Community, Economic, and Workforce Research Awards 2020

The C2ER awards program recognizes the contribution of research activities to the success of local, regional, or state community, economic, and workforce development initiatives.

Purpose of award:
To increase the quality of applied economic research by identifying meritorious projects and promoting the diffusion of creative ideas through related research activities.

Eligibility:
All C2ER and LMI Institute members are eligible to receive the award. Eligible projects are those in which the nominated research office plays a coordinating role or in which research activities play an integral role in the success of a community, economic or workforce development program, project or activity. The programs, projects, or activities nominated may include those serving national, state, regional and local areas. Ongoing programs or projects started within the last 24 months are eligible.

Project Categories:
Nominations should respond to one of the following categories of research activity:

- Projects supporting business and workforce development activities
- Data collection/dissemination efforts, including web-based systems
- Policy analysis supporting federal, state, or local initiatives
- Project impact/program evaluation or assessment
- Projects supporting collaborative community/regional initiatives

Award Application:
Applicants should submit a brief summary - no more than 3 pages - that describes the project’s goals and objectives and highlights its innovation nature; alternative formats (such as videos and interactive web displays are welcome, but we would like some narrative background to help us understand your vision and the behind the scenes work that went into the product or service).

Award Review Criteria: Judges will review the nominated research or analysis for:
1. Contribution to applied community, economic or workforce development research field
2. Innovation in approach or implementation
3. Unique approach to using researchers as part a larger program implementation team
4. Response to customer or community needs
5. Economic or other benefits that have resulted from implementing the project
6. Quality of product or process
7. Replicability for other C2ER and LMI Institute members

Application Process:
Applicants should submit their nomination in electronic format to Tom Minor at tminor@cerc.net to be received by Friday, April 10, 2020.
Selection Process:
Judges reviewing award nominations will include representatives from the C2ER membership including practitioner researchers, academics, site location/business consultants, marketing publications, and federal agencies. The panel may select up to one winner in each category and an overall award for a cross-cutting project. C2ER reserves the right to assign a nomination to a different category. C2ER also reserves the right to not select a winner in all categories.

Awards Presentation:
C2ER will present the awards at the C2ER Annual meeting in Columbus, OH, June 1 – 5, 2020. Award winners should prepare to make a brief webinar presentation about their winning project to the membership after the conference.

Community, Economic, and Workforce Development
Applied Research Awards Nomination

Part 1: Project Information

Project category (please check all that apply):

__ Projects supporting business and workforce development activities
__ Data collection/dissemination efforts, including web-based systems
__ Policy analysis supporting federal, state, or local initiatives
__ Project impact/program evaluation or assessment
__ Projects supporting collaborative community/regional initiatives

Nominating Organization:
(Must be an C2ER or LMI Institute member)

Contact Person:

Address:
City/State/Zip:

Phone:
Fax:
E-mail:
Website:

Activity Being Nominated:

Other Organizations Participating in the Project/Activity:

Part 2: Narrative

The narrative should provide a brief description of the activities and provide insights on why the judges should consider your nomination (3-page maximum). Describe the role that economic development researchers played in designing and implementing the activity; define the customer of the activity and how the customer benefited; describe how the project is particularly innovative or how it involved collaboration with partner organizations; and demonstrate how the project contributes to your city/region/state/province’s economic development efforts. In addition, the narrative should describe how the activity could be used in other states/provinces or communities.

Applicants should submit in electronic format to Tom Minor at tminor@crec.net. Submit nominations by April 10, 2020. Please contact Sean McNamara sam@crec.net if you have any questions or Phone 703-522-4980.