

# Regina Medeiros Trauma and Burn Nurse of the Year Award



# Aim

This award was created to continue to celebrate and recognize those who exemplify excellence within their trauma and burn nursing career.

They demonstrate those characteristics of Regina:

- Curiosity
- Commitment
- Advocacy
- Innovation
- Collaboration

They leave a lasting impact on their community, co-workers, and patients.



# Criteria



## Focus on clinical excellence:

Demonstrates advanced knowledge and application of best practices in trauma and/or burn care



## Leadership:

Serves as a leader, educator, or mentor inspiring colleagues and advancing trauma and/or burn care standards within their facility, community, or professional organization



## Advocacy and Certification:

Actively promotes and supports trauma and burn nursing and lifelong learning

- Holds at least one of the following: TNCC, ATCN, TCAR, PCAR, TNATC, TCRN, ABLIS, CBRN
- Has maintained 8 hours trauma and/or burn related CEs for prior year



## Accomplishments:

Able to share how they've made an impact.

Participates in practice standard development

- Decision making processes within their organization that influence positive outcomes for trauma and/or patients (i.e. committee membership, guideline development)
- Leading quality initiatives
- Active mentoring
- Presenting research
- Leading educational programs

# Criteria

- Focus on clinical excellence:
  - Demonstrates advanced knowledge and application of best practices in trauma care
- Leadership
  - Serves as a role model for others in the field of trauma care
- Advocacy
  - Actively involved in efforts to improve trauma care
  - Holds leadership positions in professional organizations, TCRN
- Accomplishments
  - Able to demonstrate significant achievements in the field of trauma care
    - Published peer-reviewed articles
    - Developed new trauma care programs
    - Led successful trauma care programs
    - Awarded for outstanding performance
    - Presented at national and international conferences
    - Leading educational programs

## Additional Submission Requirements:

- Name
- Email address
- Title and Affiliation
- Place of employment

Once selected for consideration, nominee must submit:

- CV
- Headshot

# Award Winner Receives

- **Award recognition at Wellstar Trauma Network's Annual Trauma Symposium**
  - Complimentary registration
- **Complimentary Registration to the Trauma or Burn Conference of their choice**
  - TraumaCon, TCAA, TQIP
  - \$500-\$1000 toward expenses
- **Paid membership dues for professional trauma or burn affiliation for one year**
  - Ex: STN
- **A jacket identifying their achievement**
  - “(Year) WTN Trauma and Burn Nurse of the Year”



# Timeline to Launch

- Announce the new award at the 2026 WTN Trauma Symposium
  - Details on how/when to nominate
- Open nominations 09/2026
  - Yearly deadline for submission is 01/31
- Announce first winner at 2027 WTN Trauma Symposium



# Regina Medeiros Trauma and Burn Grant

# Purpose of the Grant

*Established in honor of Regina Medeiros, this fund empowers the next generation of trauma and burn leaders who strive for innovation, excellence, and impact.*

- Grant will cover the annual cost for the WTN RN of the Year award
- Provided to applicants who need financial support of ongoing projects to enhance the care of trauma and burn patients

# Requirements for Grant Request

## Requirements

- Trauma and/or burn care focused project
  - Can be a piece of equipment
  - Money to fund a research project
  - Money to fund courses
  - Would have to show proof of use of funds
- *We need to build the funding request*

## Submission Needs

- Name
- Email address
- Title and Affiliation
- Place of employment
- Amount Requested
- **Build a criteria:**
  - Pt safety affected?
  - Clinical Excellence
  - Health equity
  - Innovation
  - Workforce Development

# Website Details

- When will website be live?
- When can people start donating?

*Example of site layout*

Nominate Here:	Request Grant Funds Here:
Criteria	Criteria
Click this link	Click Link

Bio for website:

Dr. Regina S. Medeiros, DNP, MHSA, RN, was a distinguished healthcare executive whose career spanned over three decades of unwavering service, visionary leadership, and transformative impact on trauma care systems across Georgia and the nation. A trailblazer in trauma program development and systems leadership, Dr. Medeiros dedicated her life to advancing access to high-quality, coordinated trauma care. Her contributions were recognized through multiple prestigious awards, including the American Red Cross Nurse Hero Award, Distinguished Member of the Year by the National Disaster Medical System, and several accolades from the Journal of Trauma Nursing and the Trauma Center Association of America.

Dr. Medeiros most recently served as Executive Director of the Trauma and Burn Service Line at Wellstar Health System. She had previously been the Administrative Director of the Adult and Pediatric Trauma Programs at Augusta University Medical Center, where her leadership was instrumental in achieving national verification of its trauma centers. Nationally, she served with the National Disaster Medical System following 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina and contributed as a founding member of Homeland Security.

She also held numerous leadership roles with the Georgia Trauma Commission and the Georgia Trauma Foundation, was an adjunct faculty member at the Medical College of Georgia, and published more than 30 peer-reviewed works.

Beyond her many professional accomplishments, Regina was a devoted mentor who guided and inspired countless healthcare professionals, leaving a legacy of leadership, compassion, and advocacy that continues through those she taught and empowered.

In her personal life, Regina was an avid gardener and plant lover, who enjoyed cultivating beauty in her surroundings. She shared a passion for travel, exploring destinations near and far—from the rugged beauty of Alaska to the vibrant cultures of Italy, Turkey, and Spain. Regina was known for her adventurous spirit and a joyful heart, always seeking new experiences and making friends wherever she went.

As a mother and leader, Regina was a source of strength, warmth, and generosity. Her commitment to both her professional work and the people she loved was unwavering, leaving an enduring impact on everyone fortunate enough to have known her.