Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why was my Lantern Award application not successful?

The following themes have been noted in applications that were not successful:

- The application appeared to be written hurriedly and lacked clarity or attention to detail. **Proof-reading is a must.**

- The responses did not answer the question asked. Do not skirt around the requested information. **If outcomes are not optimal, indicate the action plan to improve.**

- The narratives did not take advantage of the allotted word count. **Narratives must describe and demonstrate process, improvements, and effects on outcomes.**

- There was no evidence to demonstrate that staff were included in problem-solving; decisions were leadership-based only. **The Lantern Award encourages the engagement of nurses in problem-solving, research, and shared governance.**

- A single project was used as an example throughout the application. **Successful applications demonstrate a variety of initiatives, projects, and/or process improvements throughout the application with innovative processes, quantifiable outcomes, and sustained improvements** (as stated on page 4 in the Lantern Award Coaching Guide).

- There was little to no data or outcomes provided. **Sufficient data and outcomes <u>must</u> be provided where requested.**

- The response to the Patient Safety Serious Reportable Events/Never Events question (G.1) did not describe a current, recognized event from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK20598/table/A7707/?report=objectonly *(note: this list is currently being updated – with completion estimated in the fall of 2025)*

  The response <u>must</u> choose <u>one</u> of 29 SREs/Never Events grouped into 7 categories:
  - Surgical or invasive procedure events
  - Product or device events
  - Patient protection events
  - Care management events
  - Environmental events
  - Radiologic events
  - Potential criminal events

- The graphs and narratives did not match (i.e., narrative stated improved outcomes, but graph did not reflect this); or graphs were missing one or more of the <u>six</u> required labels (name of indicator/outcome, measurement period, Y-axis label, X-axis label, target/goal, sample size). **A sample graph is available on the Lantern webpage.**

- There were numerous changes in leadership in the last three years that may have negatively impacted performance metrics.

- There was evidence of substandard performance on nationally recognized metrics (e.g., throughput-patient flow, timely and effective care), <u>or</u> metrics were not tracked.