

RNFOO Nurses in Practice Special Interest Awards



The 2026 RNFOO Nurses in Practice Awards include a collection of awards funded through various sources. Some are sponsored by partner organizations; other are funded through gifts made to RNFOO. For each of these awards, applicants will be asked for statements demonstrating that their goals are in line with the purpose of the award. There is a \$35 application fee for these awards, to help cover the costs of administering this program.

The **DNIG Special Projects in Diabetes Nursing Award** will provide an opportunity to an RN who wishes to complete a special project focusing on diabetes. The applicant must

- have proof of significant interest in diabetes research, education, and care
- be currently practicing, or intending to practice, in the field
- identify administrative support for the project
- be a member of the RNAO Diabetes Nursing Interest Group for at least one year
- submit a project proposal, including budget

Applicants who have received a previous award from DNIG are not eligible for this award.

The value of this award is \$1,000.

The **Lynn Kirkwood Research Award** will support a Nurse Practitioner pursuing graduate studies and conducting research focused on the role and/or domains of practice for Nurse Practitioners. Applicants must submit a completed research proposal that has been submitted for ethics approval.

The value of this award is \$3,000

The **MHNIG Special Project Awards** provides funding for an RN practicing in a mental health setting looking to complete a special project in their workplace. This could include a quality improvement initiative, addressing a gap in service, or overcoming a barrier where it's hard to obtain institutional funding. Examples may involve purchasing supplies for new or enhanced client-related interventions, a piece of equipment or resource to streamline care delivery, or materials for a new therapeutic group program.

Applicants must:

- submit a project proposal, including budget and evaluation plan
- be currently practicing in an inpatient or outpatient mental health setting
- identify leadership support for the project in their setting
- be a member of the RNAO Mental Health Nursing Interest Group for at least one year
- be willing to share the results of their project in a presentation to MHNIG members

Applicants who have received a previous award from MHNIG are not eligible for this award (does not include scholarships).

Two awards offered: one prioritizing inpatient areas and one for outpatient areas.

The value of this award is \$500

The **PCNIG Dr. Christine Newman Memorial Award** will support a nurse a nurse enrolled in CNA certification in hospice palliative care (Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Nursing Certification CHPCN) or in a course recognized as preparation for certification, to further their commitment to the care of persons and their families facing a diagnosis that would benefit from a palliative care approach. Preference will be given to those who are members of the PCNIG*.

Applicants must provide proof of enrollment in a course, or payment of the certification exam fee in 2025.

The value of this award is \$1,000.

**If the selected applicant is not a member of PCNIG, part of scholarship will be used to secure their membership.*

The **WeRPN Post PN Program Award** will support a Registered Practical Nurse pursuing ongoing education (Continuing Education or RPN to RN Bridging Program) that will enhance patient care and patient outcomes. Applicants need not be enrolled in a degree program. Applicants must demonstrate a patient-centred approach to care.

Applicants enrolled in an RPN to RN program, or an ongoing continuing education course will need to provide proof of enrollment in the current year (2026).

Applicants registered for a continuing education event (ie conference), must provide receipts for conference registration, accommodation, and travel (least expensive travel option).

The event must take place with the 2026 calendar year.

The value of this award is \$1,000 for applicants in an RPN to RN program. For applicants taking continuing education, the value of the award is up to \$1,000. (Amount will be determined by receipts submitted.)