

Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

Kern County is a proud recipient of the 2018 Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association. The award is given to government organizations that have been rated as proficient or outstanding on 27 different criteria. Since 2014, Kern County has received this prominent recognition 3 times.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is the most substantial commendation in governmental budgeting. There are approximately 1,600 participants in the Awards Program, making Kern County part of a limited and esteemed population. In 2016, only 192 entities in California were recognized, and Kern County was one of 14 counties in the state that received the award that year. The budget team once again met the nationally recognized guidelines this year to have an excellent budget presentation and qualify for the award.

The budget is evaluated based on the guidelines of policy, financial, operations, and communication. Some of Kern County's notable outstanding ratings were strategic goals, fund balance, and departmental information. The budget did an exceptional job of including a budget message that articulates priorities and issues for the upcoming year within the county. In addition, it provides information that sufficiently shows the relationship between departments and funds. According to the award criteria, it also displays objective measures of progress toward accomplishing Kern County's mission. In almost all other categories, the budget was rated proficient and was recognized as an excellent policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and budget communication method.

Congratulations to the Kern County Budget and Finance team for their outstanding accomplishment!