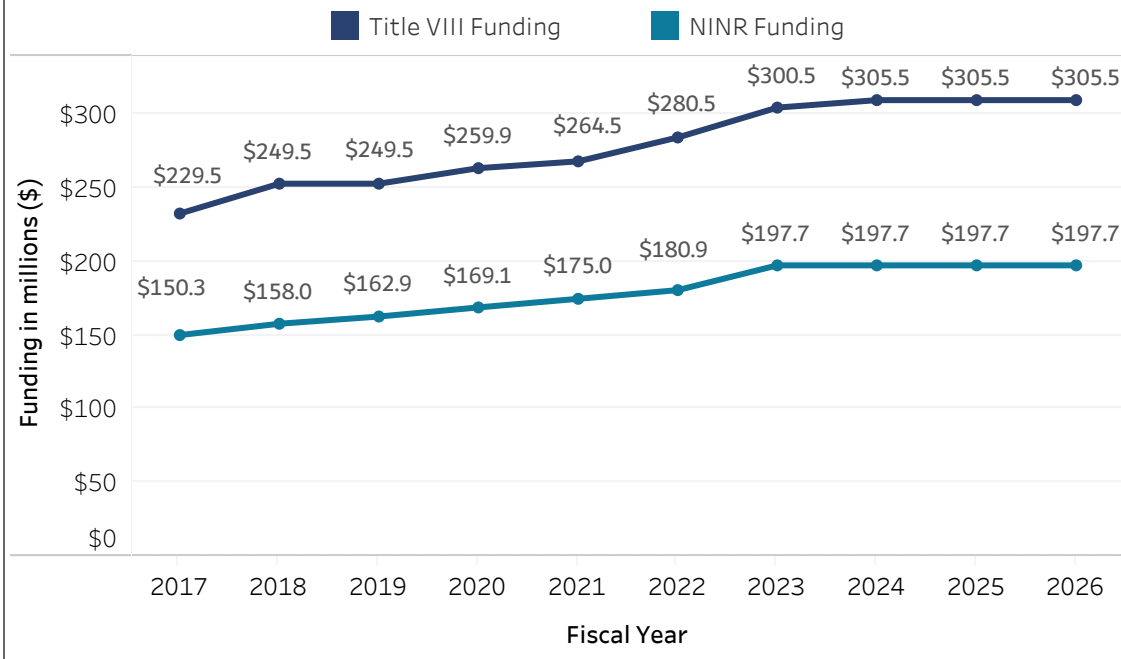


PUERTO RICO

FEDERAL FUNDING ACROSS THE U.S.¹



The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) is the national voice for academic nursing. AACN represents more than 890 member schools of nursing offering a mix of baccalaureate, graduate, and post-graduate programs at public and private universities nationwide.

4 AACN MEMBER SCHOOLS

Ponce Health Sciences University
San Juan Bautista School of Medicine
Universidad Central de Bayamon
University of Puerto Rico

FEDERAL FUNDING IN STATE²

Fiscal Year (FY)	Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)
2025	\$2,168,969	\$445,936
2024	\$3,153,404	
2023	\$3,089,962	
2022	\$3,277,594	
2021	\$1,280,532	

FEDERAL FUNDING BY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT²

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs

Congressional District	FY 2025 Funding
PR-At-Large	\$2,168,969

National Institute of Nursing Research

Congressional District	FY 2025 Funding
PR-At-Large	\$445,936

STATE-WIDE ACADEMIC NURSING OUTLOOK

STATE ENROLLMENTS & GRADUATIONS³

Program	Total Enrollments	Graduations (8/1/24-7/31/25)
Baccalaureate	3,059	740
Master's	222	177
PhD	13	2
DNP	126	12
TOTAL	3,420	931

If no program exists in the state the field will be blank.

