2019 CSAC CHALLENGE AWARDS

CALL FOR ENTRIES
Deadline June 21, 2019

COMMITMENT
COLLABORATION
INNOVATION
CREATIVITY

CALL FOR ENTRIES

CHALLENGE
The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) invites you to enter our 2019 Challenge Awards competition!

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. This is a wonderful opportunity to spotlight your county’s best practices while recognizing staff for developing innovations in county government!

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

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/medical facilities, 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.


ELIGIBILITY

Only programs that are developed, managed or funded by a county department or agency are eligible. Entries must be submitted by a county. 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.

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.
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 challenge and solution.
• Innovation, resourcefulness, vision and uniqueness.
• Results, showing how the program has enhanced the community and/or organization.
• Potential replicability of the program/project.
• Conformance to application instructions as set forth in the “Entry Instructions” in this brochure.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

**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.

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.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

• Two levels of awards will be presented by CSAC in each category: Challenge and Merit Awards.

• Judges have the flexibility to offer an optional top-level award that crosses all population categories: The California Counties Innovation Award.

• Challenge Awards will be presented at a Board of Supervisors meeting in the recipient's county. Merit Awards will be mailed unless the county is also receiving a Challenge Award; in that case, it would also be presented at the Board meeting.

• 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

**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.

**DEADLINE:** JUNE 21

All entries must be postmarked by Friday, June 21, 2019, to be considered. Faxed or emailed entries will not be accepted. Entries cannot be returned.

**ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2019. ENTRIES MAY NOT BE FAXED. ENTRIES RECEIVED BY CSAC WILL NOT BE RETURNED.**
2019 CHALLENGE AWARDS ENTRY FORM

You may type this information on a separate sheet and submit as Page 1 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

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 (please include two copies).

• 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

THANK YOU FOR ENTERING!

www.counties.org