



University of Colorado **Anschutz Medical Campus**

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**CU College of Nursing alumna Colleen Casper Honored by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners**

*Awarded by AANP for Excellence in the State of Colorado*

**AURORA, Colo.** (February 3, 2022 ) – Colleen Casper, RN, MS, DNP, is the 2022 recipient of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) Award for Excellence for advocacy in the state of Colorado. The AANP’s mission is to empower all NPs to advance quality health care through practice, education, advocacy, research and leadership. Each year during the AANP National Conference, the organization recognizes a nurse practitioner (NP) and a NP advocate. Established in 1991, the State Award for Excellence is given to an NP in each state who demonstrated excellence in clinical practice. In 1993, the state award for NP advocate was added to highlight the efforts of individuals who had made a significant contribution toward increasing the awareness and recognition of NPs.

Dr. Casper is the Director of Practice and Government Affairs for Colorado Nurses Association (CNA). Previously, she served as the CNA’s Executive Director since 2014. Her work focuses on nursing advocacy at the state and national levels. Casper's nursing leadership is based on improving the work environment, role, and voice of nurses for the purposes of providing safe and quality patient care. She has served on the executive teams of Swedish Medical Center and Exempla Lutheran Medical Center, and previously served as faculty at the University of Colorado College of Nursing. Casper is a two-time graduate of the University of Colorado College of Nursing. In 1991, Casper earned a Master of Science degree, followed in 2011 by a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from CU Nursing.

In addition to her efforts in nurse advocacy, Casper is a member of the CU College of Nursing Alumni Association.

Learn more about AANP and the Award for Excellence [here](#).

**About the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus**

The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus is a world-class medical destination at the forefront of transformative science, medicine, education and patient care. The campus encompasses the University of Colorado health professional schools, more than 60 centers and institutes, and two nationally ranked independent hospitals - [UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital](#) and [Children's Hospital Colorado](#) - that treat more than two million adult and pediatric patients each year. Innovative, interconnected and highly collaborative, the

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus delivers life-changing treatments, patient care and professional training and conducts world-renowned research fueled by over \$650 million in research grants. For more information, visit [www.cuanschutz.edu](http://www.cuanschutz.edu).

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