

THE HIGHLIGHT

THE SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 51, NUMBER 2

2ND QUARTER 2025



HERE'S THE SCOOP FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

It's hard to believe it's that time again! This past quarter has been an exciting one for San Antonio ENA.

On April 10th, we hosted our exceptional virtual conference, "4 For Texas Nurses: Required Nursing Education," with an impressive turnout. The program was so well received by the community that we're already planning another virtual continuing education conference for Spring 2026. In response to member requests, we're also excited to offer a Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN) Review Course in late spring or early summer of 2026, featuring a nationally recognized subject matter expert. Stay tuned for more details as we get closer to these offerings!

In May, I was deeply honored to receive the 2025 South Texas Nurse Imagemaker Award, sponsored by Sigma Delta-at-Large and the Texas Nurses Association District 8. I was one of 58 outstanding nurses recognized in the San Antonio area, and I cannot express how humbled and grateful I am for this recognition. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart!

Membership is our mantra for June. We're thrilled to report that our chapter has grown to 607 members — and counting! The more active members we have, the more we can offer in terms of education and practice

SAENA Meetings

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

- July 8, 2025
 University Hospital
 4502 Medical Dr, San Antonio
 Lecture: Workplace Violence
 Prevention and Response Tool Kit:
 How to Create a Safety Plan
- August 12, 2025
- September NO Meeting
- October 14, 2025
- November 11, 2025

Business Meetings are currently being held in-person and via Zoom. If your facility would like to host a SAENA Business meeting contact: Leslie Hinson at leslie.hinson54@outlook.com

If you know of someone who would like to present a 1-hour lecture at a SAENA meeting, please contact Carol Twombly at cltwombly@aol.com

For meeting locations and Zoom access information see the SAENA website at: www.sanantonioena.org/meetings/

resources. Let's keep the momentum going with strong engagement. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, focusing on education, networking, and efficient operations.

Our June meeting was a fun-filled social networking event at Sarita's Restaurant in the Medical Center. We enjoyed great food and even better conversation with 22 emergency nursing enthusiasts—eight of whom were new to San Antonio ENA. It was a wonderful evening for all!

Looking ahead, don't miss our annual Concepts in Emergency and Critical Care Nursing Conference on August 19, 2025. This year's lineup is fantastic, with Terry M. Foster, 2023 ENA President, as our keynote speaker. Terry is a dynamic presenter who was featured in nine episodes of Untold Stories of the ER. We're thrilled to welcome him and all our exceptional speakers this August.

Finally, San Antonio ENA is proud to co-host the 2025 Annual San Antonio Nursing Consortium (SANC) Patient Safety Conference on September 6th, where we are serving as a Bronze Sponsor. More information will be shared soon.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to emergency nursing. Let's keep growing, learning, and leading—together.

Warm regards,



Leslie Hinson, MSN, RN, CNL, CEN SAENA President 2025

What's Hot!

Concepts of
Emergency and
Critical Care
Nursing – 2025
August 19, 2025
Hybrid Event
7 hours of education
\$70 – ENA members
\$85 – Non-members
See attached flyer
or website at:
https://www.sanantonioena.
org/2025-conference/

Whole Blood Academy July 14, 2025

National Whole Blood Summit July 15, 2025

STRAC Emergency
Healthcare Systems
Conference
July 16-17, 2025

See the STRAC flyer below

Congratulations!

The SAENA is pleased to honor Leslie Hinson, who received the 2025 South Texas Nurse Imagemaker Award presented by TNA District 8 and Sigma's Delta Alpha at-Large Chapter on May 23rd. The award recognizes significant contributions and accomplishments in the professional of Nursing.



Leslie Hinson, MSN, RN, CNL, CEN 2025 South Texas Nurse Imagemaker Award Winner

Recognition!

The SAENA is pleased to recognize the following members!

Mary Leblond, MSN, RN, CEN, CA-SANE, CP-SANE, FAEN, is the recipient of the Emergency Nurses Association 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award. Mary will receive this award at the ENA's National Conference in September 2025.

Diane Walcutt, BSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, was nominated for the Texas Emergency Nurses Association's 2025 Nursing Practice & Professionalism Award.

SAENA'S NEW MEMBERS

The SAENA welcomes our new members who joined since March 14, 2025:

Sydney Day, Johan Fritz Girado, Kristen Warner, Nicholas Ciaravino, Marco Cruz, Emily Martinez, Kelly Marshall, Terrie Holliday. Robert Valadez, Bailey Martin, Sarah Luna, Lilia Ceniseros, Kara Loper, Jonathan Greer, Bob Gidcumb, Jeri Ficklen, Juan Agado, Leslie Hawking, Rachel Meskimen, Madeline Pompa, Brian Ruel, Shaneqwa Barden, Allura Pantoja, Rachal Lindley, April Bowling, Liya Dunham, Savannah Briones, Sarah Evans, Isabelle Donnelly, Joseph Mwangi, Rhonnda Moreland, Chloe Houck, Liliana Rogers

SAENA Fall Scholarships!

