

AACN STRATEGIC PLAN

FY 2026 - 2028

VISION

Nurses lead in the transformation of healthcare to optimize health and achieve health equity for all.

MISSION

AACN leads and champions excellence and innovation in nursing education, research, and practice.

VALUES

Excellence, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging. Innovation. Integrity. Leadership.



GOAL 1 INNOVATE

AACN is the driving force for leadership, innovation, and excellence in academic nursing.

- Lead innovations that transform nursing education.
- Cultivate leadership at all levels within academic nursing.
- Promote research and scholarship that advance nursing education and practice.

GOAL 2 PARTNER

AACN is a leading partner in advancing improvements in health, healthcare, and higher education.

- Elevate nursing's impact on driving innovation in healthcare and higher education.
- Advocate for policies that strengthen the nursing workforce, improve the nation's health, and advance academic nursing.
- Expand academic-practice partnerships at the national and institutional levels.

GOAL 3 EDUCATE

AACN is a resolute leader for inclusive excellence within nursing.

- Advance inclusive excellence and a culture of belonging in academic nursing.
- Prepare nurses to lead in addressing health inequity.
- Promote well-being within academic nursing.

GOAL 4 COMMUNICATE

AACN is the authoritative source of knowledge to advance academic nursing.

- Serve as the leading source for information on issues and trends in academic nursing.
- Generate data and scholarship to inform decision-making and lead change.
- Synthesize and disseminate evidence showcasing the impact of nursing.