



N P A A

Nurse Practitioner
Association of Alberta

MORE THAN 1 IN 4 ALBERTANS DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO PRIMARY CARE.

If sufficiently funded by the Government of Alberta, Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are able to provide full scope primary care to an additional 400,000 Albertans by 2028.

WHAT IS A NURSE PRACTITIONER?

Nurse Practitioners are versatile, experienced clinicians with extensive clinical training and graduate level specialization. Nurse practitioners are independent health professionals and require no outside supervision of their practice. They bring a wealth of knowledge to provide high-quality care in a variety of settings. NPs have been in Canada for more than 50 years. NPs are the most researched healthcare provider, and consistently demonstrate high quality safe, effective health care delivery comparable to physician colleagues.

NPs offer timely, realistic, and sustainable solutions to address our health care crisis which leaves over 1 million Albertans without access to essential primary care services.

NPs are qualified and legislated to provide safe, effective and high-quality healthcare services across the healthcare landscape.

NEXT STEPS TO EXPANDING ACCESS TO PRIMARY CARE AND CONTROLLING PUBLIC SPENDING ON HEALTH CARE:

Increase Funding to the NP Primary Care Program (NPPCP):

- \$15 million was announced in the 2024 fiscal budget. This will need to be doubled in 2025 to meet the supply of over 100 NPs who have placed expressions of interest in the program.
- Keep NPPCP flexible to allow for implementation in all communities and specialty NPs (Adult / Pediatric) to enable NPs to provide care to a growing aging population.

Legislative Changes:

- Modernization of legislation to remove barriers for NPs to work to full scope of practice provide comprehensive care to Albertans. *(see next page)*

Nurse Practitioner Education:

- There is no dedicated funding at post secondary institutions for NP education or essential clinical preceptors.
- Support the growing application rate to NP training programs. (increased by 50% in 2024).
- Incentivize rural RNs to upskill to become a NP through a “grow your own” program and return of service agreement.
- Formalize specialization training programs to meet workforce needs.

