Has your county found an innovative solution to a problem, such as solid waste, road and bridge maintenance and construction, or the need for better financial management? Has your county initiated a successful loss-control program, an unusual project to utilize volunteers, a successful community corrections project, an innovative solution to personnel problems, or a productive effort at industrial development? Has your county launched an educational program to make the public more aware of county services, or to more directly involve the public in the governmental process?

If your county has initiated similar programs, or any outstanding or innovative effort, you would be a great candidate for the 2015 Award for Excellence in County Government!

The 24th Annual Awards for Excellence in County Government will be presented during the Annual Convention’s Awards Ceremony on Thursday, August 20. This awards program is designed to bring statewide attention to outstanding accomplishments on the part of county government.

To ensure that all counties have a fair chance of being recognized, we will give Excellence in County Government Awards in two categories. The first award will go to a rural county – a county with a population under 50,000. The second Excellence Award will go to an urban county – a county with a population of more than 50,000.

Over the years, this awards program has brought recognition to programs across the state ranging from innovative approaches to industry recruitment, to unusual efforts at solving community problems.

The awards are intended to honor those programs implemented by the County Commission itself and not its agencies or boards. The awards are not to recognize those required programs that the county has carried out well, but instead honors those special efforts of County Commissions to meet the needs of their community in an innovative way.

Please look closely at the guidelines and judging criteria located on page 2. The deadline for entries is Friday, June 26, 2015.

If you have any questions about the Excellence Awards, call or email Donna Key in the ACCA office at dkey@alabamacounties.org or (334) 263-7594.
2015 Excellence in County Government Award
Entry Guidelines
ACCA 87th Annual Convention

Time Frame
The Program must have been completed or begun in the period between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015.

Eligible Programs
An eligible program is one initiated by the County Commission and is outstanding in quality or is innovative in its approach.

Submission of Entries
Excellence applications are limited to one per county. The entry should include a cover and an overview of the program (limited to no more than two typed pages) that details the following:
- Development of the Program Objective(s)
- Implementation of the Program (including involvement of the County Commission)
- Achievement of Objective(s)
- Benefit to the Tax Payers

Supporting materials, such as press clippings, photographs or printed materials may be submitted with the entry, but are not necessary. If such materials are submitted, they should be mounted on presentation board or presented in a notebook labeled for identification.

The entry form on page 3 should be filled out and used as a cover sheet for the award entry.

Deadline for Entries
The deadline for entries is Friday, June 26, 2015. All entries must be received at the ACCA office by 4:30 p.m.

Mail or emails all entries to:
dkey@alabamacounties.org
Association of County Commissions of Alabama
Attn: Donna Key
P.O. Box 5040
Montgomery, AL 36103

Judging of Entries
The entries will be judged by the ACCA Awards Committee with emphasis placed on the projects measurable results or improvements.

Excellence in County Government awards will be presented to those programs judged the most outstanding. Certificates of Excellence can also be awarded at the discretion of the judges.

The awards will be presented during the Awards Ceremony on Thursday, August 20, 2015 at the ACCA’s 87th Annual Convention being held at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, Ala. Every effort will be made to contact the administrator in the winning counties, who will be responsible for contacting the appropriate persons in that county.
2015 Excellence in County Government Award
Entry Form
ACCA 87th Annual Convention

County:__________________________________________________________

Contact Name:___________________________________________________

Contact Phone Number:___________________________________________

Title of Entry:___________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________

Category:  □ Rural (Population under 50,000)
   □ Urban (Population more than 50,000)

Email, mail or fax entries to:
Association of County Commissions of Alabama
Attn: Donna Key
P.O. Box 5040
Montgomery, AL 36103
Fax: (334) 263-7678 or dkey@alabamacounties.org

All entries must be received by 4:30 p.m. on June 26, 2015. Decision of the judges will be final.
Enteries may be picked up at the ACCA office at August 31, 2015.
In addition to the Excellence in County Government Award, the Association offers additional awards and recognition opportunities for individuals that will be presented during the awards ceremony at the Annual Convention on Thursday, August 20, 2015.

