

**2026  
AWARD AND HONORS  
BOOKLET**



**ARKANSAS NURSING  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

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## Introduction

ANSA constituent associations have the opportunity for involvement in leadership programs and impacting their communities. We at ANSA feel that those actions should not go without notice. In our efforts to reward those actions, we have created this awards and honors program.

Provided here is a booklet that contains comprehensive information about the awards and honors that ANSA offers and how to apply for them.

**Deadlines: applications must be received via website submission by 11:59 pm Central Time on the deadline date listed for each award**

### Please Note:

- Any incomplete submissions will not be considered
- Separate applications are required for each project submitted
- Only one application will be accepted per project
- Please do not submit the same project for multiple award categories
- All applications must be submitted using the e-mail address provided on the Award application
- Certain awards do not require applications
- All awards will be submitted via email. Place name of award in subject title, include name of award and constituent association in the body of email
- All applications become ANSA property upon submission and will not be returned
- All awards will be presented at the awards ceremony on Friday as printed in the Convention brochure
- At least one representative from the winning chapter must be present to receive chapter awards and the individual applicant must be present to receive scholarship award (or appoint a designee to receive award on your behalf, with notification to the Board of Directors **prior** to the Awards Ceremony).

If you need any additional information about different awards or scholarships, please contact: [secretary@arknursingstudents.org](mailto:secretary@arknursingstudents.org)

**Awards with No Application Required**

## **Chapter of Excellence Award- \$150 and Plaque**

This award is open to all school chapters. School chapters will be automatically entered and judged according to the criteria below, based on all awards submitted by **11:59 pm, September 1st, 2026**. Quality of the projects submitted will also be considered.

### Judging Criteria:

1. Submissions of chapter information to website for “What happening in your school” section
2. Attendance at NSNA Annual Convention
3. Attendance at ANSA Annual Convention (previous year)
4. Delegate Representation at the State and National level
5. Chapter meeting participation and attendance
6. Chapter Awards applied for at Annual State Convention

**Awards with General Application Required**

## **Breakthrough to Nursing Award- \$100 and Plaque**

The purpose of the Breakthrough to Nursing Award is to encourage local SNA chapters to recruit students into their program through a project or event. Special consideration is given to events that involve groups of people who are underrepresented within the field of nursing to encourage retention.

### **Judging Criteria:**

Maximum Points Awarded: 70

1. Neat and Complete Application: 0-10
2. Community Impact: 0-10
3. Media Coverage: 0-10
4. Clarity of Message: 0-10
5. Originality/Creativity: 0-10
6. Attainment of Goals: 0-10
7. Positive Results Attained: 0-10

## **Community Health Award- \$100 and Plaque**

The purpose of the Community Health Award is to recognize local SNA chapters that provided service to their community through an event or project by providing health related services.

### **Judging Criteria:**

Maximum Points Awarded: 70

1. Neat and Complete Application: 0-10
2. Community Impact: 0-10
3. Media Coverage: 0-10
4. Clarity of Message: 0-10
5. Originality/Creativity: 0-10
6. Attainment of Goals: 0-10
7. Positive Results Attained: 0-10

## **Empowering Resolutions Award- \$100 and Plaque**

The purpose of the Empowering Resolution award is to recognize local SNA chapters who conducted an event or project that successfully implements or advances resolutions passed by the NSNA House of Delegates within the last 10 years.

### **Judging Criteria:**

Maximum Points Awarded: 70

1. Neat and Complete Application: 0-10
2. Community Impact: 0-10
3. Media Coverage: 0-10
4. Clarity of Message: 0-10
5. Originality/Creativity: 0-10
6. Attainment of Goals: 0-10
7. Positive Results Attained: 0-10

## **Image of Nursing - \$100 and plaque**

This award is given to a local SNA chapter who successfully orchestrates a community service event or project that positively influences the image of nurses and/or nursing students.

