

# Invest in Nurses, *Invest in Title VIII.*

Nurses are the largest sector of the healthcare workforce at more than 5 million strong. But while medical graduate education receives more than **\$17 billion** in *guaranteed* federal funding annually, nurses only currently receive **\$305.4 million** – and none of it is guaranteed.

In fact, **the Administration has proposed to eliminate nearly 70% of Title VIII funding** as part of its fiscal year (FY) 2026 budget proposal, underscoring how your advocacy is as essential as ever.

## Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs:

- The **only dedicated federal funding for nursing** workforce development.
- Offer scholarship options, loan repayment assistance, grants for advanced education nursing programs, loans for nurse faculty development, and more.
- These essential programs bolster nursing education from **entry-level to graduate study**.


### The Big Picture

Administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs represent the **only dedicated federal programs addressing all aspects of nursing workforce development**, including education, practice, and retention.

Reauthorization of and appropriations for these programs, **which Congress is currently considering**, ensures that nursing pathways remain strong, and patients can continue to have access to the high-quality care nurses provide.

Of note, HRSA, along with four other agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is slated to be folded into the new Administration for a Healthy America (AHA) as part of a major restructuring plan.

## RN Action

 American Nurses Association



## Why Title VIII Matters:

- **Invests in nurses**

The programs supported **24,461 nurses, nursing students, and grantees** in fiscal year (FY) 2024, of which 8,017 were Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs).

- **Combats workforce shortages**

42 states will face nursing staff shortages by 2030. The programs work to reduce shortages through federal support for **nurse education, training, and retention**.

## Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025

Since **1964**, Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs have supported nursing education.

### Key Facts

- Last reauthorized in 2020, the **current authorization for Title VIII programs expires at the end of September** (FY 2025).
- Bipartisan legislation has been introduced (H.R. 3593 / S. 1874) that would reauthorize the programs through FY 2030. It is imperative that we build support for this legislation.
- Without reauthorization, **the programs are in danger of being defunded or eliminated**.

- Title VIII programs have **consistent bipartisan support**, with members in both parties working to reduce the nursing shortage by supporting these programs.
- Title VIII provides targeted support for **rural and medically underserved areas**.

## Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations

- Congress is currently debating appropriation bills that will determine the amount of funding for Title VIII programs in FY 2026.
- The **American Nurses Association (ANA) requests that Congress reject the deep proposed cuts to Title VIII programs** and continue funding nursing education and the nursing workforce by supporting at least **\$530 million for the programs in FY 2026**.

## What You Can Do

### 1) Advocate for:

- At least \$530 million in funding for the Title VIII Programs in FY 2026 Appropriations **AND**
- Reauthorization of the programs through FY 2030 by supporting the *Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025 (H.R. 3593 / S. 1874)*.

### 2) Stay engaged by signing up for RNAction.