SAENA is offering 2, \$1000 scholarships for nursing students in the Fall 2025.

Deadline: August 15, 2025

Scholarship Categories

- 1. LVN / LPN or non-nurse seeking initial RN degree
- 2. RN seeking a higher degree in nursing
 - AD to BSN, MSN, or Doctorate; Diploma to BSN, MSN, or Doctorate; BSN to MSN or Doctorate; MSN to Doctorate
- 3. RN seeking a postgraduate degree in nursing, education or healthcare administration Masters or Doctorate

See the information on the requirements and application at: https://www.sanantonioena.org/scholarships/

2025 TNCC Provider Courses!

August 16 -17, 2025 October 25 - 26, 2025

> STRAC Building 7500 US-90 #1, San Antonio, TX 78227

For more information see

https://www.sanantonioena.org/educ
ation/tncc/ or

Contact: Susan Douglass susan.douglass1948@yahoo.com or (210) 215-5540

2025 ENPC Provider Courses!

August 2-4, 2025 December 6-7, 2025

For more information see
https://www.sanantonioena.org/
education/enpc/ or
Contact: Diane Walcutt at
dianewalcutt@yahoo.com or
(210) 387-7236

Texas ENA 2025 Virtual Conferences

Aug 29, 2025 (8a-12p) – Vulnerable populations Dec 5, 2025 (1p-5p) – Wellness, Self-care, resilience

- ½ day, 3.5-4.0 contact hours
- \$60 each or \$200 for all 4 (ENA members)
- \$70 each or \$250 for all 4 (non-ENA members)
- Registration on the TxENA website at https://txena.org/2025-virtual-conference-series/

June Networking Event!

The SAENA's Annual June Networking Event was held at Sarita's Mexican Restaurant on June 10, 2025. Twenty-two members and non-members attended. A wonderful time was had by all!





For information on the benefits of joining the ENA, contact Wanda Sparks, Membership Chair at https://www.sanantonioena.org/about/

Nursing Practice & Government Affairs

What's Happening and What's New In Nursing?

The US is up to 1,168 confirmed measles cases this year

Updated: 2:00 PM EDT Jun 7, 2025, By DEVI SHASTRI, AP Health Writer

The U.S. logged 122 more cases of measles this week — but only four of them in Texas — while the outbreaks in Pennsylvania and Michigan have officially ended. There are 1,168 confirmed measles cases in the U.S., the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Friday. Health officials in Texas, where the nation's biggest outbreak raged during the late winter and spring, said they'll now post case counts only once a week — yet another sign the outbreak is slowing.

There are three other major outbreaks in North America. The longest, in Ontario, Canada, has resulted in 2,009 cases from mid-October through June 3. The province logged its first death Thursday in a baby that got congenital measles but also had other preexisting conditions.

Another outbreak in Alberta, Canada, has sickened 761 as of Thursday. And the Mexican state of Chihuahua had 1,940 measles cases and four deaths as of Friday, according to data from the state health ministry.

Other U.S. states with active outbreaks — which the CDC defines as three or more related cases — include Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio and Tennessee.

In the U.S., two elementary school-aged children in the epicenter in West Texas and an adult in New Mexico have died of measles this year. All were unvaccinated.

Measles is caused by a highly contagious airborne virus and spreads easily when an infected person breathes, sneezes or coughs. It is preventable through vaccines, and has been considered eliminated from the U.S. since 2000.

- Additional information for the public and health care providers is available at the links below from the Texas Department of State Health Services
 Measles Outbreak page and Measles FAQ page
- A new <u>national survey</u> of over 230 nursing leaders highlights growing concerns about how hospitals should support nurse managers. The <u>results show</u> that nurse managers are asking for more flexible schedules, help with administrative tasks, better technology, and stronger leadership training. While higher-level leaders agree these items are important, progress has reportedly been slow. Many nurse managers are stretched too thin and often <u>supervise</u> very large

teams, which increases the risk of burnout, the survey found. (The Nursing Beat, June, 2025)

- Al Pen Detects Parkinson's Early (June 2025 from the Nursing Beat) Biomedical engineers have developed an artificial intelligence (Al)-enhanced pen for handwriting analysis to aid early Parkinson's disease (PD) diagnosis. In a pilot study of three PD patients and 13 healthy participants, the pen achieved 96.22% accuracy in distinguishing PD from non-PD handwriting. The pen uses a magnetoelastic silicone tip and ferrofluid ink to convert handwriting into analyzable signals. This tool could complement existing diagnostic methods by supporting a crowd-sourced approach, especially in resource-limited areas. However, further large-scale studies are needed to validate its effectiveness. The study was funded through grants and awards to the investigators. The Takeaway: An Al-powered pen could help to identify PD early by analyzing patients' handwriting with high accuracy.
- <u>Emergency Nursing 2025</u> <u>Sept. 17-20</u>: Emergency Nursing 2025 is headed to New Orleans. Secure your spot while you can still save on ENA's premier event. Registration discounts <u>end July 20</u>. <u>Register</u>

What's Happening and What's New In Government Affairs?

