



NAINA BIENNIAL 2026 AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

NAINA Nurse Educator/ Faculty Award

The **NAINA Nurse Educator/ Faculty Award** recognizes outstanding nurse educators and faculty members who demonstrate excellence in nursing education, mentorship, scholarship, and leadership. Recipients inspire the next generation of nurses through innovative teaching, academic excellence, professional development, and service to the nursing profession at the local, national, or international level.

Eligibility Criteria

Nominees must:

1. Be an active, paid member of NAINA or a local NAINA chapter.
2. Demonstrate active involvement in NAINA and/or local chapter activities.
3. Be present at the NAINA Biennial Conference Awards Ceremony to receive the award.
4. Have served as a nurse educator or nursing faculty member for a minimum of two years in an academic or professional development setting.
5. Demonstrate significant contributions in one or more of the following areas:
 - Excellence in teaching and student engagement
 - Curriculum development and educational innovation
 - Mentorship and professional development of students and nurses
 - Academic leadership and program development
 - Scholarly activities, research, publications, or presentations
 - Advancing nursing education and workforce development within the community

Required Application Documents

1. Nomination Narrative

Submit a narrative of no more than 200 words describing the nominee's educational achievements, teaching excellence, leadership, and impact on students, nursing education, and profession.

2. Professional Photograph/ Headshot

3. Evidence of Educational Impact

Provide a supporting statement or letter from a supervisor, Director, Dean, department chair, colleague, or academic leader describing the nominee's contributions and impact in nursing education, including

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but not limited to:

- Teaching excellence and student success
- Curriculum design and innovation
- Academic leadership and program development
- Mentorship and faculty development
- Research, publications, presentations, or scholarly contributions
- Community engagement and service related to nursing education

Include additional certifications, leadership training, or career advancements (if any).

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

Warm regards,
Maya E Joseph, Ph.D., RN, CCRN
Awards and Scholarships Committee Chair, NAINA
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Criteria	Exemplary (5)	Accomplished (3)	Developing (1)
Teaching Effectiveness & Educational Impact	Demonstrates outstanding teaching with strong learner outcomes, innovative teaching strategies, and consistently positive learner feedback.	Demonstrates effective teaching with good learner outcomes and positive feedback.	Limited evidence of teaching effectiveness or inconsistent learner outcomes.
Contribution to Nursing Education & Scholarship	Actively contributes to curriculum development, educational innovation, and is engaged in scholarly work such as presentations (poster/podium), publications, or academic projects.	Participates in curriculum or educational activities and occasional scholarly work or presentations.	Minimal involvement in educational development or scholarly activity.
Mentorship, Student Engagement & Community Projects	Provides strong mentorship to students or peers and leads or actively participates in community health/education projects, including student-led initiatives benefiting diverse populations.	Provides mentorship and participates in community or student-related activities.	Limited or informal mentorship and minimal community involvement.
Professional Engagement & Collaboration	Actively collaborates with other ethnic or American nursing organizations through NAINA or local chapters and demonstrates strong engagement in professional nursing organizations and conferences at national or global level.	Participates in professional organizations or collaborates at local or chapter level.	Minimal participation in professional organizations or collaborations.
Contribution to local and national Nursing Community	Demonstrates significant contributions to nursing in the Indian community through leadership, service, education, or outreach initiatives.	Participates in initiatives benefiting the Indian nursing community or related populations.	Minimal or no engagement in community-focused nursing contributions