

2019 Legislative Priorities

WSNA is the leading voice and advocate for the professional interests of more than 74,000 registered nurses who live and work in Washington state.

In addition to the priorities listed below, this year WSNA is also advocating for the legislature to pass a bill that addresses nurse delegation.

BUDGET PRIORITIES



School nurse funding

Improve the health and safety of K-12 students across Washington by increasing state support for the Prototypical School Funding Model to place more nurses in Class One school districts and for the School Nurse Corps which funds nurses in Class Two school districts.



Nursing education funding

Increase state funding for nursing education faculty salaries to recruit and retain well-qualified educators to train the next generation of nurses. Provide scholarship and loan repayment funding that has a significant impact for nurses, allowing them financial stability while working with underserved communities.



Foundational public health services

Protect the health and safety of our communities by ensuring that standards for communicable disease prevention and environmental health are met across the state.

POLICY PRIORITIES



Meal and rest breaks bill

Protect patients by ensuring nurses receive uninterrupted meal and rest breaks, so that they can provide the highest quality patient care.



Surprise medical billing

Safeguard patients and their families against surprise medical bills when treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network facility under emergency or surgical circumstances.



Address the opioids crisis

Address the opioid epidemic through prevention and treatment in every community in Washington state.



Access to mental health services

Support patient access to mental/behavioral health treatment by community providers, such as psychiatric nurse practitioners, as inappropriate boarding of patients in health care facilities often leads to workplace violence experienced by nurses and other frontline health care workers.



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