



Alone we are rare. Together we are strong.®

NORD® Rare Impact Awards®

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2025 Rare Impact Awards. NORD is excited to be offering nomination categories to better honor our community and the impact they are making!

Please read the detailed description & qualifications below for all categories.

All Nominations must meet the following criteria to be considered:

- Nominations must be complete and provide complete responses to all questions.
- Nominations must be received by 11:59 pm EST on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 using the online form. Nominations received after the deadline or by email will not be considered.
- Campaigns to drive multiple nominations will not be considered above and beyond others with singular nominations.
- Individuals cannot self-nominate.
- Individuals or groups that have previously received a Rare Impact Award are not eligible for the same award twice.

1. Policy Changemaker Award

Description: Recognizes federal and state policymakers who have advanced policies or regulations that improve the lives of rare disease patients in the United States.

Qualifications: Nominees must meet the following requirements:

- They must be a US state or federal lawmaker or government employee.
- The policies or regulations they are being nominated for must be in the US.

2. Community Champion Award

Description: Recognizes patient advocates who, individually or as part of a group, have made a meaningful impact in helping to advance NORD's mission to improve the lives of people living with rare diseases.

Qualifications:

- Individual efforts have made a positive impact on the greater rare disease community, including but not limited to:
 - o Improving access to care
 - o Accelerating research or therapeutic development
 - o Addressing health equity
 - o Advancing policies or regulations
- Individuals must uphold NORD's values of compassion, inclusion, integrity, collaboration, and innovation.

3. Youth Leader Award*

* For Individuals 18 years or younger.

Description: Recognizes young people who have made an outstanding contribution by volunteering their time and efforts to raise awareness of rare diseases. These rising stars are inspiring ambassadors who demonstrate a passion for NORD's mission to improve the health and well-being of rare disease patients.

Qualifications:

- Individuals must be under the age of 18 at the time of submission
- Those individuals under 18 must have approval from their parent or guardian to accept the award.

4. Scientific and Medical Trailblazer Award

Description: This award recognizes individuals making significant contributions to the rare disease community through clinical care or research. Nominees demonstrate strong leadership in patient-centricity through their engagement with patients, caregivers, and patient organizations in their research and care practices.

Qualifications: Contributions may include the following:

- Substantial collaboration and engagement with patients and families
- Active participation on patient advocacy organization boards, committees, or events
- Mentorship of emerging scientists or clinicians

5. Abbey S. Meyers Leadership Award *

**Recognition reserved for NORD member organizations only*

Description: Honors a NORD patient organization member that has made significant contributions to the rare disease community through strong

leadership in advocacy, education, research, patient support services, or raising awareness.

Qualifications: Nominations must be able to demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Organizational growth and expansion
- Innovation or high-impact programs and services
- Major research, regulatory or legislative achievements
- Advancements in patient or medical education and care
- Leadership in diversity, equity and inclusion