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NEWS RELEASE



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ANA Responds to President's 2016 Budget Proposal

SILVER SPRING, MD – The [American Nurses Association \(ANA\)](#) appreciates the vital investments included in President Obama's fiscal year (FY) 2016 budget that strengthen the nation's health care system. However, of great concern is the absence of increased funding that would help address critical faculty shortages and recruit new nurses into the profession.

The budget does not recommend an increase for [Nursing Workforce Development Programs \(Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act\)](#) and instead recommends keeping funding levels at nearly \$232 million. Nursing Workforce Development Programs serve to recruit new nurses into the profession, promote career advancement within nursing and allocate nurses to critical shortage areas.

The level funding recommendation is of particular concern given the need to ensure that the nursing workforce stands ready to provide high-quality, patient-centered care in a transforming health care environment. In September 2014, [ANA recommended a 12-percent increase in Nursing Workforce Development Program funding](#).

“As demand for health care services grows, so will the need for a highly trained nursing workforce to provide high-quality care,” said ANA President Pamela F. Cipriano, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN. “We are concerned that keeping the current funding level will hamper efforts to improve the health of individuals and communities.”

Despite concerns about Nursing Workforce Development Program funding, ANA supports the Obama administration's call for critical health care investments in other areas, including:

- **\$144.5 million**, a nearly 3-percent increase, for the National Institute of Nursing Research.
- **\$14 million for a new Health Workforce Diversity Program** aimed at creating a career pipeline for health professions students that leads directly to service in underserved communities.
- **\$92 million** to coordinate and support investments in policies and standards to accelerate **the adoption and meaningful use of certified electronic health records**.
- **\$215 million in funds for a new Precision Medicine initiative**, which focuses on patient-centered and disease-prevention research through genomics and IT.

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- **An increase of \$58 million, to total \$185 million, for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration** for the new “Now is the Time” initiative, which will: ensure students and young adults get treatment for mental health issues, provide nationwide data to better understand how and when firearms are used in violent deaths, and inform future research and prevention strategies.
- **A funding extension the Children’s Health Insurance Program through 2019.**

ANA recognizes the difficult task lawmakers face in these economic times. However, ANA has consistently asserted that health care should not be compromised by political or partisan posturing. That is why ANA will continue to advocate for programs that address the health care demands of our nation. To learn more about ANA’s advocacy efforts, please visit, www.nursingworld.org

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ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent and state nurses associations and its organizational affiliates. ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public. Please visit www.nursingworld.org for more information.