



For more information, contact:  
Kate Hoagland  
Ash Institute  
617-495-4347  
[kate\\_hoagland@harvard.edu](mailto:kate_hoagland@harvard.edu)

## **FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR 2008 INNOVATIONS IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AWARDS**

***\$100,000 Award Deadline October 15, 2007***

**Cambridge, Mass., – October 10, 2007** – The Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government today announced a last call for applications for the 2008 Innovations in American Government Awards. All federal, state, local, tribal and territorial units of government within the United States are encouraged to apply by Monday, October 15, 2007. Applications and nominations can be submitted at [www.innovationsaward.harvard.edu](http://www.innovationsaward.harvard.edu).

Considered the nation's premier public sector honor, the Innovations in American Government Awards program is an annual award that recognizes exemplary models of innovative government in all domestic policy areas. Six government programs will be selected from the pool of applicants as winners and each will receive a \$100,000 grant toward replicating their innovation.

Eligibility requirements for the 2008 Innovations in American Government Award include:

- Programs must be administered under the authority of one or more governmental entities.
- Programs must have been implemented prior to October 15, 2006 and currently be in operation.
- Applications must be submitted by the governmental entity responsible for the innovation; nonprofit, private sector and union initiatives are eligible only with significant governmental involvement and oversight.

Established in 1986 at Harvard University by the Ford Foundation, the Innovations in American Government program has reviewed over 25,000 creative government initiatives and honored 181 federal, state and local government agencies as winners of the Innovations in American Government Award. Addressing a range of pressing issues from crime deterrence and public benefits access to climate change and health care delivery, these model programs show that entrepreneurial ideas can lead to demonstrable benefits for citizens.

Many award-winning programs have been replicated across jurisdictions and policy areas, and some have served as harbingers of today's reform strategies or as forerunners to state and federal legislation. Past award-winning programs include the Program Assessment Rating Tool, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget's federal program performance management tool; CompStat, New York City's crime reduction tool and Community Care, North Carolina's improved Medicaid delivery system.

**About the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation**

The Roy and Lila Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation advances excellence in governance and strengthens democratic institutions worldwide. Through its research, publications, leadership training, global network and awards program – developed in collaboration with a diverse, engaged community of scholars and practitioners - the Ash Institute fosters creative and effective government problem-solving and serves as a catalyst for addressing many of the most pressing needs of the world's citizens. The Ford Foundation is a founding donor of the Institute. Additional information about the Ash Institute is available at [www.ashinstitute.harvard.edu](http://www.ashinstitute.harvard.edu). Organizations are encouraged to apply to the 2008 Innovations in American Government Awards by October 15, 2007 at [www.innovationsaward.harvard.edu](http://www.innovationsaward.harvard.edu).

###