

“The pursuit of COE designation gave us an opportunity to showcase elements of our school and programs that transcend accreditation requirements, and reflect the spirit of our campus and students.”

Eileen Zungolo, EdD, RN, CNE, FAAN, ANEF
Dean, Duquesne University School of Nursing

“The COE designation has energized our faculty to explore new and challenging opportunities to improve their ways of teaching and to share the results with the nurse educator community. The reciprocal impact is more fully engaged students both in the classroom and clinical who accept the challenge of learning with interest and enthusiasm.”

Marybeth Kelley, EdM, RN, CNE, ANEF
Dean, Trinitas School of Nursing

“Through the COE process, many new leaders have emerged; it’s wonderful to see.”

June Larson, MS, RN, ANEF
Associate Dean, University of South Dakota



**National League
for Nursing**

The Voice for Nursing Education

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recognition

NLN Centers of Excellence in Nursing Education



**Center of Excellence
in Nursing Education**

The NLN Centers of Excellence (COE) in Nursing Education™ program publicly recognizes schools of nursing that set high standards, are committed to continuous quality improvement, and demonstrate sustained, evidence-based, and substantive innovation in one of three selected areas.

What are the COE program goals?

- To recognize schools of nursing committed to the achievement of excellence
- To promote excellence through the application of evidence gleaned from the science of nursing education
- To encourage dialogue among faculty, students, graduates, and clinical partners about excellence in nursing education and how to promote it

What are the benefits of COE designation?

- **Distinction:** NLN Center of Excellence in Nursing Education designation, granted for four academic years, distinguishes your school from other institutions. COE schools may use the designation and logo in their promotional and academic material.
- **Visibility:** Centers of Excellence are featured in and promoted through a number of NLN publications and venues providing national exposure for your school.
- **Engagement:** Sharing recognized successes with nursing colleagues provides the opportunity for schools to serve as models to advance excellence in the nursing education community.

What are the requirements for COE application?

- All NLN member schools of nursing accredited by the NLNAC or CCNE may apply.
- COE-designated schools must be NLN members at the time of application and are required to maintain NLN membership and accreditation throughout the designation cycle.
- Schools with more than one program must show evidence of excellence in all programs since COE designation is awarded to the school of nursing as a whole.
- Schools applying as a system must show evidence of excellence in all programs and degree granting entities and meet the requirements for systems.

How are schools selected?

Designation as an NLN Center of Excellence is determined through evaluation of material submitted by the school as well as through peer review. The applicant's submission must demonstrate excellence and innovation, as evidenced by specific criteria, in one of three selected categories:

- Creating Environments that Enhance Student Learning and Professional Development
- Creating Environments that Promote the Pedagogical Expertise of Faculty
- Creating Environments that Advance the Science of Nursing Education



What is the application timeline?

October 15	Filing fee and <i>Application of Intent to Pursue Designation</i> (which summarizes school's activities related to the category) due.
January – March	Consultant visits the school to guide faculty and highlight strengths in preparation of final application.
May 15	Final application form, filing fee, and final application due.
June	COE Committee meets to examine application materials and make recommendation to the NLN Board of Governors.
July	Applicants are notified.
September	Designated COE schools are announced and honored at the NLN Education Summit.

What does it cost to apply?

Filing Fee	\$250
Consultant Fee	Variable; arrangements made by schools and consultant
Final Application Fee.....	\$2,000

The Centers of Excellence Program is administered by the National League for Nursing. Note that accreditation for schools of nursing is administered by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission.