

American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Beacon Awards

<https://www.aacn.org/nursing-excellence/beacon-awards>

The Beacon Award for Excellence — a significant milestone on the path to exceptional patient care and healthy work environments — recognizes unit caregivers who successfully improve patient outcomes and align practices with AACN’s six Healthy Work Environment Standards. Units that achieve this three-year, three-level award with gold, silver or bronze designations meet national criteria consistent with Magnet® Recognition, the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and the National Quality Healthcare Award. The Beacon Award for Excellence honors individual units that distinguish themselves by improving every facet of patient care. Beacon awardees set the standard for excellence in patient care environments by collecting and using evidence-based information to improve patient outcomes, patient and staff satisfaction, and credibility with consumers. A Beacon Award signifies a positive and supportive work environment with greater collaboration between colleagues and leaders, higher morale and lower turnover. The process can be driven by the nursing staff; nurturing empowerment and leadership.

Gold Beacon award recipients are recognized for showing staff-driven greatness in sustained unit performance and enhanced patient outcomes that exceed national benchmarks, Silver recipients are recognized for consistent growth, development and organization to achieve the best patient care, Bronze awards are issued to units for skills in developing and implementing criteria that deliver top outcomes. The following Sentara Critical Care Nursing Units have current Beacon Awards.

Unit	Award Level	Through
SNGH Vascular ICU	Silver	December 31, 2020
SNGH Burn Trauma Neuro ICU	Silver	January 20, 2021
SCH ICU	Silver	April 5, 2021
SNGH Cardiac ICU	Silver	June 28, 2022
SNGH Cardiac Surgery Acute Care Unit	Silver	May 13, 2022
SNGH 4 HH Cardiac Surgical Intermediate Care	Bronze	May 15, 2022
SNGH Advanced Heart Failure Unit	Silver	May 28, 2022
SNGH 5 HH Cardiac Medicine Intermediate Care	Silver	June 19, 2022
SNGH CSICU	Silver	July 9, 2022
SVBGH Intermediate Care Unit 3 East	Silver	April 2, 2023
SNGH General ICU	Silver	April 13, 2023
SNGH L&D	Silver	April 30, 2023
SPAH ICU	Silver	May 6, 2023

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