

DISTINGUISHED NURSE AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association Distinguished Nurse Award recognizes a member of PA State Nurses Association who has demonstrated leadership characteristics and rendered distinguished service to the nursing profession, and whose contributions and accomplishments are of significance throughout the Commonwealth. The Distinguished Nurse Award is the highest award given by the PA State Nurses Association to a member.

Criteria

1. The contributions and accomplishments of the nominee must be of significance to the nursing profession throughout the Commonwealth.
2. The nominee must have contributed to and be involved with the activities of the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association.
3. The nominee must hold current PA State Nurses Association membership and be an active member of the association.

NURSE AS GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association Global Citizen Award recognizes a member who has contributed to and is involved with equal opportunity and human rights concerns domestically or internationally for nurses and/or healthcare recipients. The recipient is recognized by peers as one who makes a difference and who inspires other nurses to make a difference in the world.

Criteria

1. The nominee has made a significant contribution within the nursing profession for the benefit of mankind.
2. The nominee has made a major contribution, through community/civic-related and/or healthcare activities, in the advancement of equal opportunity and human rights.
3. Two or more nurses collaborating on the same project may be nominated together, but all must be PA State Nurses Association members.
4. The nominee must hold current PA State Nurses Association membership and be an active member of the association.

NURSING PRACTICE AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association Nursing Practice Award recognizes a member of PA State Nurses Association who is involved in direct patient care. The recipient is recognized by peers as one who contributes to the advancement of nursing practice and demonstrates strength of character, commitment and competence.

Criteria

1. The nominee has contributed to quality improvement related to the provision of direct patient care.
2. The nominee, through direct nursing practice, is a role model to inspire peers to improve their quality of practice.
3. Other considerations include community involvement, participation in professional nursing organizations, recognition by peers and demonstration of interdisciplinary collaboration.
4. The nominee must hold current PA State Nurses Association membership and be an active member of the association.

ADVOCACY-LEGISLATIVE AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association Advocacy-Legislative Award recognizes a member who has been actively involved in the past year in legislative activities and/or professional advocacy for nursing at the local, state and/or federal levels. Activities such as involvement in campaigning as part of the elective process, lobbying and serving as a key contact on legislative issues are examples of activities for consideration. Advocacy areas include workplace safety, economic enfranchisement and occupational satisfaction. The recipient is recognized by peers as one who contributes to nursing involvement in the legislative process and the general welfare concerns of nursing and demonstrates strength of character, commitment and competence.*

Criteria

1. The nominee demonstrates active involvement in legislative and/or professional advocacy activities at the local, state and/or federal levels.
2. The nominee role models transformational leadership by inspiring peers to become actively involved in the legislative process and/or advocacy issues of importance to the nursing profession.
3. Other considerations include community involvement, participation in professional nursing organizations, recognition by peers and demonstration of interdisciplinary collaboration.
4. The nominee must hold current PA State Nurses Association membership and be an active member of the association.

NURSING RESEARCH AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association Nursing Research Award recognizes a member who has made a significant contribution to the body of clinical nursing practice, administrative, education or health policy knowledge through the research process. The recipient is recognized by peers as one who contributes to the advancement of the nursing profession through scholarly nursing research and demonstrates strength of character, commitment and competence.

Criteria

1. The nominee has completed a nursing research project within the past three (3) years.
2. The completed research contributes to the scholarly body of nursing knowledge related to practice, administrative, education or health policy.
3. Other considerations include community involvement, participation in professional nursing organizations, recognition by peers and demonstration of interdisciplinary collaboration.
4. The nominee must hold current PA State Nurses Association membership and be an active member of the association.

ADMINISTRATION-MANAGEMENT AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association Administration-Management Award is given to a member of PA State Nurses Association who is involved in nursing or healthcare administration. The recipient is recognized by peers as one who contributes to the provision of nursing care through transformational leadership and demonstrates strength of character, commitment and competence.

Criteria

1. The nominee has demonstrated transformational leadership in the implementation of initiatives which directly and positively influenced the quality of nursing care.
2. Other considerations include community involvement, participation in professional nursing organizations, recognition by peers and demonstration of interdisciplinary collaboration.
3. The nominee must hold current PA State Nurses Association membership and be an active member of the association.

