
Support ARN's Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations Requests

TAKE ACTION! Urge Congress to support the nursing workforce and funding for nursing and rehabilitation research

ARN needs your help to secure critical funding for rehabilitation and nursing research and nursing workforce development programs in FY 2027. Specifically, ARN seeks to reject the elimination of, and support for robust funding for, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs, nursing research at the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), rehabilitation research at the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), and the Traumatic Brain Injury programs at the Administration for Community Living (ACL) and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Without adequate funding, our nation will continue to fall short on connecting patients to high quality rehabilitative care and new, cutting-edge therapies patients need and deserve.



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POLICY UPDATE REPORT 6.1.2026

Policy and Funding updates: The administration released the FY27 President's Budget Request (PBR). The PBR once again eliminates and reorganizes agencies under HHS, similar to the changes in the FY 2026 budget that Congress largely rejected, proposing over a 12 percent cut to federal health agencies. Similar to the FY26 President's Budget, HHS proposes to combine multiple agencies—including HRSA, into the Administration for a Healthy America (AHA), which is allocated \$14.7 billion.

The PBR includes a directive for NIH to forward fund all research grants in 2027, meaning grants would get lump sums in the first year. Without increased funding, this proposal would likely decrease the number of grants NIH can fund each year. The budget, like in FY26, also proposes a 15 percent cap on indirect costs for research.

Of note to ARN members, most HRSA Title VIII nursing workforce programs proposed to be eliminated as HRSA itself was moved to AHA. The Nurse Corps Scholarship and Loan Repayment was the only program that received funding. Unlike in FY26, the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) was provided funding, however the funding was cut by approximately 40 percent. The traumatic brain injury programs at the CDC were moved to the newly created National Center for Injury Prevention Control at AHA and are proposed to be level funded from FY 2026. Additionally, TBI programs at the administration for community living have been moved to the administration for Children, Families, and Communities which is a new agency created in the president's budget. The programs are also proposed to be level funded at FY 2026 levels.

CMS updates: CMS released the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) proposed rule for updates to the Medicare payment policies and rates for IRFs under the IRF Prospective Payment System (PPS) and IRF Quality Reporting Program (QRP) for FY 2027. This proposed rule includes a 2.4% increase to IRF PPS payment rates based on the proposed IRF market basket update of 3.2% with a negative adjustment of 0.8% for a productivity adjustment. The proposed rule also included updates to the timeframe for data submission for QRP data. CMS also seeks feedback on potential enhancements to IRF PPS, including updating how primary diagnoses and comorbidities are used to classify patients by case mix. Additionally, CMS

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