

## Putting Ideas to Work Since 1982

The concept of a State Productivity Board originated during one of the worst recessions in Washington State history. It is the only independent neutral party of its kind in the state.

In 1982, the Washington State Legislature created the Productivity Board to stimulate creative thinking in government and drive down costs.

Through the Productivity Board's two programs, public employees began suggesting money-saving ideas for their respective agencies. In some cases, the ideas earned each employee a \$10,000 cash award.

The concept has paid off. To date, the Productivity Board's two programs have saved the State more than \$52 million in first year net savings alone!

**"Washington depends on the ingenuity of public employees to provide the highest quality of service with maximum efficiency. The Productivity Board inspires public employees to see themselves as a solution and put their creativity to work."**

## Contact Information:

Website:

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Email:

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Employee Suggestion Program Application:

[www.secstate.wa.gov/productivityboard](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/productivityboard)

Teamwork Incentive Program Application:

[www.secstate.wa.gov/productivityboard](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/productivityboard)

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# PRODUCTIVITY BOARD

Keeping Government Efficient  
For the People of Washington



*Washington*

**Secretary of State**

SAM REED

## Employee Suggestion Program

...for individual public employees

Employees on the front lines know better than anyone how their agencies can save money.

Through the Employee Suggestion Program, individual public employees submit money-saving ideas and may receive a cash award.

### Successful Ideas will:

- Eliminate waste and/or duplication
- Conserve Energy
- Improve customer service
- Increase efficiency

### Applications must include:

- A summary of the problem
- A summary of the solution
- An estimate of the savings
- Research information

Applications must be submitted before the idea is implemented

Individual employees may receive a cash award equal to 10% of the first year net savings (maximum \$10,000).

Submit ideas online at:  
<http://www.secstate.wa.gov/productivity-board/suggestion.aspx>

## Teamwork Incentive Program

...for groups public employees

Some of the State's most effective teams originated from brainstorming sessions involving groups of public employees.

Through the Teamwork Incentive Program, groups of public employees submit money-saving improvements and may be eligible a cash award.

### Successful Teams will:

- Increase efficiency
- Minimize overhead and fixed costs
- Improve processes
- Eliminate waste

### Applications must include:

- A project period not to exceed one year
- Performance measures
- Anticipated savings
- Complete team/agency authorization form

Teams must have agency approval to be eligible

Applications may be submitted before or after the process of improvement is implemented.

Individual team members may receive a cash award equal to 25% of the first year net savings (maximum \$10,000).

## Public Service Recognition Week

...to honor public employees

Public Service Recognition Week is celebrated the first week of May.

It is a time set aside to honor the men and women who serve America as federal, state and local government employees.

Throughout the nation and around the world, public employees use the week to educate citizens about the many ways in which government serves the people and how government services make life better for all of us.

