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AACN Joins AAMC's Amicus Brief in Response to the Administration's Travel Ban



On June 12, the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) filed an [Amicus Brief](#) in response to the current Supreme Court cases, *Trump v. International Refugee Assistance Project* and *State of Hawaii v. Trump*. AAMC led the effort to argue against the Administration's request for stay in these travel ban cases and AACN supported their work with 20 other health-related organizations. The brief highlights how health professionals from around the globe are essential to meeting the care needs of Americans, particularly in underserved areas, and in advancing scientific discoveries. It notes that the [executive order](#) threatens the highly regulated immigration process that is necessary to maintaining an adequate healthcare workforce. This is in line with AACN's position expressing concern over the [Administration's travel ban](#) released earlier this year.

CBO Report Considers Policy to Alleviate Primary Care Demand; Role of NPs Addressed



The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) recently released a working paper [Projecting Demand for the Services of Primary Care Doctors](#) in which the issue of the increasing demand for primary care services is considered through multiple policy angles. Beginning on page 25, CBO considers policy changes to potentially increase the supply of primary care services offered by non-physicians providers, including nurse practitioners and physician assistants. CBO notes that scope of practice policies, reimbursement policies, and how providers are utilized in team-based care can impact the ability to provide more primary care services.

Gainful Employment Rule on the Brink of Full Implementation



The July 1 deadline for regulatory implementation is quickly approaching for the [Gainful Employment regulation](#). The Gainful Employment rule would cut off federal funding to career colleges where students end up with higher debt than earnings. Although much of the Gainful Employment rule has taken effect, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos has [delayed key deadlines](#) for colleges to comply with the rule and submit appeals until July 1. With [reports of further delays](#), [sources](#) indicate that the Administration will open new negotiated-rulemaking sessions to rewrite the rule as early as this week. Based on [recent analysis](#), the implementation of the regulation would save the government billions of dollars in federal student loan forgiveness, while holding colleges more accountable for the debt their students take on. Back in March, [AACN reported](#) the compliance extension as staff have continued to follow the rule since its proposal in 2010.

Access to IRS Data Retrieval Tool Restored for Borrowers



The Department of Education [announced](#) that it has restored access to the IRS data retrieval tool for borrowers seeking to enroll in income-driven repayment programs or for those who are recertifying their income levels. The IRS data retrieval tool allows borrowers to automatically transfer their tax return data into federal aid applications. The IRS removed the tool back in early March due to cybersecurity concerns. However, due to [increased bipartisan pushback](#), the Department restored the tool and announced that access for student aid applicants would be restored by October 1 for the 2018-2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form.