



Call for Star Search Participants

ANPD 2026 Aspire Convention
March 23-27, 2026 | Louisville, KY

Submission Closes: November 2, 2025 at 11:59pm CT

PLEASE NOTE: *Data entered in this form is not saved if you navigate away from this page. To avoid losing your data, please prepare your submission in a Word document, then copy and paste into the submission form. Once you submit your abstract, you can access and edit your submission until the November 2 deadline.*

Each year the Association for Nursing Professional Development (ANPD) holds a Star Search competition at our Annual Convention. The purpose of Star Search is to encourage aspiring speakers to compete for an opportunity to present a concurrent session at the next annual convention. Star Search is a great opportunity for novice speakers to develop their presentation skills!

The call for Star Search participants is now open! Four convention attendees will be selected to participate in Star Search during the 2026 Convention. Each participant has 15 minutes total (we recommend 10 minutes for presentation content and 5 minutes for audience Q&A) to give a brief presentation that is judged by members of the ANPD Convention Content Planning Committee (CPC) and the audience. The CPC score constitutes 75% of the total score and the audience score constitutes 25% of the total. The participant who receives the highest score is invited to present a 60-minute concurrent session at the 2027 Annual Convention and receives one complimentary convention registration. The deadline to submit your abstract is November 2, 2025 at 11:59pm CT.

You must be logged in to your ANPD account to submit an abstract for Star Search. If you are not an ANPD member, please create a guest account before submitting your Star Search abstract. Submissions are limited to one presenter.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Never presented at an ANPD (or former NNSDO) annual convention or other national conference
2. If selected, must register for full 2026 convention at own expense

Abstract Criteria

Candidates must submit an abstract that includes:

1. Minimum of three references – references must be within the last 5 years or seminal work
2. Brief description of topic (not to exceed 50 words)
3. Abstract (not to exceed 250 words)
4. Absence of presenter name, organization, or other identifiers within the submission except where specifically requested
5. Absence of commercial content (no use of brand names of any commercial product)

Criteria for Selection

- Relevance of topic to current challenges in nursing professional development
- Identification of professional practice gap that relates to nursing professional development (NPD) practitioners
 - A practice gap is defined as the difference between current and desired state
 - **Example:** Currently, professional development team members lack self-awareness and knowledge to address issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion in practice which are needed to promote better health outcomes and reduce health disparities caused by inequities
- Identification of a measurable outcome unique to your educational session and related to the identified professional practice gap. The outcome reflects what the presenter expects the learner to be able to do after attending the session in a way that can be quantified. The outcome should directly address the identified professional practice gap.
 - **Example:** Upon completion of this session, 80% of participants will indicate that this session generates a desire to reflect on the current practices and behaviors related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Content is consistent with identified measurable outcome
- Clear and specific description of the content
- Content is clear, concise, and reflects current best evidence
- Clearly identifies learner engagement methods aligning with identified measurable outcome
- Content is applicable to a variety of practice settings
- Absence of typographical or grammatical errors

Presentation Criteria:

Presentations are judged on the criteria listed above as well as:

1. Organization of content
2. Adherence to 15-minute timeframe
3. Learner Engagement
4. Presentation skills (articulation, use of AV skills (if any), content expertise)

Submission Instructions:

Please be prepared to enter each of the following sections in your abstract submission.

Abstract/Session Title

- No more than 10 words in length
- Words/symbols such as “&,” “of,” “a,” hyphenated words (e.g., in-person), etc. will count as one word
- **PLEASE NOTE: This field is labeled “Name this Entry” on the submission form – please ensure you enter your Abstract/Submission title in the “Name this Entry” field. Your name, credentials, etc. will go under the Presenter Information section.**
- **Entering your own name under “Name this Entry” will disqualify your submission.**

Presenter Information

- Include Presenter Name, Presenter Credentials, and Presenter Biography (a 2-3 sentence introduction) in these respective sections
- Please note: Star Search presentations are limited to one speaker in total (co-presenters are not permitted)

Abstract Body

- Limit of 250 words (do not exceed the limit)
- Addresses essential components of the presentation
- Concise and cohesive

Identification of Professional Practice Gap

- Limit of 50 words
- Relates to **NPD practitioners**
- Identifies the difference between current and desired state

Learning Outcome

- Limit of 50 words
- Enter learning outcome under “Outcome”
- Learner-oriented: describes what the Aspire Convention attendee will be able to know, show, or do as a result of participating in the presentation
- Must be measurable

Learner Engagement Methods

- Describe how you will engage Aspire Convention attendees during the presentation
- Aligned with identified measurable outcome
- Are appropriate for allotted presentation time and format

Session Description

- Limit of 50 words (do not exceed the limit)
- Short, compelling description of session
- Describes what participants should expect by attending your session

Level of Intended Audience

- Select the competency of audience (convention participants) that would most benefit from your presentation

- **Novice**
 - New to NPD
 - Practicing in NPD for 2 years or less
- **Competent**
 - Certified or working towards certification
 - Analyzes educational needs of individuals, organizations, or communities
 - Identifies desired NPD outcomes
 - Establishes and implements plans to achieve NPD outcomes
 - Evaluates progress toward attainment of outcomes
- **Expert**
 - Provides mentorship to novice and competent NPD practitioners.
 - Role models for the specialty
 - Advanced skill or knowledge in leading NPD practice
 - Develops tools, theories, skills, and knowledge to advance the practice of the NPD specialty
 - Considered an expert by others
 - Integrates all roles of the NPD practitioner into practice
 - *Note: For expert level audiences, identify pertinent **specialist** competencies and associated standards of practice or professional performance being addressed (Refer to Nursing Professional Development: Scope and Standards of Practice, 4th ed.)*

Clinical Nature

- Select “yes” if your presentation provides education on patient care or products or services consumed by or used on patients
 - **Example:** Educating the audience on how to perform peritoneal dialysis
- Select “no” if your presentation provides education that is not focused on patient care or products or services consumed by or used on patients
 - **Example:** Educating the audience on competency management of a peritoneal dialysis clinical team

References

- Minimum of three
- Examples: evidence-based practice/peer review journals, clinical guidelines, best practices
- Current (no older than 5 years) unless classic works such as:
 - Benner, P. (1984) *From novice to expert: Excellence and power in clinical nursing practice*. Addison-Wesley.

Other Instructions

- Spell out abbreviations, acronyms, or initials with first use
- Proofread submission carefully to ensure clarity, flow, correct spelling, and grammar