



**2023-2024**  
**Federal Policy  
Agenda**

**Priorities For  
Academic  
Nursing**

# ABOUT AACN



**850+**

Nursing schools in all 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico



**565,000+**

Nursing students in baccalaureate and graduate programs



**52,000+**

Nursing faculty

Since 1969, AACN has fostered collaborative relationships with nursing, interprofessional, healthcare, and higher education communities, as well as, Congress and the Administration. Through these partnerships, AACN has helped advance policies that establish the critical role of nurses in delivering quality, cost-effective, and team-based health care. AACN's member schools are preparing nursing students to be leaders and change agents necessary for healthcare transformation.

# AACN AT A GLANCE

As the collective voice for academic nursing, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) serves as the catalyst for excellence and innovation in nursing education, research, and practice.

AACN stands ready to work with the 118th Congress and the Administration to achieve the following priorities essential to improving health and health care in our nation:

- **Advance Higher Education**
- **Pursue Transformative Research**
- **Develop a Robust Workforce**
- **Redefine Models of Care**



# AACN'S FEDERAL POLICY PRIORITIES

## ADVANCE HIGHER EDUCATION

- **SUSTAINABLE:** Increase support for schools of nursing, faculty, and students to ensure a robust supply of baccalaureate and graduate prepared nurses.
- **INCLUSIVE:** Remove barriers to higher education to ensure accessibility for students from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups and economically diverse backgrounds.
- **INNOVATIVE:** Support rigorous accreditation that ensures high-quality and effective educational programs without creating unnecessary regulatory burden to allow students, academic institutions, and communities to flourish.

## PURSUE TRANSFORMATIVE RESEARCH

- **SUSTAINABLE:** Expand the scientific workforce through sustained and increased funding for biomedical and behavioral research as well as training to yield an immeasurable return on investment.
- **INCLUSIVE:** Encourage research that investigates methods to improve public health and reduce health disparities.
- **INNOVATIVE:** Support both healthcare and health services research at the federal level to ensure that the systems that patients benefit from the latest discoveries led by nurse scientists.

## DEVELOP A ROBUST WORKFORCE

- **SUSTAINABLE:** Enhance federal investment in partnerships between academic institutions, faculty, and practice environments for a sustainable nursing workforce, while increasing support for faculty careers.
- **INCLUSIVE:** Invest in programs that recruit individuals from diverse backgrounds to the nursing profession, facilitate retention, and promote career progression.
- **INNOVATIVE:** Implement nursing workforce policies and funding streams that reflect emerging trends focused on growth and quality in the system.

## REDEFINE MODELS OF CARE

- **SUSTAINABLE:** Advance sustainable models of care that lead to a healthier nation.
- **INCLUSIVE:** Invest in networks of community-based centers and in the public health infrastructure essential to ensuring attainable and equitable population-based care outside hospital walls.
- **INNOVATIVE:** Dedicate federal resources to health systems and providers to ensure that delivery structures adapt to emerging technological advances, and ultimately, to advance accessible and affordable health care.



# American Association of Colleges of Nursing

*The Voice of Academic Nursing*

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