



NAINA BIENNIAL 2026 AWARDS s SCHOLARSHIPS

Advanced Practice Nurses (APN) Excellence Award

The APRN Award recognizes an outstanding and deserving Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), Clinical Nurse Midwife (CNM), Nurse Practitioner (NP), and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) who have contributed to advancing health care practices in their respective fields.

Criteria for the Nominees:

1. Must be an active virtual or local chapter member of NAINA.
2. Actively involved in the activities of the local chapter or NAINA.
3. Be present at the awards ceremony of the biennial conference to receive the award.
4. Recognized at the Chapter or National level for their significant contribution.
6. Collaboration with other ethnic/ American nursing organizations through local chapter/NAINA
7. Has made significant contributions to the Indian community in the US.
8. Exemplifying strong leadership skills in areas such as professional development, clinical skills, mentoring, and / or innovative practice.
9. Made significant contributions in evidence-based practice, clinical-based quality improvement project/ Research.

Documents to be attached:

1. Nomination (A narrative of less than 200 words explaining the reason for the nomination) and any supporting documents to show the evidence of the activity/accomplishment as one pdf.
2. Letter of recommendation from Supervisor, Community Leader, or Chapter President.
3. Professional photograph/ Headshot

Self nomination allowed.

Please refer to the Rubric section below for award eligibility, evaluation criteria, and scoring details.

Warm regards,
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NAINA APRN Award Rubric

Last Revised: May 31, 2026, NAINA Awards Committee



Criteria	Exemplary (5)	Accomplished (3)	Developing (1)
Clinical excellence	Demonstrates exceptional advanced knowledge, expert clinical reasoning and improved patient outcomes with strong evidence. Use evidence-based practice in healthcare outcomes and safety and innovation in the APN role.	Consistently deliver safe and expert care, recognized as a reliable clinician by peers and meet all standard role expectations.	Basic competency demonstrated, limited or vague evidence of exceeding standard practice expectations.
Leadership and mentorship	Serves in formal leadership roles (council, guiding and mentoring colleagues, precepting advanced practice students, and making significant practice changes in the work setting.	Moderate engagement in professional organization and leadership roles. Actively participate in mentoring colleagues and precepting advanced practice students, and engage in few practice changes in the work setting.	Limited engagement in leadership roles, mentorship and precepting.
Community Services / Charity Initiatives	Leads multiple impactful community outreach, health promotion, or charitable initiatives benefiting diverse populations.	Participate in several community service or charitable initiatives.	Participate in at least one community service activity.
Collaborations / Advocacy	Actively collaborates with professional organizations, healthcare institutions, or advocacy groups to advance nursing practice and healthcare initiatives.	Participates in collaborative activities with professional organizations or healthcare groups.	Limited collaborations or occasional advocacy participation.
Education and EBP or Research	Contributes to the nursing field through publications, international, and national presentations, and evidence-based practice updates.	Contributes to the nursing field through publications, regional or local presentations, and evidence-based practice updates.	Conducts presentations actively at least regionally or locally at work.
Contribution to NAINA	Demonstrates exceptional contribution to NAINA initiatives, conferences, committees, and national or local activities.	Participates actively in NAINA /Local chapter initiatives and supports organizational goals.	Limited participation in NAINA/Local chapter programs or events.