

Ohio University

OACAA Exemplary Programs Awards

Preparing a Strong Nomination

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Our Agenda

- History
- Purpose
- Process
- Tips
- Scoring

The Exemplary Program Awards Celebrate

- Anti-poverty initiatives that support or assist individuals and families on the path to self-sufficiency.
- Communities' efforts to develop and implement innovative solutions to benefit those who are low income.

Results Oriented Management & Accountability Categories

- Employment
- Education and Cognitive Development
- Income and Asset Building
- Housing
- Health and Social/Behavioral Development
- Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
- Infrastructure and Asset Building

Overview of Process

- 2022/2023 Nominations will be accepted winter/spring 2024
- Review nomination criteria
- Programs or initiatives must have been implemented in 2022 or 2023
- Should fit into one of the six ROMA categories
- Complete and sign a nomination form and submit to The Voinovich School by April 30th for each program nominated
- Voinovich School staff and retired CAA directors review and score all nominations
- Awards presented at OACAA summer conference in July

Tell us the story

- A well-written nomination provides the evaluators with specific information that shows how the program or initiative has had a positive impact on your community and the agency's mission.
- For your nomination to stand out, explain and include evidence and clear examples of what makes the program exemplary.

Tell us the story

Problem or Need (0 to 15points)

- Describe the problem or need in your community that led the CAA to offer this program.
- Provide the local social, political, or economic background information needed to understand the context of the need or problem.

Tell us the story

(4) Analysis of Options (0-15 pts.)

- Please describe the options the CAA considered for solving the problem/addressing this need.
- Who is the target population served?
- How did the agency arrive at this program as a solution?
- What evidence led you to this as the best solution?
- How does the solution correlate with the agency's mission?
- Who participated in the program creation?

Tell us the story

(5) Program Development and Implementation (0-20 pts.)

- What specific goals were developed as part of the program planning?
- Describe how the program works or operates. What are the important processes or steps?
- What makes this program innovative?
- What quality control processes do you have in place to ensure/verify the program is operating as intended?
- What resources, collaborations, staff, technology, etc., were required for the success of this program?

Tell us the story

(6) Program Strengths (0-10 pts)

- What are the best attributes of this program?
- What would you change?

Tell us the story

7) Program Outcomes (0-30 pts.)

Based on the ROMA category in which this program is nominated:

- What are the outcomes of this program?
- Document how the program measurably improves the lives of low-income people.
- Describe outcomes numerically, if possible. Provide any measures demonstrating efficiency and effectiveness.

Tell us the story

(8) Future Development for the Program (0-10 pts.)

- What have you learned from implementing this program?
- What advice or recommendations would you have for others considering your program?

Tips

- Provide specific information – Don't assume the evaluators know anything about your program.
- Include data (facts, statistics, metrics) to help demonstrate the value of your program.
- If you don't have data, include specific accomplishments that show the impact of your program in your community.

Tips

Use short, concise sentences.

- Example:
- To date, of the 100 participants, 30 completed the service requirement and received educational assistance.
- The purpose of the program was two-fold – to improve public safety and to decrease the incidence of recidivism.

Tips

Respond to all the questions in the prompt.



**2024 Exemplary Programs Awards
Nomination Form**


c) How did you arrive at the solution/program being nominated for an exemplary program? What evidence led you to this as the best solution? How does this solution correlate with your agency's mission?

Tips

- Proofread your nomination application before you send it.
- Grammatical errors and misspelled words detract from the quality of your nomination
- Before you submit, ask someone to review your nomination to provide feedback on how to improve it and to check for any errors.

Submission Scoring

- History (0 points)
- Previous Recognition (0 pts.)
- Problem or Need (0-15 pts.)
- Analysis of Options (0-15 pts.)
- Program Development & Implementation (0-20pts.)
- Program Strengths (0-10 pts.)
- Program Outcomes (0-30 pts.)
- Future Development for the Program (0-10 pts.)

80% = 

Recent winning submissions

- Preventing evictions through legal aid
- Assisting at risk pregnant women to improve birth outcomes
- Collaborating with numerous community partners to give those recovering from Opioid Use Disorder a second chance particularly through employment opportunities

Additional Information

Can attach up to 10 pages of supporting documentation.

All submissions will receive written feedback.

Award winning entities will receive a written press release to share and get attention for the good work.

New This Time!

While all submissions garnering 80% or higher will be recognized, top score receives cash award.



\$1,000

Thank you!
Questions?
Good Luck!

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Send Submissions to: ExemplaryNominations@ohio.edu