### **Judging Criteria:**

Maximum Points Awarded: 70

1. Neat and Complete Application: 0-10
2. Community Impact: 0-10
3. Media Coverage: 0-10
4. Clarity of Message: 0-10
5. Originality/Creativity: 0-10
6. Attainment of Goals: 0-10
7. Positive Results Attained: 0-10

## **Most Outstanding Newsletter Award- \$100 and Plaque**

The purpose of the Most Outstanding Newsletter Award is to recognize local SNA chapters who have demonstrated excellence in communication with their members through newsletter. The SNA chapter should additionally promote student participation, promote a positive image of nursing, and report on current issues and concerns in nursing in the Newsletter.

### **Judging Criteria:**

#### **Maximum Points Awarded: 34**

#### **A. Frequency of Publication – 4 points max**

1. Two times – 1 points
2. Three times – 2 points
3. Four times – 3 points
4. Five+ times – 4 points

#### **B. Content – 0-10 points**

1. Relevance and timeliness
2. Student and variable author participation
3. Balance of news and features

#### **C. Layout and Design Consideration – 0-10 points**

1. Up-front placement of priority news
2. Tempting headlines throughout the issue
3. Appealing front page
4. Balance of copy with photos/art & headlines
5. Readability (size, font, and use of white space)
6. Consistent format
7. Unity (focus of issue, photos to support article, ads appropriate to nursing)

#### **D. Accuracy – 0-10 points**

1. Effective proofreading
2. Proper referencing
3. Observance of copyright laws
4. Volume and issue number listed

## **Shannon Finley Disaster Preparedness Award- \$100 and plaque**

The committee judges this award based on how a school chapter has raised the awareness of its disaster plans, or developed plans for individual, school, and community responses. Projects can highlight education presentations, development of school or community awareness projects, or disaster-kit preparation.

### **Judging Criteria:**

Maximum Points Awarded: 70

1. Neat and Complete Application: 0-10
2. Community Impact: 0-10
3. Media Coverage: 0-10
4. Clarity of Message: 0-10
5. Originality/Creativity: 0-10
6. Attainment of Goals: 0-10
7. Positive Results Attained: 0-10

**Awards with Specific Applications/Nominations**

## **Nursing Student of the Year Award - Plaque**

The purpose of the Student of the Year Award is to recognize a nursing student who demonstrates excellence in leadership through service to their community, their nursing program, and their local SNA chapter

## **Chapter Advisor of the Year Award - Plaque**

The purpose of the Chapter Advisor of the Year Award is to recognize SNA chapter advisors who are an outstanding and invaluable asset to their chapter, state, and national organization through selfless giving of time, effort, wisdom, and care. The advisor must demonstrate that involvement in pre-professional then professional organizations is an essential part of the nursing profession.

## **Courageous Heart Award - Plaque**

The purpose of the Courageous Heart Award is to recognize students who have demonstrated excellence as nursing students while conquering adversity. The recipient of this award demonstrates that through hard work and dedication, one can still succeed.

## **Scholarships**

## **ANSA Scholarship - Four Awards of \$200 and Certificate**

The purpose of the ANSA scholarship is to award one student from each district who has proved to be a standout member of their local and/or state constituent organizations through community service, professional behavior and educational merit. The amount of the scholarship award is subject to change year to year based upon availability of funds within the ANSA budget.

**APPENDIX:**  
**APPLICATION FORMS**

## **GENERAL AWARD APPLICATION**

**Deadline September 1st, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.**

**\*\*INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED\*\*  
\*\*SEPARATE APPLICATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR EACH SUBMISSION\*\***

**Submit via email to: Hannah Newcomb at [secretary@arknursingstudents.org](mailto:secretary@arknursingstudents.org)**

**Section I - General Information**

- € Breakthrough to Nursing Award
- € Community Health Award
- € Empowering Resolutions Award
- € Financial Excellence Award
- € Image of Nursing Award
- € Outstanding Newsletter Award
- € Disaster Preparedness Award

**Type in Black**

**School Association Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Committee Chairperson:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact person:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty Advisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty Advisor Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Electronic Signature, including date and time, is acceptable)

