



TNA Achievement Awards 2010

The Tennessee Nurses Association Awards Program is designed to recognize nursing leaders and friends of nursing. It is our opportunity to identify those who consistently perform above the standard—the best of the best. These awards are presented to acknowledge exceptional dedication, commitment and professionalism. Nomination brings recognition to a colleague who is making outstanding contributions to the field of nursing.

The deadline for receipt of TNA Award nominations in the TNA office is no later than August 31, 2010. Awards will be presented during the Annual Convention at the Awards Luncheon, Friday, October 22, 2010. Nominations must be submitted on the appropriate forms (available from your TNA district president, the TNA office at 615/254-0350, or at www.tnaonline.org) along with the required documentation.

ANNUAL AWARDS

Dean's and Director's Award

This award is given annually to Deans and Directors of any nursing program with 100% faculty membership in TNA. (More than one program may be recognized).

- Deans/Directors list submitted for verification of membership status.

Outstanding Member Award

This annual award is presented to the TNA member whose contributions most closely reflect the mission and goals of TNA and the nursing profession.

Criteria:

- Professional leadership and service to TNA/ANA at district, state, or national levels;
- Promotes TNA membership and political activity of nurses;
- Represents TNA and the nursing profession through media channels, health organizations, business or government agencies; and
- Initiates and supports programs and activities which promote nursing and TNA.

Nominations may be made by TNA members, TNA Districts, or the TNA Board of Directors. This annual award may be presented to more than one qualified individual, but only one award within each practice category is allowed. The curriculum vitae of nominee and three letters of support from TNA members must accompany nominations. Nominations must describe the nominee's activities as they specifically address the above criteria.

Professional Promise Award

This annual award recognizes a recent graduate (within first year) and new member of TNA who demonstrates qualities of “professional promise” in the following areas:

Criteria:

- Consistent attendance and contributions at District level;
- Commitment to excellence in nursing practice;
- Collegial and mentoring relationships with peers; and
- Professional development activities.

Nominations may be made by TNA members, TNA Districts, or the TNA Board of Directors. Three letters of support from TNA members must accompany nominations. Nominations must describe the nominee’s activities as they specifically address the above criteria.

President’s Membership Award

An annual award presented by the TNA President to the District Association achieving the largest membership growth (based on percent increase from previous year). The TNA staff responsible for membership will determine eligibility for this award.

TNA Award for Nursing Excellence

This annual award recognizes outstanding performance in multiple areas of nursing practice. Nominees may be selected from the areas of nursing education, direct care, advanced practice, and nursing administration.

Criteria will be specific to the major area of practice, but reflect outstanding performance in these areas:

- Promoting and maintaining excellence in professional practice;
- Commitment to the nursing profession and TNA;
- Contribution to professional development of other nurses (publications, presentations, research);
- Leadership which improves the quality of nursing care (education, admin, etc.); and
- Professional and community service.

Nominations may be made by the TNA Board of Directors, TNA members, or TNA Districts. This annual award may be presented to more than one qualified individual, but only one award within each practice category is allowed. The curriculum vitae of nominee and three letters of support from TNA members must accompany nominations. Nominations must describe the nominee’s activities as they specifically address the above criteria.

SPECIAL AWARDS

The following awards are given as circumstances or situations deem appropriate.

Alma E. Gault Leadership Award

This award recognizes a member of TNA who demonstrates outstanding leadership qualities in all dimensions of nursing practice.

Criteria:

- Active involvement in projects, organizations, or programs with a focus on improving the health of the population as a whole or of aggregates of the population;
- Utilizes strategies such as political involvement, legal action, or raising public opinion to implement desired changes in health status/health outcomes; and
- Demonstrates the capacity to inspire others—within and outside of nursing—to actively support improved health for the community.

Nominations may be made by TNA members, TNA Districts, or the TNA Board of Directors. The curriculum vitae of nominee and three letters of support from TNA members must accompany nominations. Nominations must describe the nominee's activities as they specifically address the above criteria.

District Newsletter and/or Website Award

This award recognizes the District whose newsletter and/or website represents excellence in:

- Promoting a positive and professional image of Nursing and TNA;
- Providing members with important and timely information regarding practice issues, current legislation, and District activities;
- Highlighting member contributions to nursing and TNA; and
- Demonstrating innovation and creativity in presenting nursing issues.

Criteria:

- Submission and review of three printed copies of issues of the District newsletter or website pages.

