

CAROLINAS COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

ACADEMIC

SUBJECT: ACADEMIC AND LEADERSHIP AWARDS

REVIEWER(S): President*

Dean of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management
Provost

POLICY

The College recognizes and celebrates students, teammates, alumni, and others for academic achievement, exceptional performance, and outstanding service. The awards process is designed to ensure broad representation at all levels of recognition.

PROCEDURE:

A. Provost's List and President's List

1. Upon receipt of final semester grades, the Director of Student Records and Information Management will calculate each student's semester grade point average based on a 4.00 scale.
2. The grade point average will reflect courses taken that semester at Carolinas College of Health Sciences (Carolinas College).
3. The lists will be comprised of students who were pursuing at least 6 credit hours at Carolinas College during the semester. Those who earned a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better will be named to the Provost's List, and those who earned a 4.00 will be named to the President's List.
4. The Director of Student Records and Information Management will generate certificates of recognition for each student on the Provost's List and President's List.

B. College (Latin) Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.24 or better will receive college honors notations on their transcripts and a college medallion at graduation. College (Latin) honors are awarded as follows:

- Cum Laude 3.24 - 3.499
- Magna Cum Laude 3.50 - 3.749
- Summa Cum Laude 3.75 - 4.00

C. Departmental Honors and Awards

Departmental honors and awards may be established and awarded by any college department or academic program. The following is a list of departmental honors and awards:

1. General Studies Program - The Excellence in General Studies Award is presented to up to two graduating students who exhibit commendable performance related to one or more of the four general education learning outcomes. Nominations for and the selection of the awardees are made by general education faculty members.
2. Medical Laboratory Science Program
 - a) The Charles U. Mauney Achievement Award is presented annually to a graduating student with the highest scholastic achievement in microbiology.
 - b) The Spirit of Excellence Award is presented annually to a graduating student who demonstrates excellence in clinical performance, service to the community, leadership potential, and scholastic achievement.
3. Neurodiagnostic Technology Program
 - a) The Academic Excellence Award is presented to the graduating student who earned the highest overall GPA. In a tie, the number of credit hours attempted will be considered. If still tied, program personnel will determine additional criteria.
 - b) The Leadership Distinction Award is presented to a graduating student who demonstrates leadership in the didactic and clinical portions of the program. The recipient should have displayed motivation, perseverance, and a positive attitude throughout the program. The individual chosen for this award should exhibit role model behaviors and be well respected by

