



COMMUNITY INNOVATION AWARD SCORING RUBRIC

Administrative Innovation, Affordable Housing, Community Revitalization and Resident and Client Services

RUBRIC DESCRIPTION	SCORE REQUIREMENTS
ROLE OF THE AGENCY/ORGANIZATION Assess whether the entry clearly describes the agency or organization's role in the development, financing, and administration of the program and identifies the specific contributions of other partners, if applicable.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3-4 points EXCEEDS = 5 points
THE RESULTS/SUCCESS OF THE PROGRAM Assess whether the program met its stated objectives. The entry should clearly describe outcomes, quantify results where possible, explain key obstacles and how they were addressed, and identify the number or percentage of residents served, cost savings achieved, or service improvements delivered.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-11 points MEETS = 12-13 points EXCEEDS = 14 points
THE TOTAL COST/FINANCING OF THE PROGRAM Assess whether the entry describes program expenses, explains the value or benefit achieved in relation to those expenses, and identifies funding sources and amounts, if applicable.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3-5 points EXCEEDS = 6 points
INNOVATION Assess whether the entry demonstrates a clearly defined new or improved approach, solution, or service and explains how it differs from standard practice.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3-5 points EXCEEDS = 6 points
ONGOING ACTIVITIES Assess whether the entry provides specific evidence of planned next steps, ongoing funding, staffing, partnerships, or implementation activities that support continuation, expansion, or long-term sustainability of the program.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3 points EXCEEDS = 4 points
REPLICABILITY Assess whether the entry identifies specific practices, resources, partnerships, or implementation steps that another agency or organization could use to replicate the project or program.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3 points EXCEEDS = 4 points
CREATIVELY ADDRESSING A CHALLENGE Assess whether the entry explains significant challenges and describes specific, effective, or resourceful strategies used to address them.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3-4 points EXCEEDS = 5 points
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION Assess whether the entry provides specific examples of how the program expands equitable access, supports inclusive community outcomes, or addresses barriers related to economic stability, education, community context, health, or environmental sustainability.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3 points EXCEEDS = 4 points
GENERAL IMPRESSION Assess whether the entry is complete, logically organized, and free of significant grammar, spelling, or formatting errors that interfere with clarity.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1 points MEETS = 2 points
Total maximum points = 50. An entry must score an average of 35 points from the judging panel to receive an Award of Merit. An entry must score an average of 40 points to be nominated for an Award of Excellence.	



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Project Design

RUBRIC DESCRIPTION	SCORE REQUIREMENTS
DESCRIPTION OF THE DESIGN Assess whether the entry provides a comprehensive description of the design, explains the design goals and project timeline, identifies key obstacles and how they were addressed, and describes how the design enhances community, recreation, environmental quality, or security.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-10 points MEETS = 11-14 points EXCEEDS = 15 points
SUSTAINABILITY/USE OF MATERIALS Assess whether the entry identifies specific sustainability features such as proximity to public transportation, shopping, and community facilities, and documents design choices related to durable materials, life-cycle costs, long-term maintenance, stormwater management, and energy-efficient systems, appliances, HVAC, or plumbing.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-6 points MEETS = 7-9 points EXCEEDS = 10 points
DESIGN AND RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS Assess whether the entry identifies specific design decisions that respond to the surrounding area, nearby communities, site conditions, or resident needs.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-4 points MEETS = 5-6 points EXCEEDS = 7 points
TOTAL COST/FINANCING OF THE PROJECT Assess whether the entry describes development costs, identifies materials used and any special energy-saving or cost-saving measures, and provides a complete list of funding sources.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3-4 points EXCEEDS = 5 points
ROLE OF THE AGENCY/ORGANIZATION Assess whether the entry clearly describes the agency or organization's role in the development, financing, and administration of the project and identifies the specific contributions of other partners, if applicable.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3-4 points EXCEEDS = 5 points
INNOVATION Assess whether the entry demonstrates innovative design approaches that support the project's intended function and improve upon standard design practice.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3 points EXCEEDS = 4 points
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION Assess whether the entry provides specific examples of how the project expands access to housing opportunity, reduces barriers to participation or affordability, or promotes inclusive neighborhood outcomes.	DOES NOT MEET = 0 points MINIMUM = 1-2 points MEETS = 3 points EXCEEDS = 4 points
Total maximum points = 50. An entry must score an average of 35 points from the judging panel to receive an Award of Merit. An entry must score an average of 40 points to be nominated for an Award of Excellence.	