

Banner Health Brings AACN CSI Academy to 11 Phoenix-Area Hospitals

The partnership marks the first time AACN selects a single health system to participate in CSI Academy.

AACN has partnered with Banner Health, one of the nation's largest nonprofit health systems, to bring the AACN Clinical Scene Investigator (CSI) Academy nursing innovation and leadership program to 11 Banner-affiliated hospitals in the Greater Phoenix area.

The partnership marks the first time AACN has selected a single health system to participate in the program, which is designed to empower bedside nurses as clinician leaders and change agents whose initiatives measurably improve the quality of patient care with bottom-line impact to the hospital.

"Our partnership with Banner Health marks the beginning of a new phase of learning about how AACN CSI Academy can achieve its full potential," says AACN CEO Dana Woods. "This collaboration provides an opportunity to understand the factors that facilitate and inhibit the impact and sustainability of quality improvements in a health system versus a single unit or hospital."

Banner Health leaders share AACN's commitment to investing in bedside nurses' leadership development. "We see this as an exciting opportunity for our nurses to receive additional knowledge and tools to improve the quality and cost of care," says Deborah Martin, senior director of professional practice.

"The CSI program will teach nurses how to make the business case for specific approaches to improving patients' experiences with care, improving clinical outcomes and reducing costs — the 'Triple Aim' that is guiding reforms in healthcare today," she adds.

For the next 16 months, teams of up to four nurses from each Banner hospital will work with faculty and internal mentors to identify existing patient care issues. Teams will then develop and implement unit-based projects, resulting in quantifiable improvements in patient outcomes and decreases in hospital expenses.

To date, AACN CSI Academy nursing teams nationwide have achieved significant clinical results generating anticipated annual savings of more than \$28 million.

Learn more about nurse-driven initiatives in the AACN CSI Academy Innovation Database, at www.aacn.org/csi. 



Oct. 30 Deadline to Apply for AACN Research Grants

Grants include three \$50,000 Impact Research Grants and one \$10,000 grant.

AACN research grants fund our community's members who seek evidence that supports nurses at the bedside to ensure safe and excellent outcomes for high acuity and critical care patients and their families. The application period opens Sept. 1 and closes Oct. 30 at 5 p.m. PT.

Research projects are expected to be completed within two years. Initiatives may include technology to achieve optimal patient assessment, management and/or outcomes; healing and humane environments; processes and systems for the optimal contribution of high acuity and critical care nurses; symptom management;

and managing outcomes and preventing complications.

Three \$50,000 Impact Research Grants are available to fund priority projects that address gaps in clinical research at the organization or system level and translate the findings for bedside clinicians. One AACN-Sigma Theta Tau Critical Care Grant will be awarded, up to \$10,000.

Principal investigators must be current AACN members and have at least a master's degree. For detailed information, including application criteria and supporting documents, visit www.aacn.org/grants. 