- peers, faculty, and teammates at the clinical site.
- c) The Clinical Commendation Award is presented to the graduating student who has demonstrated exceptional clinical skills, professionalism, and dedication to patient care. This recognition is based on formal commendation from a licensed physician or advanced care practitioner who has directly observed the student's performance in the clinical setting. The recipient exemplifies the highest standards of neurodiagnostic practice, showing strong technical proficiency, compassionate care, and a collaborative spirit that enhances the quality of interdisciplinary healthcare.
4. Nursing Program (ADN)
- a) Excellence in Adult Health Nursing Award is presented to a graduating nursing student who exhibits commendable performance in theory and clinical and who: earns commendable theory grades; exemplifies professional behavior and works in collaboration with peers, faculty, nursing staff, and patients; shows initiative and seeks learning experiences in the clinical setting and demonstrates the ability to apply theory to practice; excels in communication, both verbally and in written formats; exhibits a caring, holistic and compassionate attitude when delivering patient care; recognizes and responds to patients' and families' learning needs; and functions as a patient advocate in an interdisciplinary environment. The student is presented with a certificate noting this award.
- b) Excellence in Behavioral Health Nursing Award is presented to a graduating nursing student who exhibits commendable performance in theory and clinical and best exemplifies the core components of nursing practice in behavioral health. Criteria include: professional behaviors - treats patients with dignity and respect, protects patients' rights, maintains strict confidentiality, dresses appropriately, completes all assignments on time; communication - makes "contact" with his/her patients during the clinical day; assessment - completes mental status assessments; clinical decision making - turns in exemplary care map; caring interventions - demonstrates self-awareness and ability to meet one's own needs; teaching and learning - provides appropriate feedback during group process, instructs patients about their medication and/or disease; collaboration - attends multidisciplinary meeting, reports significant information to staff in a timely manner and seeks assistance when appropriate; managing care - prepares adequately for clinical and is knowledgeable about patient's condition; and commendable theory grade. The student is presented with a certificate noting this award.
- c) Excellence in Child-Adolescent Health Nursing Award is presented to a graduating nursing student who exemplifies the core components of nursing practice in child-adolescent health as evidenced by: commendable theory grade; critical thinking/clinical decision-making skills; ability to identify and act upon the psychosocial needs of the patient and family; excellent teaching skills demonstrated during both the clinical experience as well as the clinical writing assignment presentation; and excellent time management skills in the clinical setting. The student is presented with a certificate noting this award.
- d) Excellence in Maternal-Neonatal Nursing Award is presented to a graduating nursing student who exhibits commendable performance in theory and clinical as demonstrated by: theory grade; critical thinking and clinical decision-making skills; appropriate nursing interventions to meet the psychosocial needs of patients and families; excellent teaching skills appropriate to patients and families in all four clinical areas of maternal-neonatal health; creativity in post-conference presentation of journal article; and excellent time management skills in the clinical area. The student is presented with a certificate noting this award.
- e) Leadership Award is presented to the graduating nursing student who demonstrates leadership and management qualities which include: service as a board member or committee chair for a student organization or a college committee; leadership skills within one or more of those organizations; effective collaboration with peers and faculty to accomplish tasks of the organization or committee; facilitation of group cohesiveness and decision-making within the organization or committee; and exhibits role model behaviors (well respected by peers and faculty; able to clearly communicate with individuals and the large group; interaction with others

exemplified ethical and professional standards of nursing; Scored above average in the NUR 220 group project). The student is presented with a certificate noting this award.

f) The Betty Garrison Award is given to the graduating senior nursing student who exhibits on qualities evident in Betty's life and career: Patient care excellence, patient advocacy, involvement in the nursing profession, commitment to community service, love of nursing education, a good sense of humor, and a genuine kindness and friendliness for that one meet. The student is presented with a certificate and a ticket to the Metrolina Nursing Banquet.

5. RN-BSN Graduation Awards

- a) The Scholarly Writing Award is presented to the student who has demonstrated excellent writing skills and critical thinking, while using evidence to support written content.
- b) The Leadership Distinction Award is presented to the student who has consistently been recognized by peers, faculty, and/or organizations as an excellent leader and teammate.
- c) The recipients of the Scholarly Writing Award and Leadership Distinction Award will receive a certificate.

6. Radiation Therapy Program - The Levine Cancer Institute Academic Excellence Award is presented to a graduating student who has earned the highest overall GPA in program-specific clinical and didactic courses. In a tie, total credit hours attempted will be considered. If still tied, program faculty will determine additional criteria. The recipient is presented with a plaque accompanied with an exit scholarship check in an amount recommended by the program chair and approved by the president.

7. Radiologic Technology Program

- a) The Spirit of Excellence Award is presented to a graduating student who is selected by their peers for demonstrating strengths in areas such as leadership, motivation, and perseverance.
- b) The Highest Scholastic Achievement Award is presented to the graduating student with the highest cumulative GPA in the Radiologic Technology program. In a tie, the number of credit hours attempted will be considered. If still tied, program personnel will determine additional criteria.
- c) The JRCERT Certificate of Excellence Award is presented to recognize a student graduating from a JRCERT accredited program for achieving excellence in radiologic sciences.

D. Student Organization Awards

- 1. Phi Theta Kappa is the national honor society for two-year colleges and is open to exceptionally qualified students. Each candidate for membership must have completed 12 semester hours of associate degree coursework at Carolinas College with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.25, be enrolled in an associate degree program, adhere to school conduct code, and possess recognized qualities of good citizenship.
 - a) Graduates who are members of Phi Theta Kappa will be recognized at graduation.
 - b) The Carolinas College Beta Zeta Sigma Chapter awards the Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship to a graduate in May and December of each year as voted on by a committee. If the vote results in a tie between two nominated members, the monies for the scholarship may be divided at the discretion of the co-advisors and officers. An award certificate will accompany the scholarship.

