November 5, 2020

Dear AACN Member Deans/Directors,

On behalf of the Essentials Task Force, we want to thank all who participated in the first National Faculty Meeting exactly one year ago! As we move ahead with the work to finalize the new Essentials, we are writing to ask you to schedule a second National Faculty Meeting between November 15 and December 30, 2020. This timeframe will allow the task force to process the input received with the goal of submitting the final document to the AACN Board of Directors for approval in January 2021.

The purpose of this second engagement is to share the current draft of the Essentials with your faculty and practice partners and to collect any feedback. The document that will be provided for review has been shaped by feedback received from regional and virtual meetings as well as AACN conference sessions. Your school’s comments and insights will be sought through an electronic process in order to consider your input as this work evolves.

The structure of this National Faculty Meeting is flexible. We encourage you to consider inviting representatives from your key practice partner organizations. You also may consider collaborating with a neighboring nursing program to operationalize this event. We recommend you schedule at least one event that spans 75-90 minutes, depending on your unique situation and the size of your group. These decisions are up to you.

We are providing several tools and resources for you to share with invited attendees to facilitate a meaningful dialogue. These resources include an overview video, link to the latest draft Essentials, a summary of feedback from a recent input session at the Academic Nursing Leadership Conference, proposed discussion questions, and a link to provide feedback from your institution. When planning your meeting, the agenda should include (in this order):

- A review of the meeting agenda.
- Reinforcement that this work is still in DRAFT format. The task force recognizes that outstanding questions remain, including use of simulation, clinical practice expectations, and final degree products that require continued conversation.
- A showing of the video presentation prepared for the second National Faculty Meeting.
- A facilitated group discussion using the provided set of questions. The group is asked to capture comments and the discussion as best as possible using one or more note-takers. You may choose to use a small group format or a full-group discussion, depending on the size of your group and setting.
- Finally, we ask that the dean or one designee complete the online survey to capture the group’s comments or ideas they wish to provide.

**ACCESS PLANNING RESOURCES HERE**

AACN staff are available to answer any questions you may have regarding this faculty meeting. Please send questions to kyosifova@aacnnursing.org. We thank you in advance for your engagement in the work to re-envision the Essentials. Your participation and input are vital to continuing this important work for the nursing profession.

Regards,
AACN Essentials Task Force

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