



Essential Nursing Programs & Services

Georgia must support essential nursing education programs and services.

Georgia again faces a budget deficit in the next fiscal year. It is critical that essential nursing programs & services be funded to ensure the health and well-being of Georgia patients in the future. **GNA believes essential nursing programs should be funded at or above FY 2011 levels. In addition, GNA supports continued funding of nursing care for children enrolled in Georgia public schools.**



Nurse Title Protection ([Senate Bill 67](#))

The public must be confident of providers who use the title of “nurse”. The intent of restricting use of the title nurse is to protect the public from individuals who are not licensed nurses, yet lead the public to believe they can provide services that only nurses are licensed to provide. **GNA will initiate nurse title protection in the state of Georgia in an effort to safeguard the public and ensure patient safety.**



Nursing Workforce Development

Traditional nursing education programs are challenged to produce a sufficient number of graduates to meet the demand for quality nursing care in Georgia. Education, practice and regulatory entities must be proactive in supporting traditional and innovative strategies for the education of competent registered nurses to meet the health needs of Georgia citizens. **GNA will support traditional and non-traditional nursing education programs to meet the demand for quality nursing care in Georgia.**



Nursing Practice & Regulation

Nurses in Georgia must practice to the full extent of their education and training. The U.S health care environment has changed dramatically and there is great demand for primary care professionals who can provide care. **GNA supports efforts to ensure that nurses in Georgia can practice to the full extent of their education, licensure and certification. GNA also believes that the regulation and oversight of all nursing practice should be held by nurses, through the authority of a state board of nursing.**



Nursing Scholarships & Workforce Planning

Funding for nursing scholarships and workforce planning through a special Nurse License Plate. Georgia has fallen behind other states in the recruitment and retention of the nursing workforce. Funding from a special nurse license plate would allow funds to be used for nursing scholarships and workforce planning & development to meet future needs. GNF/GNA has initiated the creation of a nurse license plate. **GNF will continue this initiative with a portion of the proceeds to fund future nursing scholarships and workforce planning & development.**



Safe Staffing

Safe staffing principles help RNs and nurse managers design the best environment possible for patient care. Several states have passed legislation based on the American Nurses Association’s (ANA) Safe Staffing Principles – unit specific/acuity based staffing, NOT mandated ratios. **GNA will continue to work with other stakeholders to examine the need for legislation to implement ANA’s Safe Staffing Principles (www.safestaffingsaveslives.org) in Georgia.**

To view GNA’s 2011 Legislative Platform, visit:
<http://www.georgianurses.org/Platform2011adopted.pdf>