

## The ANA Innovation Awards Sponsored by Stryker

### General Information

The American Nurses Association (“ANA”) and the American Nurses Foundation (“ANF”) are proud to partner with Stryker on the ANA Innovation Awards (“Awards”). These Awards highlight, recognize, and celebrate nurse-led innovation that improves patient safety and/or outcomes.

Applicants need to clearly identify how each innovation advances health. This innovation can be implemented in an academic, healthcare, community, public health, or private industry setting. These innovations can include: care delivery model; medical device or product; educational intervention; new business, program or service; research; or technology.

The ANA Innovation Awards will be presented to an individual nurse and a nurse-led team whose innovative work improves patient outcomes and exemplifies nurse-led innovation. The individual nurse will receive an award of \$25,000 and the nurse-led team will receive an award of \$50,000 to further develop their innovation over the course of one year. After one year, the winners will present their outcomes at an ANA event. The intent of these monetary awards is to provide one nurse and one nurse-led team with support to use translational research, development, prototyping, production, testing and implementation for a care delivery model; medical device or product; educational intervention; new business, program or service; or technology transformative to patient safety and/or outcomes in the United States.

Applications are evaluated by a double-blind, peer review process conducted by a panel of national experts with the final decision made by the ANA’s Innovation Department.

### ANA Innovation Awards Criteria and Rules

1. There can be more than one nurse-led team or individual submitting from an institution or organization, provided that the makeup of members of the nurse-led team or individuals and innovations are unique for each application submission. Nurses submitting an application can only apply once - either as a team or as an individual.
2. The intent of the award is for the innovation to be primarily for use in the *US market*.
3. The ANA Innovation Awards are awarded for a product, program, project, or practice that ANA determines at its sole discretion to be:
  - a. Extraordinary innovation that is unique, novel, or creative in the means utilized to address an identified problem or need;
  - b. Initiated by nurses or a nurse-led team;
  - c. Involving all appropriate individuals, including staff nurses and other disciplines as

- appropriate, in its conception, development, implementation, and evaluation;
- d. Transformative of nursing, patient care, or the nursing environment safety;
  - e. Clearly seen as enduring (sustainable) and can be replicated in other settings;
  - f. A potential for positive outcomes empirically linked to the innovation (projected benefits); and,
  - g. Pragmatic in its approach, evidence-based, and demonstrates proven outcomes through supportive data and testing.
4. ANA Innovation Awards winners are prohibited from submitting another ANA Innovation Awards application for two years following their winning innovation, and cannot reapply with the same innovation.
  5. Applicable for university application submissions only: If the award is given to a university, indirect/F&A costs of up to 10% will be allowed.
  6. The following are not eligible to submit for or win the ANA Innovation Awards: ANA and Stryker employees, contractors, directors, and officers; ANA and Stryker parent, subsidiary, and affiliated companies; and nursing organizations, including constituent/state nursing associations and labor unions.
  7. American Nurses Credentialing Center, ANA, ANF, or Stryker shall not induce, entice, solicit, employ, or contract with any of the winners of the ANA Innovation Awards for one (1) year following receipt of the award.
  8. There are numerous commitments to winning the ANA Innovation Awards. The award money must be used solely for the research, development, prototyping, production, testing, and implementation of the innovation. Unless stated elsewhere, award money cannot be used for salaries and fringe benefits. By accepting this award money, you agree to comply with the following requirements.
    - a. Be available for organizational or media opportunities.
    - b. Give a formal interview for ANA's website.
    - c. Be available for the ANA team to make site visit to your location developing the innovation.
    - d. Write a blog for ANA related to innovation.
    - e. Submit a 6-month progress report and budget that includes a detailed outline of how the funds were spent.
    - f. Submit an update on your innovation work at 12 and 18 months.
    - g. Innovation Award winners will be asked to participate in a qualitative and quantitative research to support and advance innovation.
  9. The Internal Revenue Services considers the award money to be ordinary income and is therefore taxable. Winners are encouraged to check with an accountant or your organization's finance department for guidance. Award money will be sent to an entity directed by the winner, provided that it does not violate any laws and regulations.
  10. An ANA representative may join a Stryker executive to visit Award winner(s) to see the progress of the innovation.

