# 2027 MNA AWARDS CRITERIA

***All MNA members are eligible to receive any award for which they are nominated and for which they are qualified. Agency Fee Payers are not eligible.**

**MNA staff are not eligible for awards until they have been separated from their positions for at least one year.**

1. **State how nominee meets each award criterion. Provide specific examples.**

**MNA Bargaining Unit Rookie of the Year Award** recognizes a Collective Bargaining Unit member who has been a member of the bargaining unit and licensed as a nurse or healthcare professional for 5 or less years and has made a significant contribution to the professional, economic and general welfare of a strong and unified bargaining unit.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. MNA member with current professional licensure in Massachusetts and full MNA Collective Bargaining Unit membership.
b. Professionally licensed
c. Has been a member of the bargaining unit for five or less years.
d. Exhibits strong commitment to the Collective Bargaining Unit by consistently facilitating a solid and unified bargaining unit.
e. Supports the goals of the Collective Bargaining Unit to achieve the goals of the unit
f. Is a positive professional role model.
g. Demonstrates dedication and persistence over time to the goals of his/her unit.
h. Demonstrates perseverance despite risk of negative ramifications from supervisory staff.

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**MNA Excellence in Clinical Practice Award** recognizes a member who demonstrates an outstanding performance in clinical practice. This award publicly acknowledges the essential contributions that nurses and healthcare professionals across all practice settings make to the health care of our society.

**Information to support this nomination**: ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. Functions as role model for excellence in clinical practice.
b. Clinical practice comprises 50% or more of practice.
c. Contributes innovative, progressive ideas.
d. Acts as a change agent to improve and enhance clinical practice.
e. Demonstrates a commitment to the development of professional practice , e.g., participation in professional organizations, committee work, community work and/or education programs.
f. Acts as preceptor for nursing or healthcare students or for new staff members.
g. Advocates for the nursing or healthcare profession.
h. Contributes significantly to the professional, economic, and general welfare of healthcare ,

**Judith Shindul Rothschild Leadership Award** recognizes an MNA member who speaks with a strong voice for the nursing/ healthcare community at the state and/or national level.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. A leader who alerts and rallies the nursing community when their professional rights are threatened.
b. A leader who works toward an equitable health care system.
c. A leader who bring forth solutions to the concerns of nurses.
d. A highly respected and proven leader of the Nursing / Healthcare Community.
    - Demonstrates leadership in bringing awareness of issues or problems to colleagues.
    - Leads in addressing inequalities in the health care system through publication, research and/or serving as a spokesperson.
    - Demonstrates an ability to recognize and evaluate important causes and assists in bringing forth effective solutions.

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**MNA Education Award** recognizes a member who is a nurse or healthcare educator and who has made
significant contributions to professional education, continuing education or staff development.

**Information to support this nomination:**

- Contributes to staff development/continuing education in one or more of the following ways:

***Continuing Education/Staff Development: (address each criterion separately)***

a. Demonstrates a positive image of the nurse or healthcare professional educator within his or her educational or clinical setting by participation on committees, as a role model to students, as a support and mentor to peers, and as an example of committed leadership to collaborating professionals.
b. Demonstrates creativity and innovation in the assessment of educational needs of clinicians and collaborating professionals; identifies and utilizes a variety of resources to develop and/or present effective instructional materials and programs; evaluates effectiveness of education to improve clinical practice.
c. Participates in research to improve clinical practice at the local, state or national level; assists in the dissemination of evidence in the clinical area; develops and/or participates in activities to extend clinical knowledge to collaborating professionals.
d. Exhibits a strong commitment to the ethical practice of nursing or healthcare professions and helps to support the professional identity of students and peers consistently.
e. Supports and furthers the vision of clinical education and MNA as a force for good and the promotion of justice in society.

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**MNA Research Award** recognizes a member or group of members who have effectively conducted or utilized research in their practice.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. Identifies a part of clinical practice not founded on research or requires further research.
b. Critically reviews research related to that practice.
c. Develops a new way to give clinical care based on the research outcomes.
d. Evaluates the effect of the new process for giving care.
e. Has completed research beneficial to the nursing and/or healthcare professions.
f. Has communicated research to the nursing and healthcare community through refereed journal publications.
g. Demonstrates a developing contribution to nursing or healthcare research.

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**Elaine Cooney Labor Relations Award** recognizes a Collective Bargaining Unit member who has made a significant contribution to the professional, economic and general welfare of nursing or healthcare professionals.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. MNA member with current license to practice in Massachusetts and full MNA Collective Bargaining Unit membership.
b. Exhibits strong commitment to the Collective Bargaining Unit by serving on local committees (describe).
c. Supports the Collective Bargaining Unit.
d. Is a positive, professional role model.
e. Demonstrates leadership skills.

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**The MNA Kathryn McGinn Cutler Advocate for Health and Safety Award** recognizes an individual or group that has performed outstanding service for the betterment of health and safety for the protection of nurses and other health care workers. This award is not restricted to MNA members.

**Information to Support This Nomination**: ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. Demonstrates a pioneering and/or groundbreaking approach to protecting the health and safety of nurses and other health care workers.
b. Demonstrates courage, knowledge and/or activism by promoting or implementing a health and safety issue or concern.
c. Initiates effective change in the system that affects health and safety in the work environment utilizing the hierarchy of controls for health and safety that include elimination of the hazard, substitution of a safer product or process, engineering controls that eliminate the exposure or the use of personal protective equipment.
d. Involves a multidisciplinary approach to problem solving and change.

