



LEAGUE OF
**CALIFORNIA
CITIES**



HELEN PUTNAM

2024 **AWARD** for **EXCELLENCE** APPLICATION

Apply Online For Your City Today: www.helenputnam.org

Entries Deadline: Thursday, April 11, 2024

Established in 1982, this program recognizes outstanding cities that deliver the highest quality and level of service in the most effective manner possible. Particular attention and credit is given to applications specifically advancing Cal Cities strategic priorities which are determined each year by Cal Cities leadership and board of directors.

AWARD CATEGORIES

- ▶ **Community Services and Economic Development** | Programs that may involve libraries, recreation, schools, etc., which advance the economic vitality of the community.
- ▶ **Economic Development Through the Arts** | Successful programs that illustrate how investment in the arts has stimulated the local economy through tourism, festivals, and cultural attractions including performing arts. May include programs established through a collaborative partnership and adopting city policies that integrate the arts.
- ▶ **Enhancing Public Trust, Ethics, and Community Involvement** | Promotion of ethical practices at city hall and in the community, and institution of procedures and policies that demonstrate effective and respectful deliberation and handling of public issues.
- ▶ **Health and Wellness Programs** | Innovative planning efforts to promote city design that encourages healthy lifestyles.
- ▶ **Housing Programs and Innovations** | Innovative housing designs that are conducive to good land use planning and jobs balance, while preserving natural resources, and promoting safe, community-oriented neighborhoods.
- ▶ **Intergovernmental Collaboration** | Programs that demonstrate innovative but replicable examples of collaboration among cities, counties, schools and/or special districts in service to children and families.
- ▶ **Internal Administration** | Innovative and efficient internal programs that promote effective communication and management.



CAL CITIES PARTNER Award for Excellence in City-Business Relations

Collaborative efforts in engaging the leadership of the private, nonprofit, and labor sectors to address community problems.

- ▶ **Planning and Environmental Quality** | Innovative planning and land use programs, environmental quality preservation and enhancement.
- ▶ **Public Safety** | Effective services that address physical and mental health support and emergency medical services, disaster preparedness and homeland security.
- ▶ **Public Works, Infrastructure, Transportation** | Proven programs that provide for the economical development and maintenance of public works facilities and infrastructure.
- ▶ **Ruth Vreeland Award for Engaging Youth in City Government** | Collaborative efforts between cities and other agencies (schools, public agencies, non-profits, churches, and private) to inform and engage youth about city issues and their community.

For expanded category descriptions, please visit www.helenputnam.org.

ELIGIBILITY & INSTRUCTIONS



Any Cal Cities member city, or group of California cities, including Cal Cities Divisions, Departments and Caucuses, that provide a **program or service that has proven tangible and measurable results with a minimum of one year of actual implementation is eligible to apply**. Instructions must be followed carefully as this will facilitate the fair evaluation of all applications and ensure fairness among entries.

SCORING CRITERIA

The selection juries will judge each entry on:

- ▶ the impact of the problem/challenges and how well it is outlined
- ▶ the innovativeness of the solution
- ▶ the quality of the results achieved

In addition, the following criteria will be used in the evaluation and scoring process. Be sure to address these criteria in your application. (Some criteria may not apply to a particular category; no penalty will apply.)

Community Engagement

To what extent is the public informed and involved and has input that is fully considered?

Savings and Efficiencies/ Improved Services

To what extent does the program or service result in greater public benefits and/or less cost?

Positive Citizen Feedback

To what extent is the public reaction to the program or service supportive and positive?

Measurable and Transferable Results

To what extent are the results and benefits of the program or service verifiable and measurable, and useful to other cities?

Partnerships

To what extent are other agencies, schools, businesses, community-based organizations, etc. involved formally and informally?

Applications of Technology

To what extent are technologies involved in innovative ways in the program or service?

Youth Development

To what extent does the program or service better prepare youth to be informed, engaged and effective citizens?

Strategic Priorities

To what extent does the program, policy, or activity advance the Cal Cities strategic priorities for cities?

ENTRIES DEADLINE: Thursday, April 11, 2024

Contact Information

For more information or to submit an application please visit www.helenputnam.org or for questions contact Melissa Tualla at 916-658-8216 or mtualla@calcities.org.

CAL CITIES PARTNER PROGRAM

THE CAL CITIES PARTNER PROGRAM connects leading businesses, associations and non-profits with city leaders in numerous ways, including supporting the Helen Putnam Award for Excellence, Cal Cities highest honor for cities, and by supporting special activities at Cal Cities Annual Conference and other meetings. Cal Cities and all California cities extend great thanks to our Cal Cities Partners — leading businesses, associations and non-profits supporting local government and their communities. We are now accepting applications for 2024 and welcome other businesses, associations and non-profits to join the program. Please call Mike Egan at 916-658-8271 or visit www.calcities.org/leaguepartners.

2023 WINNERS:

Community Services and Economic Development | *Azusa*
Economic Development through the Arts | *Riverside*
Enhancing Public Trust, Ethics, and Community Involvement | *Corona*
Health and Wellness Programs | *Pleasanton*
Housing Programs and Innovations | *Modesto*
Intergovernmental Collaboration | *Shafter*
Internal Administration | *Agoura Hills*
Partners Award for Excellence in City-Business Relations | *West Sacramento*
Planning and Environmental Quality | *Corona*
Public Safety | *Modesto*
Public Works, Infrastructure, Transportation | *Santa Monica*
Ruth Vreeland Award for Engaging Youth in City Government | *Moreno Valley*

Visit www.helenputnam.org to submit an application



1400 K Street, 4th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814