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## The NASCIO State IT Recognition Awards honor innovation and excellence in the use of information technology in state government

[NASCIO.org/stateITawards](https://NASCIO.org/stateITawards)

Entries due May 26, 2024 @ 11:59 p.m. PT

### CATEGORIES

- Business Process Innovations
- Cross-Boundary Collaboration & Partnerships
- Cybersecurity
- Data Management, Analytics & Visualization
- Digital Services: Government to Business
- Digital Services: Government to Citizen
- Emerging & Innovative Technologies
- Enterprise IT Management Initiatives
- Information Communications Technology Innovations
- State CIO Office Special Recognition

### WHY SUBMIT?

- **Get the kudos your state deserves**  
IT teams work hard and receiving recognition from colleagues of a "job well done" is meaningful
- **Elevate the field the state IT**  
promote awareness of transformative, results-oriented projects and shatter the stereotype of overbudget and behind schedule
- **Showcase successes to leadership**  
nominations articulate what you did and why it mattered; leverage writeups with key stakeholders within your state
- **Share your ideas beyond your borders**  
all projects are added to the NASCIO Awards Library where states can find inspiration and replicable ideas

## ELIGIBILITY

- Open to NASCIO state/territory members in good standing
- Other NASCIO members may work with a state CIO office to coordinate a nomination
- Entries must either be submitted by the state CIO office or from a state agency with state CIO office approval  
*(person submitting the entry must have a state email address)*
- Project implemented with the past 24 months  
*(Emerging & Innovative Technologies category projects may be in beta phase)*
- Project must be state-focused (not federal/local/regional)
- Multi-state projects are encouraged  
*(only one state should submit but all involved will be recognized)*
- Project may be a phase of a larger initiative  
*(only the benefits of the specific phase will be evaluated and recognized)*
- Only one entry per category per state
- A project may only be entered in one category
- Projects previously named as an award recipient may not be resubmitted
- Entries must be submitted online
- Entries must adhere to the format guidelines outlined on page 4 of this document

## REVIEW & JUDGING PROCESS

- Entries are reviewed for eligibility, adherence to format guidelines, and alignment with award category; the award contact will be notified of any issues and granted 48 hours to resolve the situation. Entries that remain non-compliant will not be reviewed by judges.
- Entries are judged by a volunteer panel of NASCIO state and corporate members  
*(NASCIO makes every effort to avoid potential conflicts of interest; judges do not score projects from their own state or in which their company played a role)*
- Judges will use the project description (idea, implementation and impact) outlined on page 4 of this document as the basis of their scores
  - **AWARD TIP** Creativity is encouraged to help tell the story of the project - visuals aids, such as photos, graphs and flowcharts may be included to support the written description as long as the entry remains within the 7-page limit
  - **AWARD TIP** While the content of the entry is what matters most, your title does set the tone; put on your creative hat and find a title that strikes a balance of catchy and descriptive
  - **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:** Links to project sites may be included, but scores are based on the written entry. Please assume judges will not visit external sites. Materials attached to an entry, such as brochures or articles, will not be reviewed.
- In each award category, the 3 highest rated projects will be named as finalists; the highest rated will be named the recipient
- A state can be recognized as an award recipient in no more than two categories a year  
*(if a state has recipient-level scores in more than 2 categories, the 2 highest scored nominations will be selected as the recipient in the respective categories; multi-state initiatives and the State CIO Office Special Recognition category are exceptions)*

**Reminders**

- Only one entry per category per state
- Projects may only be submitted in one category; while a project may align with multiple categories, it is up to the state to determine the best placement
- Project examples are intended as inspiration and are not exhaustive

- **Business Process Innovations**

projects optimize the way people, processes and technology work together to transform government

*examples: ERP implementation, project methodologies, dashboards, decision modeling, system modernization, procurement modernization, workforce / personnel reforms*

- **Cross-Boundary Collaboration & Partnerships**

projects showcase a significant IT-related collaboration between the state and another entity or entities (public or private)

*examples: State-led IT-related project in collaboration with multiple agencies, localities, special purpose districts, academic institutions, K-12, tribal governments, nonprofit organizations or private sector collaborators that are relevant to state functional business areas*

- **Cybersecurity**

projects demonstrate the importance of security and risk management

*examples: governance frameworks, enterprise policies, assessments, I&AM, auditing, education/awareness, data privacy, data protection, disaster recovery / continuity planning*