IMPACT NEW STUDENT LOAN LIMITS HAVE ON NURSING⁴

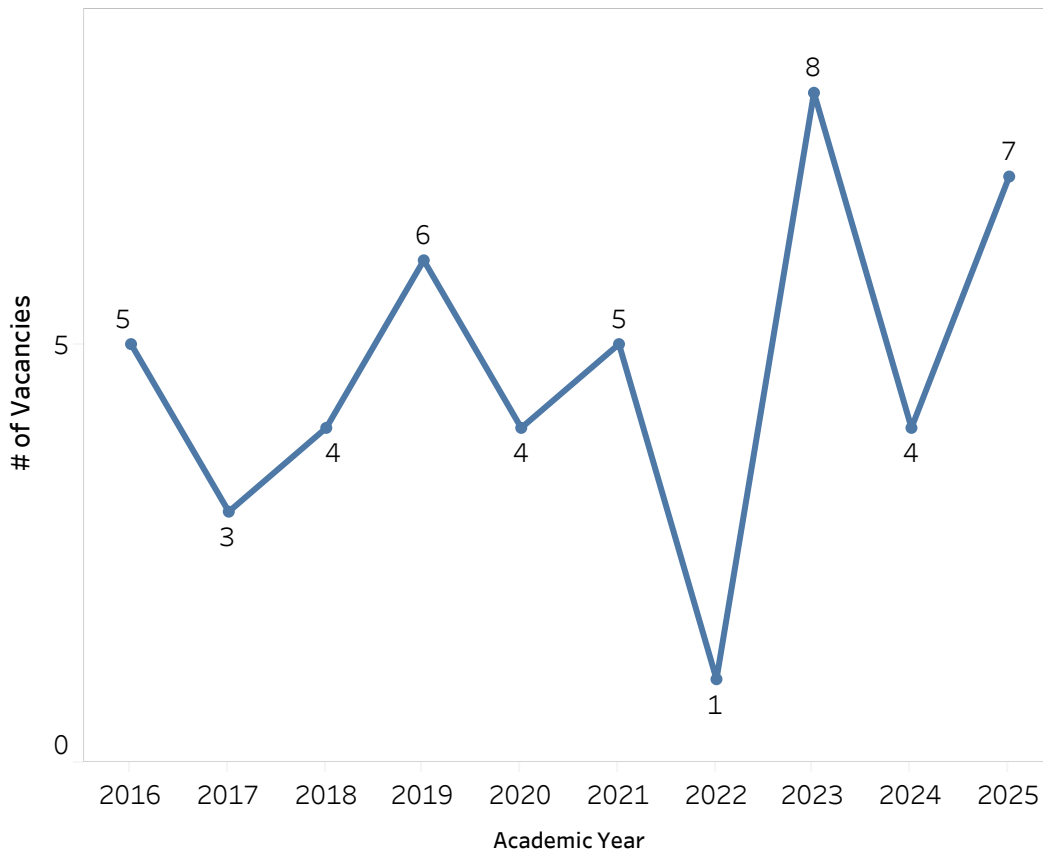
Public Law 119-21-One Big Beautiful Bill Act established new borrowing limits that differentiate between graduate (\$20,500 annual/\$100,000 aggregate) and professional (\$50,000 annual/\$200,000 aggregate) degrees. The Department of Education is currently undergoing a rulemaking process that does not define nursing as a professional degree and would result in insufficient federal student loan limits if finalized as written.

- 78% of Deans** Agree that the annual graduate loan limits would negatively impact post-baccalaureate enrollment.
- 77% of Deans** Believe the graduate loan limits would negatively impact their faculty.
- 71% of Deans** Anticipate that the graduate loan limits will have negative downstream consequences on their baccalaureate enrollment.
- 81% of Students** Say that the aggregate graduate loan limit would negatively impact their ability to finance their education.

UNDERSTANDING THE FACULTY SHORTAGE⁵

Faculty shortage is an obstacle to expanding the nation's nursing workforce and meeting health care demands. Budget constraints, an aging faculty, and finding faculty with the necessary teaching experience are a few examples that contribute to this issue. This data provides an overview of the scope of the nursing faculty shortage at the state level.

10-YEAR TREND: FACULTY VACANCIES



BY THE NUMBERS

7 Total vacant full-time nurse faculty positions

2 Open faculty positions that require or prefer doctorate degrees in nursing or related field

53 Average age of doctorally prepared nurse faculty

10 Schools reporting noncompetitive salaries as issue for recruiting faculty

Sources

- 1.H.R.7148, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026. Retrieved from: <https://appropriations.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/repUBLICans-appropriations.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/approps-def-lhhs-hs-thud-bill-text.pdf> and Explanatory Statement: <https://aboutgov.com/bkGU>. While a Continuing Resolution (CR) was passed for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (H.R. 1968: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1968/text>), some grant competitions were cancelled (e.g., Nurse Faculty Loan Program) during FY 2025.
- 2.U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration and National Institutes of Health.(2026). AACN compilation of Title VIII and NINR grant funding awarded. Retrieved from: <https://data.hrsa.gov/> and <https://reporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm>. Prior years data reflects revisions and updates published annually by HRSA.
- 3.The American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Research and Data Services, 2026.
- 4.The American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Research and Data Services, Assessing the Impact of Federal Loan Limits on Post-Baccalaureate Nursing Education: Perspectives from Deans and Students, 2025.
- 5.The American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Research and Data Services, 2025.