E. Leadership Awards

The College recognizes and awards those who have demonstrated excellent leadership in their careers, in their communities and in service to the college and others. Leadership awards may be established by the college president, the college's board of directors or the leadership team. The following is a list of leadership awards:

- 1. The Outstanding Educator of the Year Award recognizes excellence in teaching, educational innovation, student motivation and mentoring, and contributions to the academic community.

Nominated individuals must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the award:

- Actively engaged in teaching one or more courses at the college within two of the prior three academic terms.
- Demonstrated excellence in teaching.
- Demonstrated innovation in curriculum development, delivery, and assessment methods.
- Demonstrated academic leadership and skill in motivating and mentoring successful student performance.
- Demonstrated effective communication with students, colleagues, and other academic constituencies.
- Demonstrated support for the college mission.
- Demonstrated leadership or service in academic communities, the local community, or professional organizations.

Nominations may come from faculty members, college or program administrators, students, or alumni. Nominations must be submitted via the online nomination form.

The outstanding educator will be selected and recognized as follows:

- Nominations are submitted to the president's office by the indicated deadline. When there are more than three nominations, the college leadership team narrows the field to three candidates for presentation to the board. When presenting to the board, the president will rank the nominees for board consideration.
- Selection should be based primarily on the seven criteria identified above, but the weighting of each criterion, or the merit of additional considerations, is at the discretion of the board.
- If there are no nominations, or if the board does not recognize sufficient evidence of excellence, no award will be presented. The outstanding educator will receive a framed certificate or plaque, and special medallion to be worn at graduation.

2. The Distinguished Alumnus Award recognizes an alumnus annually who provides distinguished service to the healthcare profession, the college, and/or the community. Nominated individuals must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the award:

- Nominees must have completed his or her healthcare education at Carolinas College or one of its predecessor schools operated by Atrium Health or Charlotte Memorial Hospital Authority.
- Demonstrated evidence of sustained excellence in patient care, healthcare administration, or laboratory procedures.
- Demonstrated evidence of service to the community, the state, the nation, or the larger worldwide community.
- Demonstrated evidence of leadership within the healthcare or allied health profession.

Nominations may come from faculty members, college or program administrators, students, or alumni. Nominations must be submitted via the online nomination form. The distinguished alumnus will be selected and recognized as follows:

- Nominations are submitted to the president's office by the indicated deadline. When there are more than three nominations, the college's president's council, and the director of development and alumni relations narrow the field to three candidates for presentation to the board. When presenting to the board, the president will rank the nominees for board consideration.
- Selection should be based primarily on the four criteria identified above, but the weighting of each criterion, or the merit of additional considerations, is at the discretion of the board.
- Only one alumnus will be recognized for this distinction each year. If there are no nominations, or if the board does not recognize sufficient evidence of excellence, no award will be presented.

- The distinguished alumnus will receive a framed certificate and a special medallion that can be displayed.
3. The Student Leadership Award is presented to a graduating student who demonstrates leadership and campus engagement qualities which include: service as a board member or committee chair for a student organization, or serves on a college committee; leadership skills within one or more of those organizations; effective collaboration with peers and faculty to accomplish tasks of the organization or committee; facilitation of group cohesiveness and decision-making within the organization or committee; and exhibits role model behaviors (well respected by peers and faculty; able to clearly communicate with individuals and the large group; interaction with others exemplifies ethical and professional standards. The student leadership recipient will receive a plaque.
- F. Other awards and recognition may be given as deemed appropriate and agreed upon by the president and/or the college leadership team. If not specifically mentioned above, all awards will be presented during an appropriate college event, and all recipients will receive appropriate recognition denoting the award. All awards will be published in the college newsletter and/or the college magazine and released to the general public in a press release.
- G. The Academic and Leadership Awards Policy will be reviewed biennially.