



American Association
of Colleges of Nursing



American
Nurses
Association

In response to reports on the draft Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Discretionary Budget Proposal, we are providing the following information to our members and urge everyone to take action.

As leading national nursing organizations, we oppose any reductions or eliminations to the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs, as well as the National Institute of Nursing Research. Advanced Practiced Registered Nurses (APRNs) and Registered Nurses are fundamental to patient access to care in every community.

Title VIII programs are a very small portion of the federal budget but provide oversized results for our health care workforce and patients. These programs are the cornerstone of federal support for nursing education in the United States. Cutting funding to the Title VIII programs would have far-reaching consequences for our health care system and the ability of patients to access care. Preserving and strengthening Title VIII funding and NINR is a direct investment in the nation's health. As we continue to confront ongoing challenges – from public health crises to workforce shortages – it is critical to protect these programs to ensure that all Americans have access to the care they deserve.

As the Administration continues to finalize the FY 2026 budget, it is imperative that they consider the cost effectiveness of vital nursing workforce programs and their far-reaching impact. We look forward to working with the Administration and Congress to preserve and strengthen investments in nursing that improve and ensure the health of our nation.

We urge all nurses to take action and send a message to their Members of Congress in support of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs and the National Institute of Nursing Research.