**Title of Project:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Project:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Site of Project:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Nursing Students Involved:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of People Attending (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Will this project be continued next year by your association?**      **Yes**      **No**

**Did Nursing Students receive academic recognition for participation in the project?**

**Yes**      **No**

**If yes, describe type of recognition (e.g., independent study, course credit, give name of course, certificate, etc.):**

**Did your Association receive an ANSA award for this project previously?**

**Yes**      **No**

**\*All sections must be filled in and completed, any blanks will result in incomplete application\***

## **Section II - Project Specific Information:**

### **Please provide the following information as an attachment:**

- Provide a description of collaboration with non-nursing students (if applicable)
- Attach a list of community organizations that assisted with the project
- Provide a financial statement outlining the project budget
- Describe how the project was advertised/publicized/promoted in all forms of media (i.e., photos, publicity flyers, press releases, video/audio tapes, CDs, web address, handout materials, etc.) Attach description and promotional materials.
- Briefly describe how the project was conducted (excerpt from this summary will be read at the awards ceremony)
- Describe the goals of the project and to what extent these goals were met.
  - If submitting for “Empowering Resolutions Award,” list resolutions, the project to which it refers, and its year.
- Describe what was learned from the project that would be beneficial to others

# STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Deadline September 1st, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.

**\*\*INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED\*\***  
**\*\*NOMINEES MUST ATTEND THE 2026 ANSA STATE CONVENTION\*\***

Submit via email to: [secretary@arknursingstudents.org](mailto:secretary@arknursingstudents.org)

## Section I - General Information

Write or type in Black

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

NSNA Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Current GPA (4.0 Scale): \_\_\_\_\_

School of Nursing: \_\_\_\_\_

Dean/Director of Program: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*All sections must be filled in and completed, any blanks will result in incomplete application\***

## **Section II - Award Specific Information:**

**Please provide the following information as an attachment:**

- Provide a letter of recommendation from the dean/director, SNA advisor, or instructor of the nominee's school of nursing that addresses his/her leadership characteristics.
- This should be submitted from the dean/director, SNA advisor, or instructor's email with the corresponding award title and student's name in the subject box.
- Attach letter of nomination from a fellow SNA member attesting to the nominee's leadership accomplishments within SNA and how those accomplishments have impacted the nursing program as a whole.
- List any awards received relating to academics, campus activities, or community service.
- Include a one-page essay written by the nominee regarding his/her leadership accomplishments, professional/educational goals, and vision for the nursing profession.

# CHAPTER ADVISOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Deadline September 1st, 2026  
at 11:59pm.

**\*\*INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED\*\***  
**\*CHAPTERS ARE ALLOWED TO NOMINATE ONE ADVISOR PER SCHOOL\***  
**\*\*NOMINEES MUST ATTEND THE 2026 ANSA STATE CONVENTION\*\***

Submit via email to: [secretary@arknursingstudents.org](mailto:secretary@arknursingstudents.org)

## Section I - To Be Completed By Nominee

Write or type in Black

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

School Association Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*All sections must be filled in and completed, any blanks will result in incomplete application\***

**Please provide the following information as an attachment:**

- Provide total number of years as an educator.
- History of professional education (list schools and degrees obtained)
- Classes (Lecture, Clinical, Lab) that are currently taught by the nominee
- Provide a list of current professional nursing organizations and, if applicable, positions held within the organization.
- List any committees upon which nominee has served in the last two years.
- List any honors/awards received in the last five years.
- Provide information related to involvement with student groups in the last two years, particularly with the local constituent chapter of ANSA.
- Describe how involvement in the Arkansas Nursing Students' Association prepares students for involvement in professional nursing organizations.