Friend of Nursing Award

This award recognizes an individual/group that has:

- Demonstrated excellence or outstanding contributions to nursing and to the Tennessee Nurses Association; and
- Contributions may be professional, monetary, or literary.

This award is determined and given by the Board of Directors.

Louise Browning Political Nurse Award

This award recognizes a TNA member who demonstrates excellence in:

- Professional and technical involvement in government affairs;
- Promoting nursing awareness and participation in policy development and political action;
- Educating nurses about legislative issues and the political process; and
- Guiding the policy development process of the association.

The TNA Board of Directors, TNA Districts, TN-PAC Chair, or TNA Lobbyist may submit nominations. The curriculum vitae of nominee and three letters of support from TNA members must accompany nominations.

Media Award

This award recognizes a member of the media/publication/network whose work:

- Promotes a positive and professional image of nurses and the nursing profession;
- Contributes to consumer and professional health awareness;
- Highlights nursing's role in the health care system; and
- Demonstrates innovation, creativity, and integrity in presenting issues related to nursing and health care.

Nominations may be made by TNA members, TNA Districts, or the TNA Board of Directors. Three letters of support from TNA members must accompany nominations.

Outstanding Legislator Award

This award recognizes an outstanding legislator who has:

- Demonstrated support of the TNA legislative agenda and the nursing profession; and
- Promoted legislation which enhances adequate and safe nursing care and healthcare for the people of Tennessee.

Suggestions shall be submitted to the TNA office. The award recipient will be selected by the TNA Board of Directors with input from the Government Affairs/Health Policy Committee or its successor, the TN-PAC Political Action Committee, TNA's Executive Director, and TNA Lobbyist(s). Three letters of support from TNA members must accompany nominations.

Special Lifetime Achievement Award

This award recognizes a retired TNA member who has:

- Demonstrated excellence or outstanding contributions to nursing and TNA;
- Continued participation in TNA and nursing; and
- Achieved state and/or national recognition by the profession.

This award, given by the Board of Directors, is to be determined by the Board as appropriate.

Outstanding Employer Award

This award recognizes a health care agency, school of nursing or other employer demonstrating commitment to nurses and nursing excellence.

Criteria:

- Nurse leader at the executive level must possess a Baccalaureate degree as well as a master's degree. Either the Baccalaureate or Master's degree must be in nursing;
- Scope and Standards for Nurse Administrators (ANA, 1996) must be currently implemented by the nursing system;
- Must collect data and participate in a national database that benchmarks nurse-sensitive quality indicators. One example is the National Center for Nursing Quality (NCNQ) study which collects data on patient falls occurrence, pressure ulcers, patient satisfaction, nursing staff satisfaction, skill mix, nursing hours per patient/client per day and others at the facility and unit levels;
- Must encourage nurses' representation on organizational decision-making bodies;
- Must have policies and procedures that permit and encourage nurses to express their concerns about their professional practice environment;
- Direct nurses involved in the decision-making surrounding patient care and held accountable for their own practice;
- Must encourage nurses to advance their practice, their knowledge and skills base, i.e., Clinical Ladder/Clinical Leaders;
- Must be in compliance with applicable local, state and federal regulatory and accrediting body standards; and
- Must have processes and systems in place that ensure that nursing practice is consistent with the scope of practice as it is identified in the applicable standards of practice and the Nurse Practice Act.

Nominations may be made by TNA members, TNA Districts, the TNA Board of Directors, as well as TNA Committees. Three letters of support must be submitted to address nominee's specific qualifications for the award.

TNA Achievement Awards 2010

Nomination Form

I do hereby nominate the following individual and/or agency for a TNA Award:

Specify Award Category

Name of Nominee

TNA District

Address

City

State

Zip

Email

Home Phone

Work Phone

I certify that all documentation required by the individual award criteria is attached and made a part of this application. Furthermore, I certify that I have reviewed the individual criteria for this award, and I am an appropriate party to make this nomination. **Nominations lacking complete documentation or appropriate endorsement will not be considered.**

Name of Nominator (please print)

TNA District

Email

Home Phone

Work Phone

Signature

Date

Please **mail** this form and all accompanying material to: Cheri Glass, Tennessee Nurses Association, 545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405, Nashville, TN 37228-1296; **fax** to: (615) 254-0303 or **email** to: cglass@tnaonline.org. **To be eligible, all materials must be received in the TNA office on or before August 31, 2010.**

