



Academy of Nursing Education Handbook Honorary Application

(Last updated: August 16, 2025)

Table of Contents

About the Academy of Nursing Education	3
Comparison of Application Types	4
Eligibility Criteria	5
Application Details	6-7
Application Timeline and Fees	8

About the Academy

The Academy of Nursing Education is an innovative program created to call attention to the exceptional work of those who are transforming nursing education.

History:

The NLN Academy of Nursing Education was created in 2007 to recognize and capitalize on the wisdom of outstanding individuals who have made enduring and substantial contributions to nursing education. There are currently more than 300 fellows in the Academy of Nursing Education.

Purpose:

The NLN Academy of Nursing Education fosters excellence in nursing education by recognizing and capitalizing on the wisdom of outstanding individuals in and outside the profession who have contributed to nursing education in a way that is substantive, enduring, and impactful. Fellows are expected to provide visionary leadership in nursing education and in the Academy, and to support the vision of the National League for Nursing.

Transform Nursing Education

Individuals inducted as fellows form a distinguished national and international network of educators whose accomplishments beyond their employment expectations are:

- a. Acknowledged for innovative teaching and learning strategies, nursing education research, faculty development, academic leadership, promotion of public policy that advances nursing education and collaborative educational practice with community partners.
- b. Recognized for their expertise in nursing education and are invaluable assets to the nursing education community.
- c. Dedicated to transforming nursing and nursing education by influencing change, advancing excellence in nursing education, and empowering others to achieve success as nurse educators within and external to one's work role and position.

Academy Review Panel

All Academy applications are thoroughly reviewed by a panel of peers appointed by the NLN Chair. A candidate for review must be selected by an affirmative vote of 51 percent of the review panel members present and voting. Following the Academy Review Panel meeting, the NLN Board of Governors reviews and votes on all recommendations before candidates are notified of the panel's decision. All decisions made by the review panel and NLN Board of Governors are final.

Comparison of Academy Application Types

	REGULAR	RETIRED ¹	HONORARY
NLN MEMBERSHIP	YES	YES	NO
ARE YOU A NURSE?	YES	YES	NO
WHO APPLIES?	SELF	SELF OR NOMINATOR	NOMINATOR
WRITTEN CONSENT TO APPLY	NO	YES	YES
NUMBER OF NOMINATOR STATEMENTS REQUIRED (ONE MUST BE FROM A CURRENT ANEF)	2	2	3
MUST HAVE MADE SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO NURSING EDUCATION	YES	YES	YES (TO NURSING OR THE NLN)
MUST HAVE MADE ENDURING CONTRIBUTIONS TO NURSING EDUCATION	YES	YES	NO
MUST PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF PLANS TO CONTINUE CONTRIBUTING TO THE ACADEMY	YES	NO	NO
APPLICATION DEADLINE	FEB 13	FEB 13	FEB 13
APPLICATION FEES	\$300	\$100	\$300
ANNUAL DUES	\$150	\$100**	WAIVED

¹To be considered retired, the candidate must not have been employed in any capacity for at least three years. If the candidate has not been retired for three years, they must apply as a regular fellow.

* Current NLN Board of Governors, NLN Foundation Board of Trustees, CNEA Board of Commissioners, NLN Certification Board of Commissioners, Academy Review Panel members, and NLN staff may not be used as a nominator.

Honorary Fellow Eligibility Criteria

Honorary fellows in the NLN Academy of Nursing Education are non-nurse individuals who have made substantial contributions to nursing, nursing education, or to the NLN. A candidate for honorary fellowship in the Academy of Nursing Education:

- Must be a non-nurse. The candidate does not have a nursing degree or a nursing license. No exceptions.

Made substantial contributions to nursing, nursing education, or to the NLN.

- Must be nominated by three (3) individuals, at least one of whom is a current fellow in the Academy of Nursing Education.
- Cannot be self-nominated.
- Must consent in writing to the nomination.
- Is not expected to participate in the Academy community.
- Is not required to hold NLN membership.

Honorary fellows are entitled to use the ANEF credential and receive lifetime honorary fellowship in the Academy.

Honorary Fellow Application Details

Honorary fellows need to be nominated by three people. At least one of the nominators must be a current fellow in the Academy of Nursing Education.

NOTE: Current NLN Board of Governors, NLN Foundation Board of Trustees, CNEA Board of Commissioners, NLN Certification Board of Commissioners, Academy Review Panel members, and NLN staff may not be used as nominators.

Completed applications for honorary Academy fellowship must be submitted online on, or before, February 13. An application is considered to be complete only if all nominator statements and CV meet the requirements below and payment is submitted before the deadline. No applications will be accepted by mail or email. For your convenience, the information required for the online application is below.

