Dorothy Ford Buschmann Outstanding New Member Award

NOMINATION TIMELINE

1 November 2026-1 March 2027

NOTIFICATION

Award recipients will be notified in July 2027.

PRESENTATION

All awards will be presented at Sigma's Biennial Convention.

PURPOSE

The Dorothy Ford Buschmann Outstanding New Member Award recognizes a Sigma member whose nursing practice and contributions to their chapter have positively impacted Sigma, the chapter, and the nursing or healthcare profession. It is named for Dorothy Ford Buschmann, recognizing her pioneering leadership as Sigma Nursing's first president. **Sigma membership is required.**

ELIGIBILITY

All active Sigma members worldwide, inducted between 1 March 2019 and 1 March 2024, are eligible to be nominated for this award. **Members may not self-nominate; any self-nominations will be disqualified.**

Current Sigma International Board of Directors, Sigma staff, Sigma consultants and contracted staff, and members of the judging committee are not eligible.

Nominees can receive only one award per biennium. Nominees can accept only one nomination per biennium. Recipients from 2023 and 2025 are not eligible to receive the same award in 2027.

CRITERIA

Nominations should show evidence of meeting some of the following criteria for one or more Sigma pillars:

Strength of Leadership

1. Displays an understanding of the self and one's own potential
2. Portrays a positive vision for and continuing commitment to leadership
3. Displays knowledge, skills, and abilities related to personal, interpersonal, organizational, and civic leadership development
4. Makes connections with other chapter members

Service

1. Advances and promotes healthcare, the nursing profession, and Sigma
2. Demonstrates the impact of volunteer service—quality and quantity
3. Commits to ongoing volunteer service
4. Demonstrates a spirit of compassion and caring

Professional Endeavors

1. Demonstrates creative resource utilization
2. Pursues their own professional growth and development
3. Advocates for quality patient and family care
4. Utilizes exemplary interpersonal skills
5. Collaborates with healthcare professionals in providing optimal care

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Supporting documents required below should address a majority of the above criteria. Entries that do not meet the criteria and requirements below will be disqualified.

A complete online nomination consists of:

- Online entry form
- Supporting narrative from the nominator (1-2 pages)
- Two letters of support (interprofessional colleague, supervisor, coworker, etc.—excluding nominator)
- Letter of acceptance, a statement from the nominee accepting the nomination and agreeing to attend Sigma's Biennial Convention if selected as the award recipient
- Supporting documentation, materials or summaries that provide direct evidence of meeting the award criteria (not to exceed 10 pages). This includes videos, writing samples, articles, photos, etc. This is an opportunity to expand on the summary provided by the supporting narrative. Additional letters of support will not be considered.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information, contact awards@sigmanursing.org.