Oregon Innovation (OI) Award
From Portland State University’s Mark O. Hatfield School of Government’s
Center for Public Service

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. QUESTION: Would the award (if not this year, perhaps in the future) also be open to nonprofit organizations who bring innovation in financing and leveraging public monies for furthering a social cause... like affordable housing in Oregon for example?

ANSWER: On the Oregon Innovation Award, yes we are open to nonprofits who are seeking to pioneer innovations in the public space. Our definition of "public" includes governmental and non-profits organizations (along with special districts).

2. QUESTION: We have an innovative project that began in November 2013. We have been working through implementation of the project over the past 14 months. Is the OI award designed for projects that have not yet been implemented or would our project be eligible because we are still in the implementation stage?

ANSWER: If your project is still being implemented after April 2015, then you are still eligible for consideration.

3. QUESTION: What is the award cycle? If recipient must implement within a 12-month time frame, does that begin with the April award date or is there another start/finish by restriction?

ANSWER: We expect that the recipient will already have an innovation concept firmly in mind, and the Award will allow co-production on development and scaling within the public organization context. We expect that the CPS engagement would begin soon after April, and extend for 12 months, but we will consider viable alternatives, especially this first year as we work out the details. No firm "restrictions" on start/finish.

4. QUESTION: Is there a word limit for each answer? Looking at the questions on the application as they are currently written, there is a suggested word limit for the first question of 100-200 words. However, none of the other questions have a word limit called out.

ANSWER: To be consistent, there is a 100-200 word limit for each question. The application form has been updated to reflect this.

5. QUESTION: Can a jurisdiction submit two different award applications?

ANSWER: Yes, it is okay to submit more than one proposal for distinct innovations.

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