



# IN A CRISIS THEY CARE

HONOURING EXCEPTIONAL NURSES AND NURSING AIDES

Do you know someone like that?

The **Florence Nightingale Medal** recognizes the extraordinary commitment, courage, compassion and innovation of nurses and nursing aides working in a natural disaster or armed conflict.



ICRC

# FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL

## Help us honour exceptional nurses and nursing aides.

Nurses perform exceptional acts in order to help the wounded and sick in armed conflicts and natural disasters. The Florence Nightingale Medal is the highest international distinction a nurse working in these crisis situations can receive. It honours outstanding courage and devotion to the wounded, sick or disabled or to civilian victims of a conflict or natural disaster. Named after the leading reformer and pioneer of nursing, Florence Nightingale, the Medal also recognizes exemplary services or a creative and pioneering spirit in the areas of public health or nursing education.

### Who is eligible?

Candidates from around the world are eligible to be nominated through their National Red Cross or Red Crescent (RCRC) Society. They must be:

- qualified male or female nurses; or
- male or female voluntary nursing aides who are active members or regular helpers of a National RCRC Society or of an affiliated medical or nursing institution.

### What type of background is wanted?

National RCRC Societies seek nurses and nursing aides who have distinguished themselves in time of peace and war through:

- innovative activities that have improved the quality of health care and/or training;
- courage and active compassion;
- practical activities on behalf of injured, sick or otherwise vulnerable people.

### How does it work?

National RCRC Societies propose the best candidates for consideration to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). In September 2010, National RCRC Societies will start identifying potential medal recipients and they welcome recommendations from the nursing community.

National RCRC Societies submit nomination forms detailing the candidates' careers as nurses or nursing aides. To be considered, it is necessary to describe examples of courage and active compassion, specific actions carried out to meet the needs of injured, sick, or otherwise vulnerable or highlight the innovative activities promoted by the candidate to improve the quality of care or staff training.

### Who makes the decision?

A commission made up of representatives of the ICRC, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the International Council of Nurses reviews the nominations and selects recipients. The medal recipients will be announced on 12 May 2011.

### What can you do?

Contact the office of the Secretary General of your National RCRC Society to recommend an exceptional nursing professional who should receive the Florence Nightingale Medal. (Please note that the ICRC is not involved in the nomination process.)

For further information, contact the office of the Secretary General at your National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society, or visit [icrc.org](http://icrc.org)



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