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The Exemplary Systems in Government (ESIG) Award, inaugurated in 1980 by the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association, recognizes extraordinary achievement by government agencies in the use of automated information systems. This achievement is defined as the effective application of computer technology that can be measured in terms of improved government services and increased benefits to citizens. The award competition is open to all public agencies at the federal, state/provincial, regional and local levels. This issue showcases some of the most notable submissions from the past five years. This will be part one of a two part URISA Journal Special Issue set highlighting exemplary systems. Each application has been edited, reviewed, and then updated by the agency to capture achievements made since the award was bestowed. This issue will recognize past ESIG winners from Alberta, Ontario, Washington DC, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Minnesota.

