



National Legislative Program Evaluation Society Award Winners for 2026

NLPES Outstanding Achievement Award

No 2026 winner

NLPES Excellence in Evaluation Award

Kansas Legislative Division of Post Audit

NLPES Excellence in Research Methods Award

Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office

New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee

Washington Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee

NLPES Certificates of Impact

Alabama Commission on the Evaluation of Services (ACES)

California State Auditor's Office

Colorado Office of the State Auditor

Georgia Department of Audits & Accounts, Performance Audit

Hawaii Office of the Auditor

Idaho Office of Performance Evaluations

Illinois Office of the Auditor General

Kansas Legislative Division of Post Audit

Kentucky Legislative Oversight and Investigation Committee of the Legislative Research Commission

Kentucky Legislative Research Commission

Kentucky Office of Education Accountability

Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office

Maryland Office of Legislative Audits

Maryland Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability

Maine Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability

Michigan Office of the Auditor General (OAG)

Minnesota Office of the Legislative Auditor

Montana Legislative Audit Division

Mississippi PEER Committee

New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee

Pennsylvania Legislative Budget and Finance Committee

South Carolina House Government Efficiency & Legislative Oversight Committee

South Carolina Legislative Audit Council

Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury's Office of Research and Education Accountability

Utah Office of the Legislative Auditor General

Virginia Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission

Washington Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission

Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau

Reports that Received 2026 NLPES Awards

Excellence in Research Methods. An Excellence in Research Methods Award may be presented to up to three offices. To receive a 2026 award, an office must have demonstrated outstanding use of evaluation research methods in a report released during calendar year 2025.

| State | Report Name |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Louisiana | Truck Permitting Fees in Louisiana and Neighboring States: Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development |
| New Mexico | Policy Spotlight: Felony Arrests and Outcomes |
| Washington | Performance Audit of Special Education: Funding Formulas and Spending |

Certificates of Impact. A Certificate of Impact may be presented to an office for a report released during calendar year 2023, 2024 or 2025 and which had documented public policy impacts. A total of 27 offices from 24 states received 2026 NLPES Certificates of Impact.

| State | Report Name |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alabama | Helping Families Initiative: A Program Evaluation |
| California | 2024-106 Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools |
| Colorado | Gas Pipeline Safety Program, Performance Evaluation |
| Georgia | DJJ Incident Response and Management |
| Hawaii | Audit of the Department of Education and the Department of Transportation's Administration of Driver Education Programs |
| Idaho | Oversight of Children's Residential Care |
| Illinois | Performance Audit of the Illinois Dept. of Employment Security's UI Program |
| Kansas | Information Systems: Reviewing Specific IT Security Controls Across State Agencies and School Districts |
| Kentucky | Executive Branch Use of AI Technology |
| Kentucky | Access to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners in Kentucky |
| Kentucky | Student Achievement: Lessons Learned From Kentucky's Relatively Highest and Lowest Performing Schools |
| Louisiana | Coordination of Public Assistance and Workforce Development Programs |
| Maryland | Department of Human Services - Social Services Administration |
| Maryland | Evaluation of Worker Classification Protection Unit |
| Maine | Evaluation of the Credit for Maine Shipbuilding Faculty Investment (Shipbuilding Credit) |
| Michigan | Performance Audit on the Office of Recipient Rights, Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services |
| Minnesota | Worker Misclassification |
| Montana | Public Access to Lobbying Information |
| Mississippi | A Review of the Mississippi Board of Medical Licensure |
| New Mexico | Program Evaluation: Improving New Mexico's Workforce Participation |
| Pennsylvania | A Study Pursuant to Senate Resolution 178: A Review of Act 44 School Safety Initiatives |
| South Carolina | Commission on Higher Education Study Report |
| South Carolina | A Limited Review of the Charter Institute of Erskine |
| Tennessee | Comptroller's Special Report: Tennessee State University |

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| Utah | A Performance Audit of Local Authorities' Property Tax and the Shifting Tax Burden (Report #2025-21) |
| Virginia | Data Centers in Virginia |
| Washington | Office of Privacy and Data Protection |
| Wisconsin | Fish and Wildlife Account |