



Administration's Health Report Addresses Anti-Competitive Scope of Practice Policies

On December 3, the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Treasury, and Labor released the report, [Reforming America's Healthcare System through Choice and Competition](#), in response to the October 2017 [Presidential Executive Order](#) calling for a health system that provides high-quality, affordable health care. The report identifies current federal and state policies that inhibit choice and competition in the healthcare market and offers recommendations for improvement. Specifically, the report addresses current anti-competitive scope of practice (SOP) barriers and offers recommendations to broaden SOP for healthcare professionals, such as APRNs, including that, "states should consider changes to their scope-of-practice statutes to allow all healthcare providers to practice to the top of their license, utilizing their full skill set."

Furthermore, the report makes recommendations to improve workforce mobility and facilitate telehealth to support patient access. AACN has been [actively supportive](#) of utilizing the entire APRN workforce to the full extent of their education and training as well as CMS' efforts to increase the ability of other clinicians to use telehealth. The association is committed to working with the Administration and Congress on improving the health and health care for America's patients, families, and communities.



HRSA to Launch SUD Workforce Loan Repayment Program

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Workforce Loan Repayment Program will soon begin accepting applications. This Health Resources & Services Administration's (HRSA) program will support the recruitment and retention of health professionals needed in underserved areas to expand access to SUD treatment and prevent overdose deaths. The program offers up to \$75,000 in student loan repayment to eligible clinicians who commit to three years of service at NHSC-approved sites and use evidence-based SUD treatment. [Learn more](#) and sign up to receive additional information.



2019 Student Policy Summit: Reserve Your Seat Today

AACN's 2019 Student Policy Summit is filling up quickly with half of the seats reserved so far. [Register your students](#) today so they may be able to participate in this three-day Summit, held in Washington, DC on March 24-26, 2019, and learn more about the federal policy process and nursing's role in professional advocacy. Students will have the opportunity to translate these discussions into action by traveling to Capitol Hill to meet with their elected officials. Visit the [2019 Student Policy Summit webpage](#) for more information, to register, or to help sponsor this event.