

Stellar School Chapter Recognition Program



The National Student Nurses' Association invites constituent school chapters to apply for the 2026-2027 Stellar School Chapter Recognition Program or renew their status (Five Year Renewal). The Stellar School Chapter Recognition Program, began in 2009-2010, recognizes NSNA school chapters for their ongoing involvement in NSNA and their commitment to shared governance and professional development.

Criteria: *A point system has been developed, and range of points will be awarded depending on how well applicants meet the specific criteria categories below. Not all schools will meet all of the categories, and some will be stronger in some areas than in other areas.*

Important Instructions for Electronic Submissions:

Complete the online application (see link below). Please provide information and attach supporting documentation to explain how your program meets each Criteria Category for the NSNA Stellar School Chapter Recognition Program. If your program does not currently meet one of the Criteria Category sections, please let us know. Please indicate the Criteria Category number in all supporting documentation (i.e. include Criteria Category for each file name and attach electronically to your application).

The online application must be received by February 10, 2027

NSNA Stellar School Chapter Recognition Program Application

<https://form.jotform.com/50404685468966>

Criteria Category I: Official Constituency Status and State Chapter Leadership Participation	
The school chapter has maintained continuous NSNA Official Constituency status for the past five years.	Supporting documentation. Please include Category I in file names of attachments) Please contact NSNA if you do not have this information. (NSNA will verify constituency and delegates)
Category I 1. The school chapter President (or student representative) participated as a delegate at the NSNA Convention for the past five years.	Name of School Chapter NSNA Delegate 2026: 2025: 2024: 2023: 2022:
2. Is your school chapter involved at the state level? Do your students serve on the state board?	Yes No Name of student representative(s) and position(s).
2a. Did your school chapter send delegates to the state convention? How many students attended the state convention (State House of Delegates and State Annual Membership Meeting)?	Yes No
2b. Did the school chapter President (or student representative) participated as a delegate at the state convention for the past five years.	Name of State Delegate If your state convention was cancelled, please note it below. 2026 Convention 2025 Convention 2024 Convention 2023 Convention 2022 Convention

3. The school chapter Advisor(s) attended either the NSNA Convention or MidYear Conference each of the past five years.	Name Faculty Advisor (name one each year) 2026 MidYear or 2025 Convention 2025 MidYear or 2024 Convention 2024 MidYear or 2023 Convention 2023 MidYear or 2022 Convention 2022 MidYear or 2021 Convention
Criteria Category II: Dean/Director/Chair and Faculty Support of Professional Development of Students through NSNA	
The Dean/Chair/Director and Faculty demonstrate support for student involvement in NSNA and are committed to their professional development, as evidenced by:	Note: A letter of support of professional development of students through NSNA from the Dean/Director/Chair must be included with the application. Describe supporting documentation (e.g. Provide Mission of the nursing program and list other supporting documents attached to support this category. Please list Category II in file names)
Category II 1. NSNA is included in leadership and management, trends and issues, or similar professional courses that address professional involvement in nursing organizations;	Name of Course(s) and describe objectives that encourage involvement in NSNA. Describe assignments related to NSNA participation or involvement. <i>Provide a copy of each course syllabi and related objectives with supporting documentation.</i>
2. Chapter leaders are recognized at the nursing program commencement ceremony for their leadership and contribution to chapter success;	Describe recognition of NSNA leadership development and chapter involvement at commencement or pinning/department ceremonies during graduation. <i>Provide a copy of ceremony program listing NSNA school chapter involvement recognition or award(s) as supporting documentation.</i>
3. Completion of the Leadership University Treasurer's Certificate Program by the school chapter Treasurer	Name of Treasurer Date of Certificate Completion
4. Completion by school chapter Advisor(s) of the NSNA Leadership University Consultants and Advisors Program.	Name of School Advisor(s) Date of Certificate Completion

NSNA Consultants and Advisors can now complete this requirement by attending the NSNA Leadership U Program sessions at the NSNA MidYear Conference and Annual Convention Meetings.	
5. Nursing student representation is demonstrated within campus committees, if feasible;	Describe how student representation is demonstrated on committees. <i>Provide a list of committee(s) and student roles with supporting documentation.</i>
6. The NSNA Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities, Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct and Interpretive Statements, Code of Professional Conduct are available to students and, if feasible, included in the student handbook.	Describe how NSNA Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities and the NSNA Code of Conduct documents are made available to students in the program. <i>Provide a link to the Student Handbook with supporting documentation, if applicable.</i>
Criteria Category III: Facilitating Professional Development and Participation in NSNA	
Faculty support and encourage students to participate in their state Convention, the NSNA MidYear Conference, and NSNA Convention and House of Delegates through role modeling and facilitating involvement, including:	Describe supporting documentation (e.g. Provide a list of documents such as policies or alternate assignment agreements attached to support this category. Please include Category III in the file names of attachments.)
Criteria III	
1. Allowing students alternate clinical assignments, if feasible, to attend state and/or national NSNA events;	Describe processes available in the program to allow student attendance at NSNA events, while meeting clinical assignments.
2. Allowing students alternate test dates, if feasible, to attend state and/or national NSNA events;	Describe processes available in the program to allow student attendance at NSNA events, while meeting classroom assignments (including exams).
3. Flexibility in meeting course objectives through alternate assignments related to course content that can be acquired at the national meeting and then brought back, (e.g. presented to the class);	Describe additional ways the program allows students alternate assignments to meet curriculum objectives through attendance at the NSNA MidYear Conference and/or NSNA Annual Convention.