NURSING EDUCATION AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association Nursing Education Award recognizes a member of PA State Nurses Association who is involved in nursing education (diploma, ADN, BSN or graduate programs; continuing education; and/or staff development). The recipient is recognized by peers as one who contributes to the advancement of nursing education and demonstrates strength of character, commitment and competence.

Criteria

1. The nominee acts as a role model to inspire peers and/or others to improve the quality of nursing education.
2. The nominee has made a major improvement or innovation regarding the teaching/learning process within nursing.
3. Other considerations include community involvement, participation in professional nursing organizations, recognition by peers and demonstration of interdisciplinary collaboration.
4. The nominee must hold current PA State Nurses Association membership and be an active member of the association.

JOHN HEINZ FRIEND OF NURSING AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association John Heinz Friend of Nursing Award recognizes a non-member who has demonstrated leadership that has significantly impacted nursing practice, nursing education, nursing administration, and/or nursing research throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Criteria

1. The nominee has rendered distinguished service in any one of more of the following:
 - Significantly enhanced the image of nursing;
 - Publicly advocated for nurses and/or the nursing profession;
 - Contributed to the work of PSNA and/or the Nursing Foundation of Pennsylvania (NFP).

EMERGING NURSE LEADER AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association Emerging Nurse Leader Award recognizes a member of PA State Nurses Association who is an exceptional professional of merit and accomplishment in their first five (5) years of professional practice. This Nurse demonstrates innovative thinking, a commitment to the advancement of nursing, transformational leadership, and, has made a significant impact within the nursing and/or local, state or national community through professional work.

Criteria

1. The nominee has been an RN for five (5) years or less.
2. The nominee demonstrates exceptional leadership characteristics that may include, but are not limited to, leading other by example, mentoring, transferring knowledge to others, taking risk to achieve desired outcome, delegating tasks in a clear and logical manner, motivating others to strive beyond what they believe can be accomplished, and growing their effort or organization in both size and scope.
3. Other considerations include community involvement, participation in professional nursing organizations, recognition by peers and demonstration of interdisciplinary collaboration.
4. The nominee displays a desire to enhance their leadership capacity and the drive to develop innovative, relevant and responsible nursing practices.
5. The nominee must hold a current PA State Nurses Association membership and be an active member of the association.

COURAGE, COMMITMENT AND COMPASSION AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association Courage, Commitment and Compassion Award recognizes a Pennsylvania registered nurse who exceeds expectations in times of critical need by demonstrating an unwavering commitment to their profession. Since 2002, the PA State Nurses Association Courage, Commitment and Compassion Award has been given to a Pennsylvania registered nurse who has demonstrated extraordinary responses to requests or situations that require the highest form of commitment to patients and their families.

If you have experienced or witnessed an exceptional display of professionalism and exemplary care by a Pennsylvania registered nurse, please nominate him or her for the PA State Nurses Association Courage, Commitment and Compassion Award.

All registered nurses licensed to practice in Pennsylvania are eligible for this award; nominees do not have to be a member of the PA State Nurses Association.

DISTRICT EXCELLENCE AWARD

The PA State Nurses Association District Award recognizes the District that has made significant contributions to their nursing communities, for promoting public understanding of nursing and nursing issues while supporting the initiatives, mission and vision of the PA State Nurses Association within their district.

Criteria

1. The district demonstrates and functions within the PA State Nurses Association bylaws, as determined by the CEO of the PA State Nurses Association.
2. The district has increased their district's stature in the nursing community, establishing a positive image for nursing within the community.
3. The district has, at minimum, maintained membership, and ideally, increased the number of members.
4. The district displays an exemplary commitment to the district/state mission of providing a voice for nurses by mobilizing advocacy activities in the local/state nursing community that may include, but is not limited to, media coverage, letters to the editor, Lobby Days, or other public relations and advocacy efforts.
5. The district demonstrates a commitment to lifelong learning by sponsoring/supporting educational programs approved for continuing education credit through the PA State Nurses Association.
6. The nominated district functions as a model for other districts in the PA State Nurses Association.