

2026 NPIAP Awards Guidelines

The National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (NPIAP) is excited to share that the call for nominations for the 2026 NPIAP Awards is now officially open, inviting outstanding individuals and organizations to be recognized for their exceptional achievements. NPIAP offers several prestigious awards every other year with winners recognized at the Annual Conference.

Awards Nominations will be available on the NPIAP Website for interested applicants. More details regarding submission and deadlines are provided below. Please submit all application materials by **Thursday, October 23, 2025, at noon CT.**

About NPIAP

The National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (NPIAP) is an independent not-for-profit professional organization dedicated to the prevention and management of pressure injuries. Formed in 1986, the NPIAP Board of Directors is composed of leading experts from different health care disciplines— all of whom share a commitment to the prevention and management of pressure injuries. The NPIAP serves as a resource to health care professionals, government, the public, and health care agencies; and welcomes and encourages the participation of those interested in pressure injury issues through utilization of NPIAP educational materials, participation at national conferences, and support of efforts in public policy, education and research.

Our Mission and Vision

The National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel's (NPIAP) mission is to be the authoritative voice for prevention of pressure injury, promotion of pressure injury healing, and to increase awareness of pressure injury through education, research, public policy, clinical guidelines, and product standards.

NPIAP's vision is to end human suffering from pressure injury.

NPIAP Awards For 2026

Roberta S. Abruzzese Award:

The NPIAP Dr. Roberta S. Abruzzese Award recognizes a student with interest and promise in the field of pressure injury research, treatment and prevention or education. The award is named in honor of Alumna Dr. Roberta S. Abruzzese for her vision, leadership and support in promoting educational endeavors in relation to pressure injury management. The Abruzzese Award provides "travel funds to student(s) showing interest and promise in the field of pressure injury research, treatment, prevention or education". The actual award is based on reimbursement of expenses but not to exceed \$1,500.

Qualifications:

- Is an active student focusing on PI research, treatment, prevention, or education.
- Will attend the upcoming NPIAP Annual Conference.
- Has published or presented their educational work.

The Janet Cuddigan Research Award:

The Janet Cuddigan Clinical Research Award, established in 2023, is given to individuals who have made notable contributions to the prevention and/or treatment of pressure injuries. Named in honor of Janet Cuddigan, this award recognizes her pivotal contributions to advancing evidence-based research in the prevention and treatment of pressure injuries. Her leadership was instrumental in establishing the foundational framework for the Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers/Injuries: Clinical Practice Guideline. This recognition is based on their efforts in generating and disseminating new research that will substantially influence the foundational elements of future clinical practice guidelines.

Qualifications:

- Has published research on clinical practice guidelines for treatment or prevention.

The Joyce Black Education Award

The NPIAP Joyce Black Award, inaugurated in 2025, recognizes individuals or groups who have made significant contributions to advancing pressure injury evidence-based practice through educational initiatives. Disseminating evidence-based knowledge is essential for integrating research into clinical practice and enhancing patient outcomes. This recognition highlights exemplary efforts in sharing new and existing research through various educational platforms, including publications, presentations, podcasts, social media campaigns, or national awareness efforts. Named in honor of Dr. Joyce Black, the award celebrates her pivotal role in expanding NPIAP's mission and promoting pressure injury awareness through diverse educational media.

Qualifications:

- Has developed PI related education using multiple multimedia sources

Submission Instructions

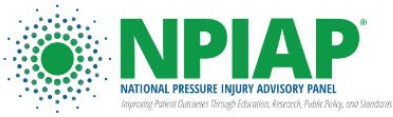
Please complete and submit nominations for the 2026 NPIAP Awards here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F3KWY2M>

Nominations must be provided by current NPIAP Panel Members or Supporters. If you would like to nominate someone, **you will need to write a nomination letter for them to include in their application.**

You will be asked to submit the following as a part of your application:

- Nominator contact information
- Nominee contact information
- Nominee headshot
- Nomination letter
- Nominee's current Curriculum Vitae (CV)



Review and Selection Process

All application materials are due no later than **Thursday, October 23, at noon CT**. The NPIAP Awards Taskforce will review your application materials to select the award recipient. All candidates will be notified by late October.

For help with any questions regarding your submission, please contact NPIAP Customer Services Office@npiap.com for assistance.