

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 27, 2005

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Program Assessment Rating Tool Wins Innovation Award

WASHINGTON – Today the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) was awarded the prestigious Innovations in American Government Award, administered jointly by the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and the Council for Excellence in Government. The award is given annually to recognize excellence in the public sector.

"The PART helps us deliver what taxpayers expect: effective programs that produce results," said OMB Deputy Director for Management, Clay Johnson. "We're honored to receive the Innovations Award and look forward to working with the Ash Institute and the Center for Excellence in Government to implement best practices for program evaluation in Federal, state, and local government."

Created by OMB in 2002, the 30-item PART questionnaire is used to assess the quality of every Federal program's design, goals, management and results to determine effectiveness. Over a five year period, OMB will assess every Federal program to ensure each is establishing an aggressive action plan for improvement. To date, OMB has assessed more than 600 programs, comprising 60 percent of the Federal budget. Currently, 70 percent of programs are rated effective, moderately effective, or adequate, up from just 45 percent three years ago.

For more information on the Innovations in American Government program and this year's award winners, please visit www.ashinstitute.harvard.edu or www.excelgov.org.

For more information on PART, please visit www.omb.gov/part or call OMB Communications at 202-395-7254.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased that my Administration's Office of Management and Budget has received the Kennedy School's Innovation in American Government Award for its Program Assessment Rating Tool. I congratulate the hard-working employees at OMB for winning this award and implementing our management agenda. Taxpayer money should be spent wisely or not at all, and I am proud of the progress we have made to improve management and focus on results. We are changing the way the Federal government thinks about program management and budgeting. We still have work to do, and improving the effectiveness of government and providing good value to taxpayers will continue to be a top priority of my Administration.

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