



Honorary Membership

PURPOSE

Since 1939, Sigma has bestowed honorary membership upon individuals of national or global influence who have furthered the course of healthcare. Honorary membership is conferred by Sigma's Board of Directors on those who demonstrate superior achievement in a chosen field and a special commitment to the ideals and concerns of nursing.

ELIGIBILITY

Honorary membership is granted to individuals throughout the world who are not eligible for regular membership but have demonstrated sustained superior achievements that have contributed to the advancement of nursing and healthcare at the national or global levels. Any active Sigma member or chapter may nominate a person for honorary membership.

CRITERIA

A nomination should address a majority of the following criteria:

1. Demonstrates a commitment to the mission and vision of Sigma
2. Makes a sustained national or global impact on nursing and healthcare
3. Demonstrates superior achievement and leadership in their field of work

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Documents required below should address a majority of the above criteria. Entries that do not meet the requirements below will be disqualified. A complete nomination consists of:

- Online entry form
- Supporting narrative, from the nominator (1-2 pages)
- Two letters of support from diverse sources supporting the criteria (interprofessional colleague, supervisor, coworker, etc.—excluding nominator)
- Nominee's curriculum vitae
- Supporting documentation as evidence of nominee's contribution as outlined in the criteria above (not to exceed 10 pages)

EVALUATING NOMINATIONS

Nominations will be evaluated for:

- Diversity – documentation comes from a variety of sources (e.g., awards for achievements, published articles that highlight the nominee's work, etc.)
- Objectivity – evidence reflects a variety of perspectives and persons familiar with the nominee's work
- Contribution – applicability of the nominee's contributions to nursing and healthcare must be evident in submission materials

NOMINATION TIMELINE

17 July–1 December 2026

NOTIFICATION

Award recipients will be notified in March 2027.

PRESENTATION

All awards will be presented at Sigma's 49th Biennial Convention in November 2027.

PAST RECIPIENTS

[View a list of honorary members.](#)

CONTACT

For further information, contact Laura Belt at laurab@sigmanursing.org.