



Who Is the Best Neuroscience Nurse You Know?

Nominate a colleague for a Neuroscience Nursing Award. Nominations are due by Friday, October 30, 2026.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NEUROSCIENCE NURSES (AANN) AWARDS

Nominees must be a current AANN member, and no self-nominations are accepted.

Award applications can be found at [AANN.org/awards](https://www.aann.org/awards)

RISING STAR IN CLINICAL PRACTICE AWARD

This award recognizes excellence in clinical practice for an emerging neuroscience nurse in the novice to competent stage of career development, and is open to all AANN members with 1–3 years of experience in neuroscience nursing.

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes outstanding chapters that support and advance the activities of AANN. This award is given in acknowledgment of chapter innovation that contributes to neuroscience nursing evidenced by development and implementation of innovative projects. Activities may be in the areas of education, health promotion, or other areas identified as a need by the chapter.

EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL PATIENT CARE AWARD

This award recognizes excellence in clinical practice for a nurse caring for a neuroscience patient in either an inpatient or outpatient setting. This award recognizes the potential of a nurse in the competent to expert stage of career development.

EXCELLENCE IN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING AWARD

This award is presented to a neuroscience nurse in an advanced practice role. Nominees demonstrate excellence in nursing care and advancement of neuroscience nursing as a specialty through the development and support of nurses.

EXCELLENCE IN NEUROSCIENCE EDUCATION AWARD

Nominees for this award demonstrate excellence in neuroscience nursing through contributions that inspire, develop, and support nurses in the provision of care to neuroscience patients. This award is open to nurses providing education related to neuroscience nursing, including clinical educators, clinical nurse specialists, academic faculty, and staff nurses.

MARY DECKER MENTORSHIP AWARD

This award recognizes a neuroscience nurse for modeling excellence and mentoring other neuroscience nurses. Mary Decker exemplified excellence in mentorship through her work as a staff nurse, nurse practitioner, and member of the Hydrocephalus Association, Medical Advisory Board.

TEAM HARMONY AWARD

This award recognizes an outstanding unit/clinic that supports and advances excellence in neuroscience care in harmony. The award is open to any unit (inpatient or outpatient) where patients receive neuroscience care. At least one member of the team must hold a current AANN membership. Nominees for this award demonstrate team member engagement to drive and support patient outcomes, contributes to the professional growth of team members to expand their scope within neuroscience, and demonstrates excellence through leadership and advocacy for neuroscience health.

AMERICAN BOARD OF NEUROSCIENCE NURSING (ABNN) AWARDS

Nominees must be a current CNRN- or SCRNs-certified nurse. The award application can be found at [ABNNcertification.org/awards](https://www.abnncertification.org/awards).

ABNN CERTIFIED CLINICAL NURSE OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes a CNRN or SCRNs who provides direct patient care and demonstrates excellence in clinical practice. Recipients exemplify outstanding patient care, evidence-based practice, professional services, mentoring, advocacy, and promotion of certification.

ABNN CERTIFIED NURSE LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes a CNRN or SCRNs nurse leader serving in a formal leadership role, such as nursing professional development, nursing manager, stroke coordinator, clinical nurse specialist, or director. Recipients demonstrate exceptional leadership, professional service, mentoring and professional development, advocacy, innovation, evidence-based practice, and promotion of certification.