

# 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. **Proof-reading is a must.**
  - The responses did not answer the question asked. Avoid responses that skirt around the requested information.
  - 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.**
  - There were numerous changes in leadership in the last three years that may have negatively impacted performance metrics.
  - A single project was used as an example throughout the application. Please note that successful applications demonstrate a **variety** of diverse initiatives throughout the application with quantifiable outcomes, sustained improvements, and innovative processes (stated on page 4 in the complete Lantern Award Coaching Guide).
  - There was little to no data or outcomes provided. **Sufficient data and outcomes must be provided where requested.**
  - The response to the Patient Safety Never Events question did not describe a current, recognized Serious Reportable Events, or "Never Events" listed at:  
[https://www.qualityforum.org/Topics/SREs/List\\_of\\_SREs.aspx](https://www.qualityforum.org/Topics/SREs/List_of_SREs.aspx)
- Never Events consist of 29 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 six required labels (name of indicator/outcome, measurement period, sample size, target/goal, labels for X and Y axes).
  - There was evidence of substandard performance on nationally recognized metrics (e.g., throughput-patient flow, timely and effective care), or metrics were not tracked.