

Innovation in NPI Health Policy: Ideas From the Frontlines

January 26, 2026, Boise, ID

Agenda

Time	Topic	Objectives
7:30 – 8:00	Check-in & Registration	N/A
8:00 – 8:10	Welcoming Remarks, Housekeeping – Committee Chairs <i>Amanda Stewart, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC & Kristy Theis, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC</i>	N/A
8:10 – 9:10	AANP's Legislative Focus - Keynote <i>Tay Kopanos, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP AANP VP State Government Affairs</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognize trends shaping health policy and patient care 2. Identify new knowledge for influencing policy
9:10 – 9:40	Basics of Government <i>Michelle Anderson, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the primary functions and purposes of government 2. Explain the structure of government
9:40 – 9:55	Break – Networking & Self-Care	
9:55 – 10:55	How To Converse With Your Legislators <i>Caroline Merritt, PhD(c), MA, BA True North Public Affairs</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the structure of the policy-making process within the Idaho State Legislature, including the role of key legislative committees. 2. Identify opportunities for engagement to promote health policy and influence the legislative process for the benefit of nursing professionals. 3. Describe IDANA legislative priorities for 2026
10:55 – 11:25	NPI History in Legislative Action <i>Kristy Theis, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify one new thing about Idaho nurse practitioner history. 2. Identify one urban legend about nurse practitioners in Idaho that is not true.
11:25 – 12:25	Lunch Provided – Networking & Self-Care	
12:25-12:55	You're Already an Advocate: Turning Clinical Skills into Policy Influence <i>Amanda Stewart, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify three ways nurse practitioners' clinical skills directly translate to effective health policy advocacy. 2. Describe two opportunities for year-round advocacy engagement for nurse practitioners practicing in Idaho, including rural settings.

Time	Topic	Objectives
12:55 – 1:55	NPI Legislative Talking Points/Issues for 2026 Colleen Shackelford, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List 2 policy agenda items for NPI 2. Describe how NPI members can be involved in policy-making
1:55 – 2:25	Battling Misinformation <i>Michelle Anderson, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify common forms of misinformation surrounding nurse practitioners 2. Explain the education, training, and scope of practice of nurse practitioners
2:25 – 2:40	Break – Networking & Self-Care	
2:40 – 3:40	Role Playing for the Difficult Legislative Conversations <i>Cathy Arvidson, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP</i> <i>Cynthia Dalsing, MSN, APRN, CNM</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate proficiency in answering legislators' questions about NPs and NP practice. 2. Identify current Idaho state issues impacting NPs and NP practice. 3. Effectively answer difficult questions from legislators about NPs and NP practice.
3:40 – 4:10	Closing – Q&A, Evaluations <i>Amanda Stewart, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC & Kristy Theis, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Q&A, Reflection, & Evaluations

Agenda subject to change