

# ACADEMY INSIDER

TRANSFORMING HEALTH POLICY STARTS  
BY KEEPING CONNECTED



October 21, 2020

---



September 11: The Academy signed onto a letter from the **Nursing Community Coalition** to leaders of the Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committee urging them to include and pass the bipartisan **United States Cadet Nurse Corps Service Recognition Act of 2019** (S.997/H.R. 2056) in any legislative package honoring our nation's veterans before the end of the 116th Congress. Read the [Senate letter](#) and the [House letter](#).

October 5: The Academy submitted comments in response to the **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services'** (CMS) regarding the **FY 2021 Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule**. The Academy's comments focused on the telehealth, scope of practice, and comprehensive screenings for older adult provisions within the proposed rule. [Read more](#).

October 14: The Academy submitted comments to the **National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)** in response to a request for information regarding a **national elastomeric half mask respirator (EHMR) strategy** for use in healthcare settings during an infectious disease outbreak/pandemic. [Read more](#).

---

**Policy Dialogues at the Academy Virtual [Policy Conference](#)**

## CONCURRENT POLICY DIALOGUES

### ADVANCE HEALTH EQUITY & CHAMPION WELLNESS

Defining the Social and Environmental Determinants  
of Health to Achieve Health Equity

*Presented by the Environmental and Public Health Expert Panel*

### PROMOTE INNOVATION & SUSTAINABILITY

Ensuring Accountability for Consideration  
of Sex as a Biological Variable in Research

*Presented by the Women's Health Expert Panel*

### REDUCE PATIENT, PROVIDER, & SYSTEM BURDEN

Optimizing Ethical Work Environments Throughout  
Healthcare in a Pandemic

*Presented by the Quality Health Care and Bioethics Expert Panels*

[VIEW THE CONCURRENT POLICY DIALOGUES](#)



## FELLOW OPPORTUNITIES

### 2021 American Nurses Association (ANA) Innovation Award

- The awards highlight, recognize, and celebrate nurse-led innovation that improves patient safety and/or outcomes. Awards will be presented to a nurse and a nurse-led team whose product, program, project, or practice best exemplify nurse-led innovation in patient safety and/or outcomes. The [ANA Innovation Awards](#) include a \$25,000 individual nurse award and a \$50,000 nurse-led team award. The money supports translational research, development, prototyping, production, testing, and implementation for an innovative product, program, project, or practice transformative to patient safety and/or outcomes. Winners will have one year to further develop their innovation and will present their outcomes at an ANA event. Applications are [due](#) by November 1, 2020 at 11:59 PM EST.

### Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research (FNINR) Ambassadors Program

- This [unique advocacy program](#) began in 2014 and has grown to include over 30 Ambassadors. Ambassadors are selected from a national pool of applicants based on their abilities to advance public, health professions, and policy-maker awareness of the critical research agenda linked to the NINR. These highly-qualified individuals, many of whom function in the scientific community, will focus specifically on educating Congressional leaders about the high-impact and cost-effective treatments and quality-of-life enhancements that emanate from nursing science. Ultimately, the goal is to increase research funding to ensure the training of scientists at a time of major scientific breakthroughs and to promote the NINR mission and strategy. *Applications are [due on October 25, 2020](#).*

### **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health Policy Fellows**

- RWJF is working with others to help build a Culture of Health that provides everyone in America a fair and just opportunity for health and well-being. In moving toward this goal, we must acknowledge that many people in this country do not have the same opportunities as others, and work to remove barriers to good health—such as poverty, discrimination, and powerlessness. The nonpartisan [RWJF Health Policy Fellows](#) program strives to build and maintain strong and diverse leadership and a workforce skilled in health policy. [Click here](#) for more details.



### **National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM)**

- *Consensus Study Report:* [Framework for Equitable Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine](#)  
In response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and the societal disruption it has brought, national governments and the international community have invested billions of dollars and immense amounts of human resources to develop a safe and effective vaccine in an unprecedented time frame. Vaccination against this novel coronavirus, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), offers the possibility of significantly reducing severe morbidity and mortality and transmission when deployed alongside other public health strategies and improved therapies.
  - *Consensus Study Report:* [Rapid Expert Consultations on the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)  
In response to a request from the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, NASEM convened a standing committee of experts to help inform the federal government on critical science and policy issues related to emerging infectious diseases and other 21st century health threats.
  - *Consensus Study Report:* [Reopening K-12 Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)  
The COVID-19 pandemic has presented unprecedented challenges to the nation's K-12 education system. The rush to slow the spread of the virus led to closures of schools across the country, with little time to ensure continuity of instruction or to create a framework for deciding when and how to reopen schools. States, districts, and schools are now grappling with the complex and high-stakes questions of whether to reopen school buildings and how to operate them safely if they do reopen. These decisions need to be informed by the most up-to-date evidence about the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19; about the impacts of school closures on students and families; and about the complexities of operating school buildings as the pandemic persists.
-



# ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITIES

---

## Federal Register

---

### Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- *Notice:* [A National Elastomeric Half Mask Respirator \(EHMR\) Strategy for Use in Healthcare Settings During an Infectious Disease Outbreak/Pandemic](#)

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announces this request for information regarding the deployment and use of elastomeric half-mask respirators in healthcare settings and emergency medical services (EMS) organizations during the COVID-19 crisis.

---

## Around the Administration

---

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- The CDC released [new guidelines](#) regarding wearing masks on public transit.
  - Please continue to check the [website](#) created by the CDC to provide day-to-day updates on the coronavirus pandemic in the United States.
- 



# AROUND THE HILL

---

## Congressional Hearings

---

*Based on previous positions taken by the Academy, the following scan is meant for informational purposes and does not directly translate to Academy endorsement. Links provided allow you to watch the recordings and read witness testimony.*

### House Education & Labor Committee

- September 23: [America's Child Hunger Crisis: Examining the Urgent Need for Federal Action](#)
- September 30: [A Workforce at Risk: Examining the Health and Financial Challenges Facing Domestic Workers](#)

### House Energy & Commerce Committee

- September 23: [Health Care Lifeline: The Affordable Care Act and the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- September 30: [Pathway to a Vaccine: Ensuring a Safe and Effective Vaccine People Will Trust](#)

### House Science, Space & Technology Committee

- September 23: [Data for Decision-Making: Responsible Management of Data During COVID-19 and Beyond](#)
- September 30: [Coping with Compound Crises: Extreme Weather, Social Injustice, and a Global Pandemic](#)

### House Veterans' Affairs Committee

- September 23: [Toxic Exposures: Examining Airborne Hazards in the Southwest Asia Theater of Military Operations](#)
- September 30: [Mission Critical: Assessing Community Care Wait Times](#)
- September 30: [Examining VA's Ongoing Efforts in the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program](#)

### House Ways & Means Committee

- September 25: [Restaurants in America During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

### Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions

- September 23: [COVID-19: An Update on the Federal Response](#)

### Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee

- October 21: [VA MISSION Act: Assessing Progress Implementing Title I](#)

[Policy Homepage](#)

[Policy News](#)

Message not displaying correctly? View online [here](#).

American Academy of Nursing  
Washington, DC

[info@aannet.org](mailto:info@aannet.org) | [www.aannet.org](http://www.aannet.org) | 202-777-1170



[Unsubscribe](#) from these messages.