



NAINA BIENNIAL 2026 AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

NAINA Nightingale Nursing Award Criteria

The Nightingale Nursing Award celebrates a current NAINA member who has made significant contributions to the nursing profession that was demonstrated over a lifetime of service.

Eligibility Criteria:

- a) Must be an active virtual or local chapter member of NAINA.
- b) Actively involved in the activities of the local chapter or NAINA.
- c) Be present at the awards ceremony of the biennial conference to receive the award. Cannot be a previous recipient of this award.
- d) Has more than 40 years of professional nursing experience as of the application deadline.

Evaluation Criteria:

Each nomination must include a narrative of less than 200 describing the ways the nominee contributed to nursing or the community a minimum two out of the following five domains.

- Excellence in patient care: Achieved measurable improvements in health outcomes.
- Leadership s Contributions to the nursing profession: Led quality improvement initiatives, advanced patient care through innovation and policy advocacy, mentored new nurses, and promoted evidence-based practice.
- Advancing the field of nursing- Made significant contributions to nursing through research, education, and establishing best practices.
- Systemic Impact: Improved public health, community education, or healthcare systems.
- Professional Development: Completed specialty certifications, clinical ladder, or shared expertise.

Nomination Process:

Nominator: Nominations may be submitted by the peers or chapter members.

Supporting Documentation:

- Must have a nomination narrative (less than 200 words)
- Professional photograph/ headshot
- An attestation from the local chapter president that the nominee is actively involved in the chapter activities and meets the eligibility criteria.

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

Warm regards,

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NAINA Nightingale Nursing Awards Rubric

Criteria	Exemplary (5 points)	Accomplished (3 points)	Developing (1 point)
Excellence in patient care	Demonstrated outstanding and measurable improvements in health outcomes, consistently exceeding expectations.	Achieved notable improvements in health outcomes, meeting professional standards.	Made minimal improvements in health outcomes, with limited impact.
Leadership & Contributions to the nursing profession	Led QI initiatives in patient care, advocacy, or policy, introducing innovative solutions in the respective settings. Made significant contributions to the nursing profession through mentoring or precepting new nurses.	Participated in QI initiatives in patient care, advocacy, or policy, introducing innovative solutions in the respective settings.	Limited leadership or innovation; few contributions beyond routine responsibilities.
Systemic Impact	Created lasting improvements in public health, community education, or healthcare systems.	Contributed to improvements in public health, education, or healthcare systems with moderate impact.	Minimal impact on public health, community education, or healthcare systems.
Professional Development	Completed advanced education, specialty certifications, clinical ladder, or presented in professional conferences.	Completed additional education, certifications, or took charge of nurse roles.	Limited professional development; seldom shared expertise.
Contribution to Indian Nurses' association at national and local levels	Contributed both national and local	Contributed at national only	Contributions at local only