11. Applicant(s) understands and agrees to the following:
  - a. The ANA Innovation will not return to the applicant(s) any material or any portion thereof submitted in connection with the application.
  - b. The ANA Innovation, at its sole discretion and in compliance with applicable laws, may disclose the names of the applicant(s) and of the innovation.
  - c. Applicant(s) must protect their own intellectual property (“IP”) and confidential business information (“CBI”). Please consult with an attorney for assistance, if needed. ANA and Stryker shall not be responsible for procuring protection for your IP or CBI.
  - d. The ANA Innovation Awards winners will agree to use "the ANA Innovation Awards sponsored by Stryker" in all references to the prizes.
  - e. ANA will expect award recipients to provide content and information over the 12-18 months after the innovation awards are announced.
12. The applicant(s) represents and warrants that (i) disclosure of any materials submitted with or in support of the submission does not breach the terms of any other contract or agreements; (ii) obtained all necessary consents to submit the materials; (iii) is entitled to use all materials; and, (iv) not prohibited from accepting the ANA Innovation Awards or any related benefit.
13. The applicant(s) will defend, indemnify, and hold harmless ANA and Stryker, its subsidiaries, board of directors, and employees from and against any and all claims or legal actions arising out of or related to the applicant(s) participation in the Innovation Awards contest.
14. The decision of the ANA Innovation is final and binding. If, in the opinion of the ANA Innovation, there are no submissions considered suitable to the ANA Innovation Awards during a given year, then no ANA Innovation Awards will be awarded.
15. ANA Innovation reserves the right to disqualify any applicant at any time which, in its opinion, endangers the safety or well-being of any person, or fails to comply with these rules.

## Rules 2025 Application Information

### General Information:

- Opens: June 1, 2024 EST
- Closes: November 1, 2024 at midnight EST
- Online Application System: Click [here](#) to begin your application.
- You must complete the “Eligibility Status” Section to indicate that you accept and agree to the ANA Innovation Awards rules and criteria and to certify that you or your team are eligible to receive the ANA Innovation Award and the recognitions associated with it.
- Enter all required fields of the application, and complete the summary of innovation, narrative description, and demographic sections. (see details below)
- An email confirmation of starting the application as well as the final submission will be sent to the email address of the submitter.

- Winners will be notified in November 2024.
- Prior ANA Innovation Awards winners are prohibited from submitting for two years after their award.

#### Agreement to Eligibility Status:

- I agree to the ANA Innovation Awards rules and criteria (as above) and certify my eligibility to receive the ANA Innovation Awards and the recognitions associated with it.
- In the event I am selected as an award recipient, I agree to participate in an interview and video recording of the innovation award ceremony between December 2024 – March 2025.
- I agree to ANA taking photos and video recordings and using such photos and videos to be used by ANA, at its sole discretion, to promote the ANA Innovation Awards.
- Each applicant(s) submitting an application must electronically sign the ANA Innovation Awards submission form.

#### The Award

- A \$25,000 monetary award will be given to the ANA Innovation Awards individual winner.
- A \$50,000 monetary award will be given to the ANA Innovation Awards nurse-led team winner.
- ANA will transfer 50 percent of the monetary award after the winners have been announced publicly. The other 50 percent of the monetary award will be transferred once the 6-month progress report has been received by ANA.
- An honorable mention will be selected for each innovation category.

## Evaluation Criteria and Definitions

**Extraordinary innovation:** The activities of the nominated care delivery models, medical device or product, educational interventions, new business, program or service, research or technology (henceforth to be known as “the innovation”) are unique or creative in the means utilized to address the identified problem or need. The innovation activities go beyond what is usual, regular, customary, or merely incremental in their approach. A higher-level score reflects evidence of a thorough review of the literature, USPTO, standards of practice, and other available sources identifying the absence of a unique or creative approach addressing the stated problem or need. The innovation has, or will have, a profound impact on patient safety and/or outcomes.

**Nurse initiated or led:** Evidence that the innovation was initiated and is led by a nurse or nurses. Nurses are involved in the creation, leadership, development, implementation, and evaluation of the innovation.

**Nurse involvement at all levels:** Evidence that the innovation related activities include nurses representing direct care clinicians, nurse leaders, and other disciplines, as appropriate. A higher-level score reflects nurses from all levels of the organization remaining involved in the innovation.

**Please direct all questions to ANA via e-mail at [innovation@ana.org](mailto:innovation@ana.org)**