

THE NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CHALLENGE

The National Law Enforcement Challenge (NLEC) is a traffic safety recognition program that recognizes agencies that excel in keeping their roadways safe. The NLEC is designed to strengthen and support traffic safety and provides agencies an opportunity to make a difference in the communities they serve, learn from each other, and establish future goals in traffic education and enforcement. The NLEC is supported by a cooperative agreement between the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. It is held in partnership with the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA), and the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA).

NLEC Traffic Safety Categories

The NLEC has four categories in which agencies can be awarded points:

- Impaired Driving
- Occupant Protection
- Speed Awareness
- State/Local Issue

For the State/Local Issue, applying agencies can choose a traffic safety issue that is an identified problem within their community or supports their state's overall highway safety goals.

What does an application consist of?

The application involves answering qualitative and quantitative questions about your agency's efforts for each category, including a narrative summary, statistical questions, and attachments for initiatives and policies. Agencies are awarded points in each category based on seven criteria: Problem Identification, Policies, Planning, Training, Public Information & Education, Enforcement, and Outcomes.

How does my agency apply?

The 2016 NLEC application can be downloaded from the NLEC website, www.theiacp.org/NLEC. The application is available in a fillable PDF or Microsoft Word Document format.

What's in it for my agency?

The NLEC provides opportunities for recognition of exemplary traffic safety programs, incentives for continuing traffic safety activities, and documentation of agency effectiveness, which can be used in future grant proposals.

Winning agencies also receive an award at the IACP Highway Safety Awards Breakfast held at the annual IACP conference. Agencies who place first in their categories are eligible to draw for a chance to win an outfitted Ford vehicle they may use for a year.

How are the applications evaluated?

A panel of evaluators will review each application and assign points based on the established criteria. All of the national evaluators are independent members of the law enforcement community, public safety, and corporate partners who have demonstrated advanced knowledge of highway safety initiatives. After the evaluation period is complete, the points are added together and a final score is assigned for each submission. After all of the applications are scored, the agencies are ranked in their appropriate categories based on agency size and type.

Resources

Visit www.theiacp.org/NLEC to access resources to help guide you as you organize your agency's application.

- **Model applications:** Applications from winning agencies can be viewed on the NLEC website.
- **How-To Guide:** This document walks you through the process of putting an application together and what the evaluators are looking for in a winning application.
- **Application Template:** The application template provides you with questions to consider for Problem Identification, Planning, Training, Public Information & Education, Enforcement, and Outcomes.



First place winners in the NLEC are entered to win a vehicle from Ford at the IACP Highway Safety Breakfast.

