ASTHO 2019 Vision Awards

Description | Eligibility | Evaluation and Scoring | Selection and Presentation

Description
Each year, ASTHO awards exemplary state/territorial health programs that demonstrate creative and innovative approaches to addressing public health needs and challenges. The purpose of these Vision Awards is two-fold: 1) to provide peer recognition for state/territorial 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/territorial 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).

Eligibility and Requirements
To be eligible to apply for a Vision Award, a program or initiative must be:
1. Administered by a state or territorial health agency, although it may be in concert with other state, territorial or local entities;
2. Already implemented or operational for at least one (1) year, but no longer than five (5) years;
3. Already have evaluation data or have preliminary evaluation findings; and
4. All submissions must have the approval of the State/Territorial Health Official. No written verification of State/Territorial Health Official approval is required. ASTHO will assume that if an application is submitted, the State/Territorial Health Official has knowledge of and has approved of the program/initiative being recognized.

Applications that do not comply with all requirements will not be considered. A complete list of application questions is attached for reference.

Evaluation and Scoring
Each application will be evaluated individually on a 100-point scale against how well it addresses each of the following sections: Background and Description (total of 25 points) and Justification (total of 75 points, with Innovation worth 30 points, Effectiveness worth 25 points, and Potential for Replication worth 20 points).

• PHASE 1: Drawing upon their expertise and knowledge of current trends in state/territorial public health practice, a group of Senior Deputies volunteers will review, evaluate and score each Vision Award submission. ASTHO staff will collect and analyze all scoring sheets and note the top three scores.

• PHASE 2: ASTHO staff will present the top three applications for each category to the Senior Deputies Committee (SDC) with a request to rank the submissions. The SDC will make recommendations to ASTHO’s Nominations-Awards-Membership Committee regarding 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.

Selection Process and Awards Ceremony
• ASTHO’s Senior Deputy Executive Committee will review the top three applications in both categories and make recommendations to ASTHO’s Nominations-Awards-Membership Committee, who will present the final slate of winners to the ASTHO Board of Directors.
• Announcement of the award winners will be published in ASTHO’s Public Health Weekly and Pulse newsletters.
• The awards will be presented at the 2019 ASTHO Annual Meeting, Sept. 23-26 in Bethesda, MD.
• Award recipients will receive roundtrip economy airfare, one night’s lodging and complimentary one (1) day meeting registration.

Questions or requests for additional information can be directed to ASTHO’s Executive Office at executiveoffice@astho.org.
ASTHO 2019 Vision Awards | Application Questions

Applicant Information
- Name; title; phone number; email address

Agency Information
- Agency name; mailing address

Program Information
- Program name
- Provide a brief abstract that identifies this program’s/initiative’s components, logic, design, intended outcomes and rationale for consideration of an ASTHO Vision Award (300 words or less). ASTHO will use the description for any potential communications or promotions.
- Program budget (submissions will be evaluated, scored and recognized in two categories):
  - Programs with budgets equal to, or greater than, $250,000
  - Programs with budgets less than $250,000

Scoring
Each application will be evaluated individually on a 100-point scale against how well it addresses each of the following sections: Background and Description (25 points); Innovation (30 points); Effectiveness (25 points); and Potential for Replication (20 points). Applicants should answer the questions in each category to the best of their ability. Reviewers will judge how the applicant answered each of the questions and addressed the category overall. Completion of all sections is required to be considered for the award.

Background and Description (25 points)
1. What is the background information on the public health issue or problem addressed? (250 words or less) (10 points)
2. What is the goal or major purpose of this program/initiative? Is there a specific idea you are testing with this approach? (250 words or less) (10 points)
3. What is the target population or audience of this program/initiative? (250 words or less) (5 points)
4. What is the annual budget and funding source(s) of this program/initiative? (250 words or less)
5. What is the timing of this program/initiative? Please describe the program timeline, including dates and duration for planning, launch or start of the project, and how long the program has been active. (250 words or less)

Innovation (30 points)
1. What makes this program/initiative innovative? (250 words or less) (10 points)
2. Describe the strategies and methods that demonstrate innovation in your program/initiative. (250 words or less) (10 points)
3. Describe the logic or framework utilized to develop this program/initiative. (250 words or less) (5 points)
4. Share how this program/initiative is different from others with a similar intent. (250 words or less) (5 points)

Effectiveness (25 points)
1. How is this program/initiative evaluated? (250 words or less) (5 points)
2. What makes this program/initiative effective? Clearly list the measures that describe what makes this program/initiative effective. (250 words or less) (10 points)
3. Does this program/initiative achieve its stated goals? Please provide data or references that support your conclusion. (250 words or less) (10 points)

Potential for Replication (20 points)
1. Describe how this program/initiative can be replicated in other states or territories. (250 words or less) (10 points)
2. What are some limitations or obstacles other states or territories might expect to encounter if they replicate this program/initiative? (250 words or less) (10 points)