President’s FY 2018 Budget Proposes Unprecedented Cuts
On May 23, the Trump Administration released its Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 budget proposal, *A New Foundation for American Greatness*. In response to the severe cuts made to nursing education, AACN and the National League for Nursing issued a joint statement opposing the recommended elimination of all but one of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs (administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration). The President’s proposal of $83 million (compared to $229 million in FY 2017) would lower the funding to approximately what the programs received 16 years ago.

The President’s budget impacts other federal programs integral to the four core policy priorities in AACN’s [Federal Policy Agenda](https://www.aacn.org/policy) including:

**Workforce**
- Title VII Health Professions Programs: Health Care Workforce Assessment would receive $5 million (a cut of $304.2 million).
- National Health Service Corps would receive $310 million (a 7.4% increase).

**Research**
- National Institutes of Health (NIH) would receive $26.9 billion (a $7.2 billion decrease). The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality would be rolled into NIH and be called the National Institute for Research on Safety and Quality.
- National Institute of Nursing Research would receive $113.7 million (a $36.6 million decrease).
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): would receive $5.9 billion (a $1.2 billion decrease).

**Higher Education**
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness program would be eliminated. (Read [AACN’s Policy Brief](https://www.aacn.org/policy) for details)
- Subsidized federal loans would be eliminated.
- Pell grants would be funded year-round by reallocating $3.1 billion mandatory spending dollars over the next decade.

**Models of Care**
- Opioids: CDC would receive $75.4 million for Opioid Abuse and Overdose Prevention to support activities, including health providers delivering care, public health interventions, and insurer practices. Additional funding for opioid abuse is included within the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

For additional details on programmatic funding, see AACN’s [FY 2018 Funding Chart](https://www.aacn.org/policy).

**Calling Upon Congress to Support Non-Defense Discretionary Programs**
As part of the association’s continued appropriations advocacy, [AACN](https://www.aacn.org/) and the [Nursing Community coalition](https://www.aacn.org/policy) sent statements to the House and Senate Appropriations and Budget Committees, imploring them to ensure that patients across the country have access to high-quality, evidence-based care by sustaining the Title VIII programs and NINR. AACN is relaying to Congress the ground-level community impact of Title VIII programs. View our [story map](https://www.aacn.org/policy) of community profiles from across the nation. Visit AACN’s [Appropriations](https://www.aacn.org/policy) webpage to view the advocacy efforts of the organization and its Grassroots Network members.