



Harmful Cuts to Nursing Research and Health Workforce Proposed in President's FY 2026 Budget

Monday, May 5, 2025—The Nursing Community Coalition is deeply disappointed to see the severe cuts suggested to key domestic and health care programs in the Administration's Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 skinny budget. As a broad overview of what will ultimately be included in the Administration's FY 2026 budget, this initial blueprint stops short in meeting the nation's growing demand for nursing workforce and research, especially as health care needs in our country continue to grow.

We are concerned that the proposal would eliminate the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR). As the only Institute or Center at the National Institutes of Health that directly supports research by our nurse scientists, NINR promotes patient-centered care across the life continuum, leads groundbreaking, lifesaving discoveries, and develops new evidence-based practices to care for all patients. Retaining NINR as an independent Institute and supporting all nurse researchers and scientists is essential as they continue their invaluable work at the forefront of disease prevention, patient care, and recovery.

The Administration's budgetary outline also proposes consolidation of programs throughout the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), including in education and training (-\$74 million), maternal and child health (-\$274 million), and health workforce programs (-\$1 billion). While this document is unclear about the specific impact on critical Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs, previously leaked budgetary overviews suggested the elimination of all Title VIII programs except for the Nurse Corps. Any reduction in Title VIII Programs would be a step backward as we ensure nursing education pathways remain strong, and our nursing workforce has the support needed to meet the health care needs of all Americans.

As foundational principles to the NCC's work, the cuts proposed for nursing research and health workforce programs in the President's budget are deeply concerning and, if implemented, will have a negative impact on our current and future nursing workforce, and ultimately the health of our nation.

The Nursing Community Coalition remains committed to ensuring funding for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs, NINR, our nurse scientists and researchers, and our current and future nursing workforce are at levels reflecting the nursing population it serves. We will continue to work with Congress to pass a budget that reflects current health care needs and supports our nation's nurses.

The Nursing Community Coalition includes 64 national nursing organizations that are the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the profession. Collectively, the coalition represents registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse faculty, boards of nursing, nurse executives, researchers, and students. The coalition is committed to promoting efforts that advance the health of our nation through nursing care.