



2017 VISION AWARDS

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH THROUGH INNOVATION

Background

Each year, ASTHO awards exemplary state health programs that demonstrate creative and innovative approaches to addressing public health needs and challenges. The purpose of these Vision Awards are two-fold: 1) to provide peer recognition for state health programs and initiatives that use a creative approach to address public health needs or challenges; and 2) to promote awareness and replication of successful state health programs and initiatives. ASTHO grants Vision Awards to programs in two categories: Category A (programs with budgets equal to or greater than \$250,000) and Category B (programs with budgets less than \$250,000).

Process

The Vision Award review process was changed in 2014 to make the process more objective and to improve inter-rater reliability. There is a two phase process.

PHASE 1: Drawing upon their expertise and knowledge of current trends in state public health practice, the Senior Deputies reviewers group evaluates each Vision Award submission. All applications will be reviewed by up to six Senior Deputy reviewers. The evaluation scoring sheet will assist the reviewer. ASTHO staff will collect and analyze scoring sheets and drop the lowest scoring applications.

PHASE 2: ASTHO staff will present the top three applications for each category to the SDC members and they are asked to rank the submissions in advance of their July business meeting. ASTHO staff will collect and analyze scoring sheets to create a summary scoring document. The summary scoring document will be provided at the SDC July business meeting to help facilitate discussion onsite.

After the discussion, the SDC recommends to the ASTHO Nominations Committee which submissions are worthy of recognition at the ASTHO Annual Meeting. ASTHO will recognize the 1st and 2nd place submissions in Categories A and B.

Evaluation

Each application will be evaluated individually on a 100-point scale against how well it addresses each of the following sections. Background Information is worth a total of 25 points. Justification is worth a total of 75 points, with Innovation, Effectiveness, and Potential for Replication being worth 25 points each.

Background Description (25 Points)

- A. **Category** competing in (choose Category A or B).
- B. **Brief Background** on the public health issue or problem addressed. (10 Points)
- C. **Goal or Major Purpose** of the program/initiative. (5 Points)
- D. **Target Population** or audience. (5 Points)
- E. **Annual Budget & Funding Source(s)**. (3 points)
- F. **Timing** of the program/initiative. (2 points)

Justification (75 Total Points)

Applicants are instructed to answer the questions in each category to the best of their ability. Each category is assigned a total number of points. Points are not assigned to the questions. Reviewers are instructed to judge how the applicant answered each of the questions and addressed the category as a whole.

G. Innovation (25 Points)

- **Originality** – In what way is this program especially innovative? How is this program different from programs with a similar intent? Is this a new idea or approach? (20 Points)
- **Research** – Is there a specific idea tested with this approach? Does this work reference relevant literature or relevant studies? (5 Points)

H. Effectiveness (25 points)

- **Achievement of Goals** - (10 Points)
- **Measures** – Are there clearly listed measures describing what makes this program effective? Is data provided or referenced that supports this conclusion? (10 Points)
- **Evaluation** - How is the program evaluated? Is a description of the evaluation provided? (5 Points)

I. Potential for Replication (25 points)

- **Potential Replication in other States** - How can this program be replicated in other states or territories? What are some limitations or obstacles other states or territories might expect to encounter if they replicate the program? (20 Points)
- **Overall Impact on State Public Health** – Has this program changed public health at the state system level? (5 Points)