

NASCA 2000 Outstanding Program Awards

Nebraska State Records Board Grant Program

This State of Nebraska grant program was introduced at Governor Mike Johanns' E-Government Conference held in Lincoln, Nebraska, on September 30 - October 1, 1999.

The grant program, sponsored by the Nebraska State Records Board, is for one-time funding of small projects aimed at improving electronic access to state government information for the citizens of Nebraska. Each project is not to exceed \$25,000; however, the Records Board will award up to \$200,000 per year in grants.

The State Records Board had built a cash reserve through revenues collected from fees for public access to State records as authorized by the Nebraska Legislature. This reserve was used to establish the initial funding for this program. Additional funding is derived from two sources:

- 1) Department of Motor Vehicles' driver's license search requests (\$1.00 of the \$3.00 fee) and,
- 2) Network manager services (4.5% of gross profit up to \$89,900 and 2.0% over that amount).

Criteria for grant consideration includes the following five items, with Item 1 considered to be essential and the other four items informational when the Board reviews grant funding requests:

1. Enhance the delivery of State agency services to its citizens and improve access to those services.
2. Improve the efficiency of the agency operations.
3. Facilitate collaboration among State agencies.
4. Facilitate collaboration between State agencies and other public institutions.
5. Support public/private partnerships in the delivery of public services.

Proposals submitted must document the anticipated impact upon the agency in terms of operation and budget; why grant funding is needed for the project; and how the service will be sustained once the funds are expended.