4. Faculty role model support for professional socialization through their own involvement in a professional nursing organization(s) and community organization(s) (i.e. NLN, ANA, or specialty nursing organizations; and are active in a community service organization).	Describe how faculty in role model professional socialization and involvement in nursing and community organizations.
Criteria Category IV: NSNA Program Involvement and Service Learning	
Faculty and students in the school chapter demonstrate support of involvement in the state level and in NSNA such as Population Global Health Committee, Breakthrough to Nursing Committee, Image of Nursing Committee, Health Policy and Advocacy Committee, Ethics and Governance Committee, Membership, and other state/national committee projects and service-learning activities sponsored by the chapter, as evidenced by:	Describe supporting documentation (e.g. Provide a list of documents such as programs and project summaries (e.g. descriptions, budgets, and evaluations, and any state or NSNA awards) that are attached to support this category. Please include Category IV in the file names of these attachments.)
Category IV 1. Chapter will have submitted award applications for at least two categories of the NSNA award categories over the past five years;	First Submission Name of Project: Program Award Category (e. g., Population Global Health, etc) Date Submitted Brief description of project Second Submission Name of Project: Program Award Category (e. g., Population Global Health, etc) Date Submitted Brief description of project
Category IV 2. Faculty supports NSNA Leadership University by formally recognizing student involvement in NSNA by offering academic recognition for involvement.	Describe policies and objectives utilized in the program to formally recognize student involvement in NSNA by offering academic recognition for involvement through NSNA Leadership University.

	<i>Attach supporting documents demonstrating how the program meets this criteria (e.g. independent study credit; dedicated Leadership University course; academic or clinical points).</i>
Criteria Category V: Support of NSNA Membership	
Faculty is committed to teaching nursing students to embrace professionalism through participation in professional organizations. The Dean/Chair/Director of the program and Faculty encourage and empower that professionalism and leadership development for nursing students begins with membership in NSNA, as evidenced by:	Describe supporting documentation (e.g. Provide a list of documents that are attached to support this category). Please include Category V in the file names of these attachments.)
Category V 1. Support is demonstrated for recruiting new members into NSNA;	Describe how support is demonstrated for recruiting new NSNA members in the program: <i>Attach supporting documentation for these examples, as needed.</i>
2. School is an NSNA Agency Sustaining Member (applicant will be awarded “bonus points” for this level of demonstrated commitment to NSNA)	Agency Sustaining Membership First Issue Date Most Recent Issue/Renewal Date Would you like to receive Agency Sustaining Membership?
Category V 3. Faculty advisor to the NSNA school chapter are individual NSNA sustaining member (applicant will be awarded “bonus points” for this level of demonstrated commitment to NSNA).	Faculty Advisor and Faculty Names and Last Renewal Date for each NSNA Sustaining Individual member on faculty.
4. School seeks to have all students participate in NSNA membership (e.g. Total School membership, expectation and encouragement for all students in the nursing program to join and participate in NSNA leadership development at the local, state, and/or national level).	Program Supports Total School Membership Plan (TSMP) Date Implemented Please explain how Total School Membership or membership recruitment to encourage all nursing students to join NSNA is implemented in the program.

	<i>Attach any documentation of explanation or instructions provided students in the program about NSNA membership.</i> If you are not offering total school membership in the program, please explain reasons for not participating at this time. Would you like to receive Total School Membership Plan information?
5. School Chapter works with the nursing program and faculty to offer career counseling and mentoring to students as they prepare for graduation and leadership roles in nursing practice and nursing education after graduation in the nursing program.	School Chapter and Program offers Career Counseling and Mentoring to nursing students as they prepare for graduation. Please describe the career counseling and mentoring program(s) coordinated through the school chapter, Dean/Director/Chair, faculty and the college/university to assist graduates with career placement and life-long learning.

Other Areas of NSNA Involvement in the program that the applicant would like the Selection Committee to consider.
Please explain and provide supporting documentation, marking the file Other Criteria.