



FY 2026 Funding Request for the National Institute of Nursing Research

Supporting Quality Patient Care, Improved Patient Outcomes, and Healthy Communities Through Nursing Science

Background: The National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), a key part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), funds essential research that forms the scientific foundation for clinical care and supports vital interdisciplinary training. Congressional investment in NINR tackles prevalent health challenges in the U.S., such as:

- Evaluating emergency preparedness responses.
- Improving community health outcomes and reducing health disparities.
- Identifying harmful environmental factors affecting maternal and newborn health.

Importance of Increased Funding: Enhanced funding for NINR is crucial for the advancement of nursing science, addressing the nation's critical health issues. The Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research (FNINR) advocate Congress to allocate at least \$210 million to NINR, emphasizing the following benefits:

1. Improved Health Outcomes

- Reduction and management of illness-related symptoms.
- Better management of chronic conditions by patients and families.
- Promotion of wellness and prevention of illness in communities.

2. Cost-Saving Strategies

- Implementation of effective health improvement methods reduces the financial burden on the healthcare system.
- Investment in healthcare innovations and technologies fosters cost-effective care.

3. Economic and Social Benefits

- Creation of jobs in healthcare, improving patient-to-nursing staffing ratios.
- Reduction in hospital readmissions and shortened hospital stays, decreasing avoidable healthcare costs.

Success Stories:

- **Emergency Preparedness:** NINR research has led to improved emergency response protocols, enhancing community resilience.
- **Chronic Disease Management:** Innovations in chronic disease management have significantly improved patient outcomes and quality of life.
- **Maternal and Child Health:** Studies on environmental impacts have informed policies safeguarding maternal and newborn health.

Conclusion: Funding nursing research offers an excellent return on investment, advancing the health of individuals and communities while ensuring high-quality, cost-effective care across lifespans. **FNINR urges Congress to allocate a minimum of \$210 million to NINR**, supporting its mission to solve pressing health challenges and inform practice and policy – optimizing health and advancing health equity into the future.