



# ACNP

## AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

### **ACNP Health Policy Practicum for Nurse Practitioners**

**Course Description:** This practicum is designed as a graduate level course which provides the participant with real time exposure to the design and implementation of health care policy and current issues and barriers related to practice. The course will also provide education on the legislative process and how and when to contact legislators regarding issues pertinent to practice and patient care

**Course Objectives:** By the end of this practicum, participants will be able to:

- Have knowledge of the Federal legislative process,
- Explain factors that influence the legislative process,
- Analyze the health policy process and synthesize its importance to daily practice
- Demonstrate leadership skills that will serve to influence policy at the local, state and national level
- Engage in politically competent political action *as evidenced by participation in Hill visits and the debriefing process.*
- Advocate for health care policy that addresses access to cost effective quality care
- Engage in networking with health policy leaders *as evidenced by the number of meaningful professional contacts made at the Health Policy Leadership Summit*
- Identify professional leadership opportunities
- Display grass root lobbying skills to take back to local/state level

### **Faculty:**

Susan Apold, PhD, ANP  
David Hebert, JD  
Carolyn Hutcherson, MS, RN  
Dave Mason, BA  
Kenneth Miller, PhD, CFNP, FAAN  
Jill Olmstead, MSN, NP-C  
Mary Paterson, PhD, RN  
Janet Selway, DNS, PNP, ANP  
Marsha Siegel, EdD, FNP-BC  
Julie Stanik-Hutt, PhD, ACNP, CCNS, FAAN  
Ellen Marie Whelan, PhD, NP

### **Course Outline:**

#### **Day 1**

“Policy Boot Camp”  
Government Basics  
Leadership and organization of Congress  
Congressional committees: role and responsibilities

Congressional staff  
House and Senate Floor procedures  
Special Interest Groups  
The Life of a Bill  
Legislation, Regulation and Policy: The Nuts and Bolts of the Process  
Practice Data  
The importance of collecting valid data  
How this data interacts with practice  
Effect of data on policy development  
Systemic review of existing data  
The Affordable Care Act: The Lived Experience of Influencing the Future of Health Care  
ACA Overview  
Emerging Models of Care  
The Patient Centered Medical Home  
Accountable Care Organizations  
Health Insurance Exchanges

## Day 2

Health Policy Focus for Nurse Practitioners in 2012  
Current Legislative Priorities for Nurse Practitioners  
All Politics are Local. . .State. . .and Federal!  
State Legislative Issues: Successes and Challenges  
Legislative Priorities of National NP Organizations  
Health Care Economics under the Affordable Care Act  
The APRN Consensus Model  
    Actual intent  
    Issues and interpretations surrounding model

## Day 3

Nurse Practitioner Collaboration Initiatives  
Lobbying: 101, 201, 301 and Beyond!  
Panel of Congressional Health Legislative Aids  
Emerging Issues:  
    Hospital Privileging for APRNs  
    Home Health and Hospice Barriers  
    IOM Report Repercussions  
Lobbying Workshop

## Day 4

Visiting Capitol Hill  
Capitol Hill De-Brief  
The "Take Home" Message: Legislative Opportunities for 2012

### **Evaluation and Grading Measures:**

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Attendance at all sessions | 50% |
| Legislative Contact        | 20% |
| Final Paper                | 30% |

Final paper will be a conference analysis of what was learned including:

- Overview of how policy is developed and implemented,
- The importance of policy on daily practice,
- How NPs can affect the policy process, and
- Identification of barriers/issues at the student's local/state level

**Resources:**

Presentations, notes and handouts from faculty

State NP Associations

American College of Nurse Practitioners