

2012 Clinical Excellence in Nursing Award

To recognize and support clinical nursing excellence by a registered nurse who works directly with heart failure (HF) patients, their families, and other nurses providing HF services.

Deadline for submission: Monday, April, 30, 2012

Notification to Award Winner: July 2012

Award:

Individual selected to receive this award will receive \$1,500 and complimentary registration to the 2012 HFSA Annual Scientific Meeting. The award will be presented at the 2012 HFSA Annual Scientific Meeting.

Eligibility:

Candidates must be:

- A registered nurse who works directly with HF patients and their families
- Must be an HFSA member continuously since January 2010.

HFSA Nursing Committee members and past winners are not eligible; however previous applicants can reapply (new application is required). Individuals cannot apply for Clinical Excellence in Nursing, and Nursing Research Award in the same year.

Nomination Process: Candidates can either self-nominate or be nominated by a colleague.

Evaluation Criteria:

Candidates will be evaluated in the following two areas:

1. Excellence in HF clinical practice
2. Special achievements in HF clinical practice or contributions to the field of HF

1. Excellence in HF clinical practice

The candidate must demonstrate delivery of outstanding patient care—at any point in the lifespan, pediatric through end of life—that is beyond standard job requirements in one or more of the following areas:

- HF program development
- Risk assessment (part of a program or stand-alone)
- Case management
- Patient and family counseling
- Acute care delivery, including emergency care, critical care, nursing floor care, and non-traditional services, such as sub-acute care or short-stay-unit care
- Patient and family education
- Outpatient care delivery, including home care, telemanagement, or hospice/palliative care
- Clinical nursing research

2. Special achievements in HF clinical practice or contributions to the field of HF

The candidate must document special achievements or contributions to the clinical practice in HF in one or more of the following areas:

A) The improvement of professional performance

- Shows evidence of systematically evaluating the quality and effectiveness of HF nursing practice in an attempt to move that practice forward
- Demonstrates the use of outcome management techniques to improve practice
- Participates in continuous quality improvement
- Shows evidence of implementing changes that improve practice
- Provides rationale for change and describes outcomes of change

B) The professional development of peers, colleagues, and others

- Develops new or unique projects or forums that contribute to the growth and development of others, such as an inpatient HF guideline to encourage evidence-based practice
- Implements symposia, workshops, or innovative educational programs about the care of patients with HF
- Mentors and precepts students, peers, or others
- Speaks about HF and HF care in the classroom or continuing education setting locally, regionally, or nationally
- Develops posters or other documents that promote knowledge and communication about HF among peers
- Publishes about clinical practice in HF in peer-reviewed journals, books, or newsletters

C) Ethical decision making and client advocacy

- Serves on an institutional ethics committee
- Participates in nursing or multidisciplinary ethics rounds
- Develops or promotes appropriate palliative care or end-of-life care for clients

D) Collaboration in the provision of safe, effective, and cost-conscious care

- Documents efforts to provide quality cost-effective care
- Documents efforts to meet safety standards for care of the HF patient
- Incorporates patient input and perspective into the development of care plan, discharge plan, patient self-reporting materials, and other education
- Shows other evidence of incorporating patients, significant others, and other healthcare providers into care planning process

E) Scholarship in HF nursing practice

- Receives scholarships or grants for education or clinical research, or clinical activities
- Receives awards recognizing contributions to the field of HF
- Provides consultation to other institutions or companies supporting HF care
- Serves as a non-salaried clinical faculty member in a school of nursing

Submission Requirements

Self-Nominees:

3. Cover letter including contact information of nominee (name, address, fax, phone, e-mail).
4. One-page detailed summary of accomplishments should address each of the two evaluation criteria (excellence in clinical practice and at least one of the additional criteria). Summary to be single spaced, 1-inch margins, and not to exceed one page for each criterion.
5. CV or resumé
6. Two letters of support from colleagues (maximum length 2 pages)

Nominated by a colleague:

1. Cover letter from nominator including contact information of nominee (name, address, fax, phone, e-mail).
2. One-page detailed summary of accomplishments should address each of the two evaluation criteria (excellence in clinical practice and at least one of the additional criteria). Summary to be single spaced, 1-inch margins, and not to exceed one page for each criterion.
3. Second letter of support from another individual (maximum length 2 pages)
4. Nominee CV or resumé

Submit electronically to info@hfsa.org by Monday, April 30, 2012.

NOTE: Please make sure all submission requirements are included in the packet submitted. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Receipt date: Monday, April 30, 2012.

NOTE: Those not selected will have their applications remain active for two years. During that time, if the submitter feels updated information would strengthen the application, additional information can be submitted for the application on file.

Heart Failure Society of America

Court International Suite 240 South
2550 University Avenue West
St. Paul, MN 55114

Telephone: 651-642-1633