- Online Nomination Form: completed by the primary nominator.
- Nominator Statement (1): The lead sentence in this statement should begin with "[insert candidate's name] primary contributions to [nursing, nursing education, or the NLN] are..." and describe how the candidate has made substantial and enduring contributions that have had a significant impact on nursing, nursing education, or the NLN. Provide specific examples. (600 words maximum)
- Nominator Statements (2 and 3): Two secondary nominator statements are required for the candidate for a total of three separate nominators. The primary nominator cannot write one of the additional nominator statements for the candidate. If the nominator submitting the application is not an NLN Academy of Nursing Education Fellow, one of the two individuals submitting nominator statements must be.

Nominator Statements:

The second and third nominator statements should corroborate the primary nominator's statement without repeating examples and content already included. The statements should include examples of the candidate's substantial work in relation to nursing, nursing education, or to the NLN; and provide evidence that the candidate's body of work has had an impact. Questions about the specific nominator statements being prepared should be directed to the primary nominator.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE REQUIREMENTS BELOW WILL RESULT IN A DISQUALIFIED APPLICATION.

Nominator statement requirements:

- Describe the nominator's association with the candidate.
- Address the candidate's qualifications for honorary fellowship.
- Include evidence of the candidate's substantial contributions to nursing, nursing education, or to the NLN.
- Include comments on how the candidate's contributions have had an impact on nursing, nursing education, or the NLN.
- Formatting:
 - Addressed to "Academy of Nursing Education Review Panel Members"
 - 500-word limit
 - On formal letterhead
 - Signed by the writer
 - Submitted in PDF form

- Include writer's name, credentials, affiliation, and contact information
- NOTE: Current NLN Board of Governors, NLN Foundation Board of Trustees, CNEA Board of Commissioners, NLN Certification Board of Commissioners, Academy Review Panel members, and NLN staff may not be used as a nominator.

Curriculum Vitae:

A current curriculum vitae/resume for the candidate is required. The CV should substantiate the candidate's contribution to nursing, nursing education, or the NLN, and emphasize the candidate's accomplishments. Please note hyperlinks will not be viewed.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE REQUIREMENTS BELOW WILL RESULT IN A DISQUALIFIED APPLICATION.

Curriculum Vitae Requirements:

- Include the following in the candidate's CV:
 - a. Membership in professional organizations
 - b. Involvement in professional initiatives, groups, service on committee, panels, and task groups – NOTE: if describing group-related work at the regional, state, and national level, be specific regarding your role and contributions to the group
 - c. Articles published (online or in print) **as of date of application submission**
 - d. Funded grants received – clearly identify your role in the grants (PI, co-PI, data collector, statistician, etc.) and the grant's contribution to nursing
 - e. Presentations/lectures/workshops (given as of application submission)
 - f. Books published as of date of application submission
 - g. Awards and honors received
 - h. Consultations which support personal statement
 - i. Any related community, state, regional, national, or international appointments or evidence that indicates that peers consider you an expert who has and will continue to contribute to the nursing education and/or science of nursing
 - j. Full dates for all entries including, but not limited to, articles, funded grants, presentations, books, awards, consultations, appointments
- Do **not** include the following in your CV:
 - a. Unpublished articles, including articles accepted for publication but have not yet been published
 - b. Unpublished books, including books accepted for publication but not have not yet been published
 - c. Unfunded grants
 - d. Awards and honors for which you were nominated but did not receive
 - e. Presentations that have not yet been presented or delivered
- Formatting:
 - 6-page limit
 - Times New Roman 11 pt. font
 - 1-inch margins
 - APA citations for publications (include DOI# when applicable)
 - Submitted in PDF form

Overall Application:

Incomplete or late nominations will not be reviewed. It is the responsibility of the nominator to ensure that all documents and associated fees are included in the applications. The non-refundable fee will not be returned for incomplete submissions, and a new fee will be required

for future submission.

Timeline for the Academy Application Cycle

February	Applications must be submitted online to the NLN by 11:59 pm (EST) on February 13.
March	Applications and review/recommendation forms will be sent to Review Panel.
April-May	Review Panel meets to discuss all applications. Recommendations for new fellows sent to NLN Board of Governors
May-June	NLN Board of Governors will act on recommendations regarding new fellows.
June-July	All candidates notified of the outcome of the review process.
September	New fellows will be inducted at the NLN's annual Education Summit. A dedicated Academy luncheon is offered for fellows attending the Summit.

Fees

Honorary fellows are not required to maintain membership in the NLN.

Honorary Fellows

Academy application fee	\$300
Annual Academy fellowship dues	Waived

Payment:

Payment instructions are included on the online form. The application fee can be paid online with credit/debit card, or you can send a check. Please make check payable to National League for Nursing, and mailed to NLN, Attn: Recognition Programs, 2600 Virginia Ave NW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20037.