“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
What are the COE program goals?
- To recognize schools of nursing and health care organizations committed to the achievement of excellence.
- To promote excellence in nursing education through the application of evidence gleaned from the science of nursing education.
- To encourage dialogue among nurses, 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 organization. Centers of Excellence may use the designation and logo in their promotional and academic materials.
- **Visibility**: Centers of Excellence are featured in and promoted through a number of NLN publications and venues providing national exposure.
- **Engagement**: Sharing recognized successes with colleagues provides the opportunity to serve as models to advance excellence in the nursing education community.

What are the requirements for COE application?
- Centers of Excellence must be NLN members at the time of application and are required to maintain NLN membership and the appropriate 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 and organizations applying as a system must show evidence of excellence in all programs and degree granting entities, or all hospitals, and meet the requirements for systems.

How are applicants selected?
Designation as an NLN Center of Excellence is determined through evaluation of material submitted by the applicant as well as through peer review. The submission must demonstrate excellence and innovation, as evidenced by specific criteria, in the selected category.

For Schools of Nursing:
- 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

For Health Care Organizations:
- Creating Workplace Environments that Promote Academic Progression of Nurses

What is the application timeline?
- **October 15**: Filing fee and Application of Intent to Pursue Designation (summary of activities related to the category) due.
- **January – March**: Consultant visits to guide applicant and highlight strengths in preparation of final application.
- **May 15**: Final application form, filing fee, and final application due.
- **June**: COE review panel meets to examine application materials and make recommendation to the NLN Board of Governors.
- **July**: Applicants are notified of the outcome.
- **August**: Centers of Excellence are announced.
- **September**: COEs are honored at the NLN Education Summit at the NLN Education Summit.

What does it cost to apply?
- **Filing Fee**: $250
- **Consultant Fee**: Variable; arrangements made by applicant and consultant
- **Final Application Fee**: $2,000

Details on all requirements and criteria can be found on the NLN website at www.nln.org/recognitionprograms