or more of these awards.

## ENTRY CATEGORIES

All entries must be placed in both a specific issue area category and population category. (CSAC reserves the right to move an entry to a different category.)

## ENTRY CATEGORIES

### ISSUE AREAS

**Administration of Justice & Public Safety** – Includes programs associated with local law enforcement and public safety, adult and juvenile detention, and probation.

**Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources** – Includes programs associated with agriculture, the environment, air quality, water, flood control, energy, parks and recreation, public lands, forestry, mining, endangered species, solid waste, and hazardous waste.

**Government Finance, Administration & Technology** – Includes programs associated with internal operations, employee training and wellness, workers' compensation, public records, technology, economic development, libraries, elections, food safety, and disaster planning/response.

**Health & Human Services** – Includes programs associated with health care, mental health, homelessness, foster care, child welfare services, adult protective services, IHSS, general assistance, aging, CalWORKs, county hospitals, the indigent, and veterans.

**Housing, Land Use & Infrastructure** – Includes programs associated with housing, land use, growth, planning, transportation, infrastructure, and tribal gaming issues.

### POPULATION

Population categories reflect the three caucuses within CSAC: **Rural, Suburban and Urban Counties**. On your entry form, please check which population category you are entering.

**Rural** – Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Glenn, Humboldt, Inyo, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Mendocino, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Plumas, San Benito, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tuolumne, Yuba.

**Suburban** – Butte, Imperial, Kern, Marin, Merced, Monterey, Napa, Placer, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare, Yolo.

**Urban** – Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Ventura.

## ELIGIBILITY

Only programs that are developed, managed or funded by a county department or agency are eligible. Multi-county programs are eligible. Court-related programs must be coordinated or funded by a county.

An entry can only be submitted in one category; if a program is inter-departmental, please mark the category that best reflects the nature of that program.

Programs that have previously received a Challenge Award cannot be entered again; Merit Award recipients are eligible.

Judges will be looking for programs that are innovative, unique and replicable. To enhance your chances, county programs or projects submitted should be in existence for at least one year.

CALIFORNIA  
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ALL CHALLENGE AWARD ENTRIES WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR SPECIAL AWARDS AT THE JUDGES' DISCRETION.  
THESE AWARDS WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE POPULATION CRITERIA OUTLINED ABOVE.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

A panel of county and private sector officials will evaluate the entries. Judges' decisions are final.

The following criteria will be used to select the award-winning programs:

- Statement of the problem and solution.
- Innovation, resourcefulness, vision, uniqueness and risk-taking.
- Potential replicability of the program/project.
- Cost-effectiveness of the program/project.
- Conformance to application instructions as set forth in the "Entry Instructions" below.

## ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

**1 FILL OUT OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM ON INSIDE BACK PAGE OF THIS BROCHURE.** Make sure you check the appropriate issue and population categories. Entrants can recreate the entry form; please make sure it contains all of the necessary information.

**2 OBTAIN A LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION.** This is simply a letter signed by either your Board Chair or County Administrator authorizing the entry of the county's programs in the Challenge Awards competition. Counties may submit one (1) letter of endorsement for all entries, but please list each entry by program name in your letter of endorsement.

**3 CONSTRUCT YOUR "EXECUTIVE SUMMARY."** This is your statement of the challenge and the solution. Your Executive Summary is a very important part of your entry. It must be NO MORE THAN TWO 8.5x11 DOUBLE-SPACED PAGES. Please include contact information on the summary.

### ORGANIZE YOUR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AS FOLLOWS:

- **Overview** – Provide a brief, 25-word summary of your program or project.
- **Challenge** – Describe the challenge your county faced and the process used to address it. Explain the unique or critical factors that led to this project.
- **Innovative Solution** – Describe the innovative steps taken by the county to solve the problem or overcome the challenge.
- **Originality** – Describe how this program is unique among California Counties.
- **Cost Effectiveness (If applicable)** – What was the program/project's budget? How much money did the program save?
- **Results** – Describe the results of the program/project. Discuss how the program or project has positively impacted the community, improved delivery of services to the public, or improved administration of a program internally.
- **Project or Program Contact** – List the name, title, mailing address, phone and e-mail address of the person who can be contacted about this program.
- **Optional Submission** – If your project involved the development of a video or CD, please enclose one copy. Videos/CDs will not be returned and become property of CSAC. Please limit supporting material – such as brochures, final reports or other information – to items that are directly relevant to this project.

**4 MAKE CHECK(S) PAYABLE TO: CSAC CHALLENGE AWARDS. A payment of \$75.00 must accompany EACH entry.** If entering multiple entries, a single check with a total amount (\$75.00 for each program entered) may be submitted. **However, a photocopy of the check must be submitted with each entry.**

**5 SEND IN YOUR ENTRY BY MAIL. You must send two (2) complete copies of each entry form and Executive Summary,** along with either a check (or photocopy of group payment) and your letter of endorsement. Your entry should be mailed to: CSAC Challenge Awards, CSAC, 1100 K St., Ste. 101, Sacramento, CA 95814.

## DEADLINE: JUNE 22

All entries must be postmarked by **Friday, June 22, 2018**, to be considered. Faxed or emailed entries will not be accepted. Entries cannot be returned.

## ENTRY FEE

**\$75.00 per entry.** A check payable to CSAC Challenge Awards must accompany **EACH** entry. If entering multiple entries, a single check with a total amount (\$75.00 for each program entered) may be submitted. Credit card payments cannot be accepted.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- Two levels of awards will be presented by CSAC in each category: Challenge and Merit Awards. The judges have the flexibility to offer an optional top-level award: The California Counties Innovation Award.
- Judges will also consider all entries for special awards that are open to all population categories.
- Challenge Awards will be presented at a Board of Supervisors meeting in the recipient's county. Merit Awards will be mailed.
- In the event that a multi-county application is honored, each county will receive an award.
- Award-winning recipients will be notified by email upon completion of judging in September.
- If you have any questions, contact David Liebler, CSAC Director of Public Affairs & Member Services: 916/327-7500, ext. 530 [dliebler@counties.org](mailto:dliebler@counties.org)

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2018. ENTRIES MAY NOT BE FAXED.  
ENTRIES RECEIVED BY CSAC WILL NOT BE RETURNED.



# ENTRY FORM

You may type this information on a separate sheet and submit as Page I of your entry:

## ISSUE AREA CATEGORY:

- Administration of Justice & Public Safety
- Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources
- Government Finance, Administration & Technology
- Health & Human Services
- Housing, Land Use & Infrastructure

## POPULATION CATEGORY:

- Rural County
- Suburban County
- Urban County



CALIFORNIA Counties

County Name

Contact Name and Title

Mailing Address

City State Zip

Phone Ext.

Email

## TITLE OF THIS ENTRY

(to be used on award – seven words maximum)

## REMEMBER TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH ENTRY:

- Completed entry form; remember to check the appropriate issue area and population categories.
- 2-Page executive summary.
- Copy of endorsement letter authorizing entry. One letter may be used for multiple entries, but please include a copy for each entry.
- Enclose payment of \$75.00 for each entry. One check may be used for multiple entries.

## CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE

### PAYABLE TO:

CSAC Challenge Awards

### MAIL OR DELIVER ALL OF

### THE ABOVE TO:

CSAC Challenge Awards  
1100 K Street, Suite 101,  
Sacramento, CA 95814



# 2017 CSAC CHALLENGE & MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS

## CHALLENGE AWARDS

### Administration of Justice

- Rural: Humboldt County – Re-Programming Corrections
- Suburban: Yolo County – Yolo County Construction Program
- Urban: Santa Clara County – Advancing Innovative Pretrial Justice Reform for All

### Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources

- Rural: Humboldt County – Medical Cannabis Trace and Trace Pilot Project
- Suburban: Monterey County – Farmworker Advisory Committee
- Urban: Los Angeles County – The Growing Experience Environmental Resource Center

### Government Finance, Administration & Technology

- Rural: Humboldt County – Budget Road Show
- Suburban: Tulare County – Project Foxtrot Fire APP
- Urban: Los Angeles County – DCFC Student Info Tracking System

### Health & Human Services

- Rural: Sutter/Yuba Counties – Embedding Behavioral Health Crisis Staff in ERs
- Suburban: Marin County – Rx Safe Marin: Prescription Drug Misuse/Abuse Initiative
- Urban: San Bernardino County – Housing Support Program Collaborative  
Ventura County – Health Insurance Eligibility APP

### Housing, Land Use & Infrastructure

- Rural: Nevada County – Over-the-Counter Plan Review Program
- Suburban: Sonoma County – Creating More Housing with 100% Rental Density Bonus
- Urban: Los Angeles County – Spanish Planning Program

## MERIT AWARDS

### Administration of Justice

- Rural: None Given
- Suburban: Imperial County – Imperial County Adult Re-Entry Summit  
Napa County – Dosage Probation  
Shasta County – SB 1143 Early Implementation Best Practice Solutions
- Urban: Riverside County – Intensive Re-Integration Services (IRIS) Unit  
Santa Clara County – Santa Clara Probation – Family of Friends

### Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources

- Rural: Mariposa County – Mariposa Clean Sweep  
Mono County – Thermal Biomass Boiler Project
- Suburban: Kern County – Electronic-Based Permit System for Energy Permits  
Marin County – Parks Prescriptions Partnership Improves Community Health Outdoors
- Urban: Alameda County – Train Next Generation of Climate Protection Leaders  
San Diego County – CIVICS Program

### Government Finance, Administration & Technology

- Rural: Humboldt County – All Hands Training Day  
Humboldt County – Tsunami Zone APP  
Mendocino County – Comprehensive New Employee Orientation
- Suburban: Sonoma County – Marriage License Signature Project
- Urban: Alameda County – Automated Employee Onboarding System  
Contra Costa County – Rain Map APP  
Los Angeles County – Library Offers Life Skills Training for Teens  
Riverside County – Riverside County Transformation  
Riverside County – Unity: Medical, Health & Traditional Emergency Management  
San Bernardino County – Virtual Receptionist

### Health & Human Services

- Rural: Humboldt County – Child Support Collections for Multiple Small Counties  
Nevada County – Nevada County CalWORKS Connection Program  
Nevada County – What's Up? Wellness Checkups in Nevada County
- Suburban: Napa County – Homeless and Housing System Change in Napa
- Urban: Alameda County – One Touch: Customer Centric Distributed Work Model  
Contra Costa County – Inter-County Business Intelligence Partnership  
Contra Costa County – Parent Partner Program of Contra Costa County  
San Bernardino County – Mutual Aid for a Public Health Emergency  
San Mateo County – Ending Homelessness in San Mateo County  
Ventura County – Safe Alprazolam Prescribing and Benzodiazepine Monitoring Program

### Housing, Land Use & Infrastructure

- Rural: None Given
- Suburban: None Given
- Urban: Los Angeles County – Buyers Beware: Property Buying Education Program