**Outstanding Contribution to County Government**

This award is given annually to individuals who have contributed to the betterment of county government in a manner above and beyond that is expected in their everyday duties. It is not a longevity award, but represents significant contributions to county government statewide.

Previous winners include Houston County Commission Chairman Mark Culver, State Emergency Management Agency Director Art Faulkner, Tuscaloosa County Probate Judge Hardy McCollum; Rep. Bill Dukes; late Rep. Jack Venable; Mack Roberts, former director of the Alabama Department of Transportation; Buddy Sharpless, former executive director of the ACCA; Frank Courson, retired County Transportation Director for the Dept. of Transportation; Mike Scroggins, retired head of county audits for the Examiners of Public Accounts; and retired Montgomery County Commissioner Bill Joseph. These winners followed a long line of leaders who have been honored for their dedication and contribution to county government. This award is for true accomplishment by an individual or organization. Those wishing to nominate someone should complete a form and return it to the ACCA office by the deadline.

**Tenure In Office Award**

This award is given to County Commissioners who have served in office for at least 16 years. It is given to commemorate each year served, in multiples of four years, once the 16th year is completed. For example, a commissioner who has just completed his or her 16th, 20th, 24th, 28th or 32nd year of office is eligible for the award.

It is the responsibility of the county to complete the entry form for this award. The ACCA staff does not have service records on all the County Commissioners. Make sure your County Administrator completes the form for all qualified Commissioners.

**Memorials**

Memorials are issued by the ACCA for Commissioners who have died in office since August 2014. Please have your administrator complete this form if your county has lost a Commissioner during the past year.

If you have any questions about the Excellence Awards, please call Donna Key in the ACCA office at (334) 263-7594 or send an email to dkey@alabamacounties.org.
2015 Outstanding Contribution to County Government Award
Nomination Form
ACCA 87th Annual Convention

Name of nominee:_____________________________________________________________________

Title or position held:_________________________________________________________________

Dates or length of service (please be specific):_________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

Nature of service and contributions to county government (please use additional paper if needed):

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

Email, mail or fax nominations to:
Association of County Commissions of Alabama
Attn: Donna Key
P.O. Box 5040
Montgomery, AL 36103
Fax: (334) 263-7678 or dkey@alabamacounties.org

All nominations must be received by 4:30 p.m. on June 26, 2015. Decision of the judges will be final.

NOTE: This award is presented to the person who has made outstanding contributions to county government statewide.

Submitted by:____________________________ Title:_______________________________ County:_________________________
2015 Tenure in Office Award
Entry Form
ACCA 87th Annual Convention

Note: Award is given to honor commissioners who have served 16 years or more and is presented following the completion of the 16th, 20th, 24th, 28th, 32nd, 36th, 40th, and so on years.

Name of Commissioner: __________________________________________________________

County Served:_____________________________________________________________________

Years served on the county commission as of August 2015:____________________________

Dates Served (please list all dates, even if there was break in between terms)____________

Email, mail or fax form to:
Association of County Commissions of Alabama
Attn: Donna Key
P.O. Box 5040
Montgomery, AL 36103
Fax: (334) 263-7678 or dkey@alabamacounties.org

All forms must be received by 4:30 p.m. on June 26, 2015.

Submitted by:____________________________ Title:_______________________________ County:_________________________
2015 Memorials
ACCA 87th Annual Convention

Please list any members of your county commission who passed away while in office during the past year (since July 2014).

Name of Commissioner: __________________________________________________________

County Served: _________________________________________________________________

Years served on the county commission: __________________________________________

Date of death: _________________________________________________________________

Additional information or remarks: ______________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Email, mail or fax form to:
Association of County Commissions of Alabama
Attn: Donna Key
P.O. Box 5040
Montgomery, AL 36103
Fax: (334) 263-7678 or dkey@alabamacounties.org

All forms must be received by 4:30 p.m. on June 26, 2015.

Submitted by: ___________________________ Title: ___________________________ County: ___________________________