



ISAC EXCELLENCE IN ACTION PROGRAM

A competitive awards program that seeks to identify and recognize innovative county government employees, programs, and ISAC affiliates.

The ISAC Excellence in Action Award Committee will rate each nomination based on the following seven attributes: innovation and creativity; leadership; replication; cost savings; increased efficiency; cooperation with others; and perseverance. Awards will be presented at the 2026 ISAC Annual Conference General Session on August 19 in Des Moines. Winners will also be recognized on the ISAC website and in a news release.

- ✓ **INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY**
- ✓ **LEADERSHIP**
- ✓ **REPLICATION**
- ✓ **COST SAVINGS**
- ✓ **EFFICIENCY**
- ✓ **COOPERATION**
- ✓ **PERSERVERANCE**

- Attach a narrative of the program or individual (three-page limit). Criteria and guidelines are included on the next page.
- Return all nominations by June 1, 2026, (postmarked date) to:

**Iowa State Association of Counties
Attn: Jacy Ripperger
5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190
West Des Moines, IA 50266**

- OR email your application form (containing all the information on the form below) to jripperger@iowacounties.org.

Please fill out each field completely:

Please indicate nomination type: Program: _____ Individual: _____

Name of program/individual: _____ County or affiliate: _____

Name of nominator: _____ Title: _____

Nominator's phone: _____ Nominator's email: _____

CRITERIA

Nominated programs must demonstrate innovative thinking and do one or more of the following:

- Offer a new service to county residents, fill gaps in the availability of existing services, or tap new revenue sources.
- Improve the administration or enhance the cost effectiveness of an existing county government program.
- Upgrade the working conditions or level of training for county employees.
- Enhance the level of citizen participation in, or the understanding of, government programs.
- Provide information that facilitates effective public policy making.
- Promote intergovernmental cooperation and coordination in addressing shared problems.
- Provide a model from which other counties or affiliates may learn.

JUDGING

The Excellence in Action Award Committee will rate each application based on the following seven attributes: creativity; innovation; cost savings; replication; leadership; increased efficiency; cooperation with others; and perseverance.

GUIDELINES

- Nominated programs must have become operational after January 1, 2025.
- Individual nominations should reflect the individual actions of the last 24 months.
- Nominations must be made using included application form.
- A detailed narrative of the county program or individual's actions must be included.
 - One-page minimum; three-page maximum.
- Please include two pictures to accompany your narrative.

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Awards will be presented during the 2026 ISAC Annual Conference General Session on August 19 in Des Moines. Winners will also be recognized on the ISAC website and in a news release sent to local or statewide media. When appropriate, an ISAC staff member will also attend the board of supervisors meeting to present the award.

CONTACT

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