



Nurse Faculty Shortage Reduction Act

Currently Endorsed by: *American Nurses Association, American Association of Colleges of Nursing.*

U.S. nursing schools turned away 91,938 qualified applications from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2021 because of an insufficient number of faculty, clinical sites, classroom space, clinical preceptors, and budget constraints. Most nursing schools responding to the survey pointed to faculty shortages as a top reason for not accepting all qualified applicants into their programs.

One of the primary reasons for this faculty shortage is the pay disparity between practicing nurses and nursing educators. The median salary across advanced practice registered nurse roles is \$120,000, while the average salary for a master's-prepared professors in schools of nursing is \$87,325.

The Nurse Faculty Shortage Reduction Act would address the salary gap between clinical nursing and nurse faculty roles. The bill creates a 3-year grant program for eligible schools of nursing to supplement salaries to enhance recruitment and retention of nursing faculty members. It authorizes \$28.5 million a year for five years.

The bill requires the Secretary to submit a report to Congress about the effectiveness of the program on recruitment and retention of nursing faculty, and recommendations for Congress to continue the program through Medicare.