## **Section II - To Be Completed By Nominating Student**

Name of Nominating Student: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*All sections must be filled in and completed, any blanks will result in incomplete application\***

**Please complete and attach an essay, no longer than two double-spaced, size 12 font, typewritten pages, addressing the following topics:**

- **Explain how the nominee motivates and generates enthusiasm for SNA and the nursing profession.**
- **Describe how the nominee exhibits and teaches professionalism.**
- **Explain how the nominee encourages students to continue their education and promotes involvement in professional organizations after graduation.**
- **Describe how the nominee supports students to grow and learn from their roles within SNA, ANSA, and NSNA.**

# COURAGEOUS HEART AWARD

**Deadline: September 1st,  
2026 at 11:59 p.m.**

**\*\*INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED\*\*  
**\*\*NOMINEES MUST ATTEND THE 2026 ANSA STATE CONVENTION\*\*****

**Submit via email to: [secretary@arknursingstudents.org](mailto:secretary@arknursingstudents.org)**

## **Section I- General Information**

**Write or type in Black**

**Name of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NSNA Member Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Expiration:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current GPA (4.0 Scale):** \_\_\_\_\_

**School of Nursing:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dean/Director of Program:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*All sections must be filled in and completed, any blanks will result in incomplete application\***

## **Section II- Award Specific Information**

**Please provide the following information as an attachment:**

- **Provide a letter of recommendation from the dean/director, SNA advisor, or instructor of the nominee's school of nursing that addresses his/her exceptional fortitude in the face of adversity. This should be submitted from the dean/director, SNA advisor, or instructor's email with the corresponding award title and student's name in the subject box.**
  
- **Provide an accounting of the circumstances surrounding the nomination of this particular student of nursing.**
  
- **List any awards received relating to academics, campus activities, or community service.**
  
- **Attach letter of nomination from a fellow SNA member attesting to the nominee's contributions to SNA and how this individual has impacted their current class as a whole.**
  
- **Include a one-page essay written by the nominee regarding his/her personal accomplishments, professional/educational goals, and vision for the nursing profession.**

# ANSA SCHOLARSHIP

Selection of scholarship recipients is based on academic achievement, financial need, involvement in SNA and community health activities. One scholarship is awarded to a student in each of ANSA's four districts.

Deadline September 1st, 2026  
at 11:59 p.m.

**\*\*INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED\*\***  
**\*\*NOMINEES MUST ATTEND THE 2026 ANSA STATE CONVENTION\*\***

Submit via email to: [secretary@arknursingstudents.org](mailto:secretary@arknursingstudents.org)

## Section I - General Information

Type in Black

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_

NSNA Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Section II - School Information**

**ANSA District (1-4):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current School of Nursing:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dean/Director of Nursing Program:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Aid Address (This is where the scholarship will be sent):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Program:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year in School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Expected Graduation Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current GPA (4.0 Scale):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Schools of Nursing and/or Colleges Attended, Type of Degree Program:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Did You Graduate?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Completion:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*All sections must be filled in and completed, any blanks will result in incomplete application\***

### **Section III - Nursing Profession Essay**

Provide a short essay (fewer than 100 words) describing to the Scholarship Committee why you have chosen nursing as your profession.

## **Section IV - Leadership and Organizations**

Include a list of student organizations to which you belong and any positions held within those organizations. Provide any information on projects planned and/or participated in during the past year.

## **Section VI - Letter of Recommendation**

On university or College of Nursing letterhead, have the Dean/Director, SNA Faculty Advisor, or Instructor of your nursing school write a letter of recommendation to the Scholarship Selection Committee on your behalf. Please have them include your scholastic abilities, contributions to your school, SNA program, and/or community projects related to nursing. This should be submitted from the dean/director, SNA advisor, or instructor's e-mail with the corresponding award title and student's name in the subject box.

## **Section VII - Acknowledgement**

I hereby make an application to receive a scholarship administered by the Arkansas Nursing Students' Association. I certify that all statements made herein are true and correct the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification of my application or attachments will disqualify my application. I further understand that a scholarship committee appointed by the ANSA Board of Directors will select the scholarship recipients and the decision made will be final.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Electronic Signature, including date and time, is acceptable)