



2026 Award Recipient – Crystal Tillman

More info: <https://www.ncsbn.org/awards>

Presenter

NCSBN Awards Committee

2026 Meritorious Service Award Crystal Tillman from North Carolina has helped shape some of the most consequential regulatory initiatives in nursing education and licensure examination reform. As chair of the NCLEX Examination Committee, she provided expert guidance during the implementation of the next-generation NCLEX.

She also encourages her staff to become more involved with NCSBN and has been a valued mentor to newer executive officers. Crystal's leadership extends beyond the borders of her own state. She helped the Northern Mariana Islands revise their curriculum and admissions standards, leading to strategies to improve NCLEX pass rates in a resource-constrained environment.

Crystal also collaborated with Moldova to strengthen nursing education and regulatory practices there. Crystal's exceptional leadership and commitment to regulatory excellence and public protection exemplify why she is the recipient of the 2026 Meritorious Service Award.

♪ [music] ♪