

COACHING GUIDE for the Lantern Award Application

Coaching Guide by Application Section

Each section of the Lantern Award application is presented with background information and supporting evidence described. This information is provided to assist your team in a successful journey to the Lantern Award. Note: Successful applications demonstrate a **variety** of initiatives, projects, and/or process improvements throughout the application with **quantifiable outcomes**, sustained improvements, and innovative processes.

Advocacy (Section M)

Questions in this section focus on how the future of the emergency nursing profession and quality patient care are influenced through advocacy and innovation in your emergency department.

Advocacy: Section M

Historically, the nursing profession has a strong background as a profession that advocates for patients and their families. This fundamental role of advocating for the rights of the individual patient to receive safe and effective care can have a broad impact. Advocacy can be expanded into formal structured programs that support the community, a specific target population, or health care initiative at the local, regional and national level. Nurses have an obligation to be informed about issues related to practice and the delivery of health care. By being informed they can help educate their colleagues and the consumer as well as collaborate with various teams to effect sustainable changes that assure optimal outcomes. By insisting on culturally sensitive information and education, ensuring equal access to appropriate care, and supporting the patient and family's decision within the context of a multidisciplinary team, nurses can become actively involved in advocacy initiatives.

The Evidence

A description of the components of the advocacy role of the emergency department serves as the framework for the responses in this section. Specific and innovative details on advocacy involving patients, families, communities, target populations, or national policy provide an opportunity to describe the efforts and the **outcomes** of these initiatives.

If you have questions, please contact LanternAward@ena.org.