



Award Information and Application Instructions

Overview

Certification, in many ways, acts as a compass directing a nurse's clinical practice towards nationally accepted standards. Registered nurses who hold the CNOR credential, as well as facilities that support those nurses' certification goals, are subsequently committed to improving patient outcomes and look to certification to measure their mastery of the knowledge it takes to do so.

Thus, CCI developed the TrueNorth Award to recognize those organizations that use CNOR certification as a "true north" to guide their perioperative nursing staff to be lifelong learners, models of competent practice, and advocates for excellence and patient safety.

2017 Winner: [Stamford Hospital, Stamford, CT](#)

2016 Winner: [Doernbecher Children's Hospital, Portland, OR](#)

2015 Winner: [St. Clare Hospital, Lakewood, WA](#)

2014 Winner: [Memorial Hermann The Woodlands, Woodlands, TX](#)

2013 Winner: [Abington Memorial Hospital, Abington, PA](#)

The Award

The TrueNorth Award consists of:

- \$1,500 for a celebratory reception to be held in conjunction with the award presentation.
- A commemorative recognition plaque.
- Five CNOR certification vouchers to be distributed by the winning organization at their discretion within 12 months from the award announcement.
- Onsite visit from the CEO of CCI and/or a member of the CCI Board of Directors who will personally present the TrueNorth Award for Certified Nurses Day.
- Press release and other CCI communication initiatives announcing the TrueNorth winner.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATION APPLICATION

Eligibility: Healthcare organizations that employ CNOR certified nurses, or have certified nurses as members and/or representatives, are eligible to apply for this award. Organizations include but are not limited to:

- Hospitals
- Health systems
- Surgical services departments
- Ambulatory surgery centers
- AORN chapters

A unit or division of a larger organization is eligible to apply. Organizations that employ any member of the CCI Board of Directors or CCI staff are ineligible. Self-nominations are acceptable.

Online Application: Available on March 24, 2017 via the [linked application here](#)

Steps to complete nomination submission:

1. Review application instructions
2. Gather letters of support from both the organization's Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) **and** Director of Surgical Services affirming the organization's commitment to specialty nursing certification *
3. Complete online application

*no other attachments will be considered

Deadline: Nominations must be submitted online by 11:59 pm on November 1, 2017.

Selection Committee: An independent selection committee appointed by the President of the CCI Board of Directors will choose the award recipient.

Winner Announcement: January 2018

Disclaimer: All awards are conferred at the sole discretion of CCI, and CCI reserves the right to substitute awards. Award recipients waive all possible legal claims against CCI arising from the selection of award recipients and the use or receipt of the award. All nominations, including all supporting materials, shall become the property of CCI.

For more information, please contact CCI at (888) 257-2667 or info@cc-institute.org.

About Competency and Credentialing Institute

Competency and Credentialing Institute (CCI) is the governing body administering the CNOR[®] CRNFA[®] CNS-CP[®] and CSSM[®] credentials to perioperative registered nurses. The mission of CCI is to lead competency credentialing that promotes safe, quality patient care and professional development through lifelong learning.

ONLINE APPLICATION INFORMATION

Online Application: Available on March 24, 2017 via the [linked application here](#)

Organization

Organization (department, hospital, etc.)
Corporate Parent Company (if applicable)
Street Address, City, State, Zip Code

Individual Submitting Nomination (point of contact for application)

Name
Organization
Street Address, City, State, Zip Code
Work Phone:
Email Address:

Category 1 - Workforce Statistics (20 points)

Perioperative Nursing Staff

Total FTE perioperative nursing staff includes direct patient care RNs, managers, educators, researchers, and APRNs.

Total number of FTE perioperative nursing staff that hold CNOR or CSSM

A. _____ CNOR or CSSM

Total number of FTE perioperative nursing staff eligible to be certified

B. _____ eligible

Percentage Certified = $A/B \times 100$

C. _____ % certified

Category 2 - Letters of Endorsement (10 points)

Evidence will be in the form of scanned PDF documents submitted as attachments to the application. Suggestion for further detail regarding the material to be covered in each letter is included within the scoring rubric.

1. Letter from CNO that is specific in its content supporting certification in perioperative services
2. Letter from Manager or Director of Surgical Services that is specific in its content supporting certification in perioperative services

Category 3 – Rewards and Recognition (30 points)

Suggestion for further detail regarding the material to be covered in each category is included within the scoring rubric.

Category 3A - Evidence of Recognition – 7 points

A written description that delineates recognition activities for certified nurses. This section is limited to 500 words of text. Text that exceeds the word limit will not be scored.

Category 3B - Organizational Recognition – 7 points

A written description of measures or programs that exist at your facility to support certified nurses. This section is limited to 500 words of text. Text that exceeds the word limit will not be scored.

Category 3C -Perioperative Department Recognition– 7 points

A written description of programs and structures in place to support certified nurses. This section is limited to 500 words of text. Text that exceeds the word limit will not be scored.

Category 3D - Demonstration of Expertise by Certificants – 5 points

A written description of the achievements of certified nurses. This section is limited to 500 words of text. Text that exceeds the word limit will not be scored.

Category 3E – Other Achievements – 4 points

A written description of any other activity related to the promotion of certification or the recognition of certified nurses may be included in this category. This section is limited to 500 words of text. Text that exceeds the word limit will not be scored.

Category 4 – Impact of Certification (40 points)

A written description of how certification has produced positive change within the facility. This description should address the processes, implementation methods, and results achieved as a result of the work of certified nurses. The emphasis is on measurable outcomes. Trends and comparisons to external and internal benchmarks will help to substantiate the achievements.

The emphasis here is on the “So what” of your certification efforts. The intent of this section is to answer the question - How are these certified nurses applying their knowledge and expertise to effect positive change in patient and nursing outcomes? This section is limited to 1000 words.

NOTE: all activities and accomplishments listed in the application must be dated after January 1, 2014.