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**MNA Advocate for Nursing and Healthcare Professionals Award** recognizes the contributions of an individual, who is not a nurse or healthcare professional, to nurses and/or healthcare professionals and health professions .

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. Utilizes the public media, literature, legislation, community or other activities in support of nurses and/or healthcare professionals.
b. Advocates for nurses/ healthcare professionals and/or the nursing / healthcare profession.

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**MNA Human Needs Service Award** recognizes an individual (or group) who has performed outstanding services based on human need, with respect for human dignity, unrestricted by consideration of nationality, race, creed, color, or status. This award is not restricted to MNA members.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. Has performed outstanding services based on the human need. (Specify and describe services, population, and settings.)
b. Has shown respect for human dignity, unrestricted by consideration of nationality, race, creed, color or status.
c. Has effected significant change in the human condition.

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**MNA Image of the Professional Nurse Award** recognizes a member who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in enhancing the image of the professional nurse in the community.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. Demonstrates leadership through one or more of the following: projects, publications, media, advocacy, role modeling/mentorship. Give specific examples.
b. Enhances the image of the professional nurse in the community, e.g., at the local, state or national level.
c. Demonstrates advocacy within the bargaining unit.
d. Exhibits a strong commitment to the Collective Bargaining Unit.

**MNA Image of the Professional Healthcare Provider Award** recognizes a member who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in enhancing the image of the healthcare professional in the community.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

e. Demonstrates leadership through one or more of the following: projects, publications, media, advocacy, role modeling/mentorship. Give specific examples.
f. Enhances the image of the healthcare professional in the community, e.g., at the local, state or national level.

g. Demonstrates advocacy within the bargaining unit.
Exhibits a strong commitment to the Collective Bargaining Unit.

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**Doris Gagne Addictions Nursing Award** recognizes a nurse or other healthcare provider who embodies Doris Gagne's values of humanity and compassion, and who demonstrates outstanding leadership in the field of addictions.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. MNA member with current license to practice in Massachusetts or for non-MNA member leaders in the field of addictions.
b. Exhibits strong commitment to the field of Addictions treatment.
c. Models the ethical principles of beneficence, non-maleficence, veracity and fidelity; treats with kindness, compassion, and understanding individuals with substance use disorder.
d. Demonstrates leadership in the recognition of substance abuse as a problem that may affect caregiving professionals; encourages and assists in the accessing of treatment by affected professionals; supports the safe return to practice of those in recovery.
e. Promotes, develops, conducts, or participates in the dissemination of research and knowledge that improves the quality of care for those with substance use disorder.
f. Serves as a role model and mentor for nurses and collaborating professionals in the field of Addiction treatment.

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**Retired MNA Member Award** recognizes a retired MNA member who continues to make a significant contribution to the MNA and the patient community through volunteerism and advocacy. ***MNA staff are not eligible for this award until they have been separated from their position for at least one year.***

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. Retired MNA member.
b. Contributes to the goals of the MNA through continued participation.
c. Serves as a patient advocate in the community through health-related volunteer work in the community and advocacy on behalf of nurses and patients.

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**MNA Mentor Award**: recognizes an MNA member who mentors the newer nurse or healthcare professional (new to his/her profession or new to an area of practice) through professional practice, activism, and fostering confidence.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. Establishes a relationship with the new professional and provides clinical information, education, and acts as a guide in practice development.
b. Assists the mentee to identify and develop clinical boundaries through appropriate implementation of HIPAA, policies and procedures.
c. Functions as a resource for clinical practice and professional growth, patient advocacy, creating a healthy and safe practice environment.
d. Listens carefully in a welcoming and non-judgmental manner.

e. Fosters confidence and interdisciplinary collaboration.
f. Models clinical professionalism and excellence in practice.
g. Encourages and models activism within the bargaining unit and/or MNA.

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**Eileen Norton Labor Activist Award**: Eileen Norton is a joyful crusader for the rights of workers to fair and just treatment, safe environments, and the protection of collective action. This award recognizes an individual or group that promotes and advances the ideals of labor; these may be an MNA member(s) or members/leaders of other labor organizations.

**Information to support this nomination:** ***(address each criterion separately)***

a. Participates in organizing workers for their welfare and the benefits of collective bargaining.
b. Supports and participates in the direct labor actions of the MNA.
c. Supports and participates in the direct labor actions of collaborating labor unions and social justice organizations.
d. Uses creativity and energy to develop and promote campaigns that further the goals of labor programs.
e. Serves as a role model to new labor activists and veterans alike in the ongoing struggle for worker rights.
f. Works at the local, state, national, or global level to realize organized labor's role as a force for good in society; works to contribute solutions that bring about social justice and improvement of the lives of all people.

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**MNA Solidarity Award:** The MNA Solidarity recognizes a bargaining unit or group of nurses/ healthcare professionals who have responded with outstanding courage, cohesiveness, and determination to a crisis in the workplace or their community.

**Information to support this nomination: (*address each criterion separately)***

a. The nurses/ healthcare professionals have experienced an exceptional challenge to clinical practice and usual operations and have come together to meet the challenge as a unified group.
b. The nurses/ healthcare professionals have provided extraordinary service to their peers, their profession, or the community at considerable personal and collective cost and risk.
c. The nurses/ healthcare professionals have used ingenuity to foster unity and rally internal supports.
d. The nurses/healthcare professionals have collaborated with civic groups, political allies, and all stakeholders to generate constructive change, promote safety, and create solutions.