



SCNA: A New Home, A Stronger Future

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Well, here we are—**halfway through 2025!** What a journey it has been so far. Across the healthcare landscape, we've witnessed major shifts in policy, leadership changes at the CDC, ongoing debates over the U.S. role in the World Health Organization, and intense legislative battles surrounding DEI initiatives. But through these changes, one thing has remained unchanged—SCNA's unwavering commitment to advocating for and uplifting the nurses of South Carolina.

At SCNA, we continue to push forward on critical issues such as Full Practice Authority, Safe Workplaces for Nurses, and building an equitable and thriving nursing workforce. These aren't just initiatives; they are the heartbeat of our work, shaping the future of nursing in our state and beyond. And now, we are doing all of this from a **brand-new home**—one designed to position SCNA for a stronger, more innovative, and sustainable future!

A Move That Matters

One of the biggest milestones for SCNA in 2025 has been **our relocation to 220 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 403, Columbia, SC 29210**. This move wasn't just about a new address; it was about strategically investing in the future of SCNA and the nurses we serve.

Our new headquarters:

- **Provides greater accessibility** for nurses, students, and partners who want to engage with SCNA with NO-COST parking, weekend and evening accessibility, and additional working space.
- **Allows us to streamline operations and enhance efficiency.**
- **Reduces our overhead costs by nearly 50%**, ensuring that more of your **membership dollars** go toward **advocacy, education, and professional development.**

But we aren't just settling in—we are building something bigger.

Introducing the SCNA Innovation Hub

We are excited to announce plans for our **SCNA Innovation Hub!** This collaborative space within our new office will be designed for nurses to connect with fellow nurses, student leaders, and healthcare professionals; access essential nursing resources from ANA, SCNA, and other industry-leading organizations; and engage in creative problem-solving and develop ideas that will shape the future of nursing.

This hub is part of our larger vision to make SCNA the go-to resource for South Carolina's nursing professionals where members can learn, grow, and lead.

Expanding Membership: Potentially Welcoming LPNs into SCNA

Another exciting initiative on the horizon is the possibility of expanding SCNA membership opportunities to Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs).

LPNs play an integral role in patient care, yet they often face challenges in accessing the same advocacy, leadership, and professional development opportunities as RNs and APRNs. SCNA is committed to changing that.

By opening our doors to LPNs, we are taking a bold step toward creating a more inclusive nursing community that fully represents the diverse range of professionals who dedicate their lives to patient care.

At this time, this is a working concept and must go before membership, but we at SCNA have heard you loud and clear. SCNA must represent, advocate for, and create spaces for nurses at every level. It's how we harness The Power of Nurses!

Looking Ahead: The 2025 SCNA Annual Convention in Hilton Head!

Of course, one of the biggest highlights of the year is just around the corner, our 2025 SCNA Annual Convention, taking place October 23-25, at the stunning Sonesta Resort in Hilton Head, SC!

What to Expect at This Year's Convention:

- Thought-provoking keynote speakers from across the state and nation.
- Interactive educational sessions that address today's biggest nursing challenges.
- The 2nd Annual "In Our Shoes" Gala – Innovation Station! A night of celebration, inspiration, and recognition—where we honor those making a difference in our profession while wearing our most comfortable shoes!
- Awards and Recognitions: We will proudly honor:
 - Our DAISY Award Winners and Nominees.
 - The Judith C. Thompson Award Recipient.
 - The Dr. Stephanie Burgess Nursing Advocacy Award Recipient.

Nominations are now open! If you know a nurse or nurse ally who deserves recognition, please visit our website to submit a nomination.

SCNA Elections: Shape the Future of Our Association

At the convention, we will also hold elections for SCNA Board and Chapter Leadership. Members will have the opportunity to elect:

- SCNA Board Members:
- Secretary/Treasurer
- Commission Chair-Public Policy/Legislation
- Commission Chair-Professional Advocacy and Development
- SCNA Chapter Leaders:

- Vice Chair
- Secretary/Treasurer

This is your opportunity to have a direct impact on the leadership and direction of SCNA. Visit the SCNA website for eligibility requirements and nomination details!

SCNA: A Force for Nurses, A Force for Change

With so much already accomplished in 2025, I couldn't be prouder of how far SCNA has come, and I know that the best is yet to come.

As we continue our work in advocacy, professional development, and legislative action, we are committed to ensuring that

every nurse in South Carolina has the support and resources they need to succeed.

We want to hear from you! What do YOU need from SCNA?

Email us at info@scnurses.org

Stay connected at www.scnurses.org

Let's rise, grow, and THRIVE together in 2025 and beyond!

Members In the News

Congratulations to Dr. Curissa Tucker of Lexington, SC for having her research project *Neighborhood Disinvestment and Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Peripartum Cardiomyopathy in California, from 2004*

to 2019 published in the **Journal of the American Heart Association**.

Dr. Kelly Willenberg of Greenville, SC received the M.K. Bryant Spirit of Philanthropy Award for 2024 from Prisma Health

Update. Congratulations Kelly.

Congratulations to Dr. Frances Ashe-Goins of Columbia, SC for being featured in Own It magazine for her lifetime contribution to the healthcare industry. Congratulations Dr. Ashe-Goins. ■

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE WITH SCNA
+ SOUTH CAROLINA STUDENT LOAN
CORPORATION



Webinar Series: Planning, Paying, and Managing Your Education

The South Carolina Nurses Association (SCNA) is excited to partner with the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation to bring you a powerful lineup of FREE, informative webinars designed to support you at every stage of your educational and financial journey.

Whether you are preparing to return to school, sending a child off to college, looking for ways to pay off your student loans, or simply trying to manage what you already have, these sessions are designed with you in mind.

At SCNA, our mission extends beyond the bedside. We are committed to supporting nurses and their families before, during, and after the nursing journey. That is why we are offering these webinars as a resource not just for professional development, but also for personal financial wellness.

Upcoming Webinar Topics:

Wednesday, May 14 – BOLD™ Nursing Faculty Loan Refinance (Refi)- Prior to Printing

Wednesday, June 18 – BOLD™ Nursing Faculty Loan (For prospective and currently enrolled graduate/doctoral nursing students)

Wednesday, July 16 – Managing Student Loan Debt

Wednesday, August 13 – Paying for College (Especially for parents of high school juniors and seniors)

These sessions are free and open to SCNA members and the broader nursing community. Do not miss this opportunity to gain the tools and knowledge to secure your financial future—or help a loved one secure theirs.

Register today: <https://www.scnurses.org/page/SCStudentLoanWebinarSeries>

Empower your future. Invest wisely. SCNA is here for every step of the journey.