- **Data Management, Analytics & Visualization**

projects showcase the transformative power of data for decision making and insight

*examples: BI, predictive analytics, fraud detection, visualizations, performance management, data governance, data sharing or integration, personalization, data-related roles & responsibilities*

- **Digital Services: Government to Business**

projects improve interactions between government and businesses

*examples: e-licensing, one-stop registration, permitting, payment, notifications, compliance tracking*

- **Digital Services: Government to Citizen**

projects improve interactions between government and citizens, stimulate citizen engagement or provide access to data/ information for citizen use

*examples: online transaction innovations, citizen feedback, benefits determination or distribution, justice programs, tax collection, mobile apps and services, personalized mapping/service location trackers, alerts/ notifications, open data portals*

- **Emerging & Innovative Technologies**

projects utilize technologies on the cutting edge of the industry to deliver value

*examples: governance of emerging tech, AI or machine learning, sensors, wearables, autonomous vehicles, unmanned aerial systems*

- **Enterprise IT Management Initiatives**

projects plan and execute enterprise-wide technology-related initiatives that transform government operation and services

*examples: consolidation/optimization, cloud services, budget and cost control, governance, broadband, procurement/acquisition modernization, security, shared services, workforce*

- **Information Communications Technology Innovations**

projects leverage communications technologies to transform government, promote economic development or interoperability, or improved quality of life

*examples: GIS, mobile services, SaaS, broadband applications, online learning, telecommunications*

- **State CIO Office Special Recognition**

projects are led by the state CIO office (or equivalent) and showcase the CIO/office's innovation and leadership

*projects should be initiated and led by the state CIO's office, not just of which the office is a part*

**Entry Format**

- File name must follow the naming convention of StateAbbreviation\_Category (ex. KY\_Cybersecurity)
- Entry must be submitted as a PDF that is no more than 7 pages
- Page 1 | Cover Page (include state, agency, award category, project title, project dates and contact)
- Pages 2 - 7 | Executive Summary and Project Description (Idea, Implementation and Impact) —**ENTRY MUST INCLUDE THESE SECTIONS**
- Entries may reference private-sector partners, but must not include logos in the document or company/product names in the entry title



**IDEA**  
25%

**What problem or opportunity does the project address?**

- \* Explain how the project solves a critical business problem, improves business processes, or increases citizen engagement with/access to state government

**Why does it matter?**

- \* Outline the business rationale for why this problem/opportunity should be addressed and what change it will make for the agency/state/citizenry
- \* Provide relevant data for support, such as cost, human resources, size of constituent group, consequences of not addressing the issue

**What makes it different?**

- \* Showcase what makes the project innovative and distinct from similar initiatives

**What makes it universal?**

- \* Specify what the project addresses that is universal to all states, such as state or federal mandates, or one of the [State CIO Top Ten Priorities](#)



**IMPLEMENTATION**  
25%

**What was the roadmap?**

- \* Describe how this project fits into an enterprise view
- \* Describe the project management approach
- \* Outline how the project will be assessed and what successful implementation looks like

**Who was involved?**

- \* From concept to fruition, profile the groups key to the success of the project, such as legislators, vendors, agency staff or citizens and explain their role, such as advocate, implementation, oversight, end-user or beneficiary
- \* Share how approval, buy-in, awareness and adoption were obtained from these stakeholders and include key pieces of communications/marketing plans

**How did you do it?**

- \* Outline the resources needed, such as financial, human and time
- \* Give a brief overview of the technical architecture focusing on why it matters more than how it was delivered, such as the technology is new/emerging, or the project uses leading practices or frameworks around cybersecurity, accessibility, privacy, etc.



**IMPACT**  
50%

**What did the project make better?**

- \* Tell the story of why the project matters, connecting the results back to the business rationale
- \* Compare the environment before and after the project was completed
- \* Describe the benefits and the impact for the nominating agency and constituents

**How do you know?**

- \* Include the data – quantitative and qualitative- to support the story, such as cost savings/avoidance, ROI, usage, transaction times, customer feedback, constituent experience
- \* Provide a testimony of either a citizen or business area underscoring the impact

**What now?**

- \* Detail the longer-term plan for the project, including how will the project be maintained
- \* Tell us why this project is worthy of the initial investment and any ongoing investment