



Counties and regions impacted by the contraction of the coal industry are invited to apply for the Innovation Challenge program. Selected teams will participate in a hands-on training workshop that will boost the innovative potential of coal-reliant communities seeking to grow and diversify their economies. These workshops will be structured to help counties and regions design solutions tailored to their communities' needs and identify implementable projects.

**TEAMS:** Counties and Regions are asked to form teams to apply to enter the program. Teams must consist of at least one county official and at least one regional development organization representative.

**FIRST COMPETITION:**

**Application Deadline:**  
February 27 at 5:00 p.m. ET

**First Workshop:**  
April 22-24  
Pikeville, KY



**SECOND COMPETITION:**

**Application opens:**  
Late May, 2015

**Second workshop:**  
Mid-September, 2015  
Colorado

**THIRD COMPETITION:**

**Application opens:**  
Late August, 2015

**Third workshop:**  
Mid-November, 2015  
West Virginia

*Note: There are separate competitions for each of the three workshops.*

Questions? Contact Jen Horton at [jhorton@naco.org](mailto:jhorton@naco.org) or Megan McConville at [MMcConville@nado.org](mailto:MMcConville@nado.org)

Additional information on the Coal-Reliant Communities Innovation Challenge is available at: [www.naco.org/InnovationChallenge](http://www.naco.org/InnovationChallenge)

