



NAINA BIENNIAL 2026 AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Clinical Registered Nurse Excellence Award

The Clinical Registered Nurse Excellence award is to recognize an outstanding and deserving registered nurse in the US who works in the clinical, outpatient, or community setting. The RN collaborates with patients, families, and multidisciplinary teams to provide care for the sick and promote health.

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 for their significant contribution in their area of practice (Examples include involvement in various councils, QI projects, advocacy, policy).
5. Collaboration with other ethnic/professional nursing organizations.
6. Has made significant contributions to the nursing profession or community.

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,
Maya E Joseph, Ph.D., RN, CCRN
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NAINA Clinical Registered Nurse Award Rubric

Criteria	Exemplary (5)	Accomplished (3)	Developing(1)
Clinical excellence	Demonstrates exceptional advanced knowledge, expert clinical reasoning and improved patient outcomes with strong evidence.	Clear evidence of meeting all criteria with strong examples and positive outcomes.	Provided basic evidence, meet requirements but lack exceptional depth or innovation.
Leadership and mentorship	Demonstrates significant engagement in professional organizations, guiding and precepting new staff, and making significant changes in the work setting.	Maintains moderate engagement in leadership activities and mentoring	Limited or no engagement in leadership activities and mentoring
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.	Limited or occasional involvement in community service.
Contribution to NAINA	Demonstrates exceptional contribution to NAINA initiatives, conferences, committees, and national or local activities.	Participates actively in NAINA initiatives and supports organizational goals.	Participates in local chapter programs or events.
Professional Education/Certification/ Accreditation	Achieved higher degree and certification	Achieved more than one professional certification	Achieved one professional certification