



2026 Nomination Information

Excellence in Advancing Nursing Practice Award (DNP Award)

Excellence in Advancing Nursing Practice Award

This award is for an outstanding final project from a student in a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. A DNP project demonstrates high-level mastery of an area of advanced nursing practice and focuses on the translation of evidence into practice.

DNP Project must be successfully completed between August 30, 2025, and August 30, 2026.

This award nomination form consists of two parts for the nominee and nominator. It is AACN's recommendation that the following nomination form materials are reviewed and prepared before beginning the application. Once you have these items ready, you may proceed with the application.

Nominee: A person who is selected for the award.

Nominator: A person who identifies the nominee.

All nominations must be submitted by June 5, 2026.

Name of Nominee

Nominee's Email

Title of DNP Project

Name of

Nominator

Title/Position of Nominator

Academic Institution of Nominator

Nominator's Email

Nominator's Contact Number

Name of DNP Program Director

Name of Research Chair

Institution Address

DNP project was successfully completed between August 30, 2025, and August 30, 2026?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Nomination Letter

The letter should address the first four criteria below. Please do not restate your nominee's entire project in the nomination letter but rather ask your nominee to complete the Abstract portion below the award criteria.

The nomination letter, the abstract, and the nominee's personal statement will be used by the reviewers in determining merit.

1. Has the potential to directly or indirectly influence outcomes related to health care, practice, or policy.
2. Demonstrates scholarly rigor and innovation and contributes to the profession.
3. Demonstrates a measurable improvement in quality or impact on care delivery and/or outcomes; may be implemented in other settings or with other populations.
4. Exemplifies innovation and leadership in nursing practice.
5. Degree to which the nominee's personal statement addresses how their project contributes to their current or future practice and/or career goals.
6. Degree to which the nominator's letter addresses the first four award criteria.

DNP Project Abstract Title**Background and Problem Statement****Purpose/Objective(s)****Procedures****Outcomes****Conclusion(s)****Implications for Practice or System Changes****Nominee's Personal Statement****Nominee's Curriculum Vitae**