

State of New Jersey

Department of the Treasury

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YourMoney.NJ, Gov. Christie's Transparency Center, Honored for Innovation in Open Government

Finalist Award is First for State in More Than a Decade

YourMoney.NJ.Gov, Governor Chris Christie's government transparency center, has been recognized as one of the outstanding information technology achievements by a U.S. state in 2011.

From 113 nominations in all categories, the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO), named YourMoney.NJ as one of only three finalists in Open Government Initiatives. NASCIO will present the state with a certificate at the organization's annual conference, which will be held in Denver on Oct. 3 and 4.

"YourMoney.NJ. is one of the key initiatives that is helping us advance reform and ensure that government is more transparent, more efficient and more responsive to the people of New Jersey," said Governor Chris Christie. "I'm pleased that the hard work and innovation behind our transparency website have been recognized, providing another example of how we are changing perceptions about our state for the better."

"It's been more than a decade since NASCIO last recognized a New Jersey effort at innovation in information technology," New Jersey Treasurer Andrew Sidamon-Eristoff said. "Given this opportunity to make a dramatic difference in the public's ability to understand its government, dedicated Treasury Department employees stepped up and created a site that drew national attention."

Work on YourMoney.NJ.Gov began in January 2010, when Governor Christie signed an executive order requiring a transparency site be created for the state of New Jersey.

Since then, the site has added complete lists of all compensation paid to workers in state government and its largest authorities; a clickable, interactive map that lets the public find tax levies on any property in the state, and searchable databases that taxpayers can use to find pension information for any state or local member of the largest pension plans.

It also includes a page that lets users track the performance of state government agencies to see how well they carry out their missions as well as purchase and expenditure search engines that let users track how the state is spending taxpayer money.

In addition, the site offers one-stop access to budget documents, state debt information and annual reports of agencies and authorities. For more information, go to YourMoney.NJ.Gov, New Jersey's Transparency Center.