Local

June 7 Runoff Election Results

San Antonio Mayor Gina Ortiz Jones San Antonio City Council Results District 1 Sukh Kaur District 6 Ric Galvan District 8 Ivalis Meza Gonzalez District 9 Misty Spears

State

Texas Legislature 2025 The 89th Legislature's regular session ran from Jan. 14 to June 2, 2025. Although many bills related to nursing and health care were introduced only a few made it to the governor to sign into law, veto, or let pass without a signature. Some of those bills are listed below:

- HB 2187 Howard, Donna(D) Relating to hospital staffing report processes and to retaliation and mandatory overtime protections for nurses. Companions: SB 2356 Perry, Charles(R) (Identical)Remarks: This bill would require a mandatory reporting process for data related to staffing committees, and would require DSHS to provide the data to HHSC for enforcement. The bill would also prohibit hospitals from retaliating against nurses who report violations of the staffing committee law. Finally, the bill would require HHSC to maintain a website to which nurses may report violations of staffing committee or mandatory overtimes laws, and give HHSC the authority to investigate and impose administrative penalties for violations.
- SB 1829 Parker, Tan(R) Relating to human trafficking prevention, including training for first responders, disclosure of human trafficking information by certain health care facilities, and protection for facility employees who report human trafficking. Companions: HB 742 Thompson, Senfronia(D) (Identical) Remarks: This bill would prohibit facilities from retaliating against employees who report a suspected act of human trafficking in good faith. It would also require facilities to post signs with information on recognizing and reporting human trafficking.
- SB 2356 Perry, Charles(R) Relating to hospital staffing report processes and to retaliation and mandatory overtime protections for nurses. Companions: HB 2187 Howard, Donna(D) (Identical) Remarks: This bill would require a mandatory reporting process for data related to staffing committees, and would require DSHS to provide the data to HHSC for enforcement. The bill would also prohibit hospitals from retaliating against nurses who report violations of the staffing committee law. Finally, the bill would require HHSC to maintain a website to which nurses may report violations of staffing committee or mandatory overtimes laws, and give HHSC the authority to investigate and impose administrative penalties for violations. Companions: HB 2190 Howard, Donna(D) (Identical) Remarks: This bill would provide immunity from criminal liability for heath care providers for acts or omissions relating to the provision of health care services. The immunity would not apply if harm results from criminally negligent, reckless, knowing, or intentional acts.
- HB 1823 Thompson, Senfronia(D) Relating to the operation of a concrete crushing facility near a hospital. Companions: SB 2082 Miles, Borris(D) (Identical) Remarks: This bill would prohibit the operation of concrete crushing facilities within 440 yards of a hospital.
- SB 268 Perry and companion by Howard in HB 861. This bill clears up language and resources for relating certain complaints against health care practitioners.

 SB 920 by Sparks and companion by Frank HB 3397 and was sponsored by Howard. This bill allows clarification of the law relating to administration of over the counter medications to certain public and private school students.

2025 Legislative Recap (excerpts for Texas Tribune)

Texas' Republican-controlled Legislature passed <u>several top GOP initiatives</u> during the regular 2025 legislative session. Lawmakers agreed to create a <u>school voucher program</u>, <u>ban DEI initiatives in public schools</u>, increase <u>political appointees' control of state universities</u>, <u>prohibit consumable THC products</u> and let voters decide whether to improve the <u>state's water infrastructure</u>. This is a look at what officials passed — or didn't — on a number of fronts. Lawmakers sought to close gaps in education and support funding for agriculture, disaster preparedness and health care this year.

By <u>Jayme Lozano Carver</u>, <u>Carlos Nogueras Ramos</u>, <u>Jess Huff</u> and <u>Berenice</u> Garcia

June 5, 2025

Rural health

- 1. Texas lawmakers took several steps to address problems with rural health. This includes a bill that provides more support for rural hospitals. Experts say it could have helped prevent the closure of a hospital in East Texas during the legislative session.
- 2. The Mid Coast Medical Center closed down its operations in Trinity, a town of about 2,400 that is 90 miles north of Houston, citing financial concerns. Rural hospital closures slowed in Texas after the state saw an influx of federal funding for rural health care as part of the national response to COVID-19. The funding has ended, but inflation hasn't, leaving many rural hospitals with tough financial choices. House Bill 18, by Rep. Gary VanDeaver, R-New Boston, is known as the Rural Health Stabilization and Innovation Act. It seeks to give more support for rural hospitals by creating a State Office of Rural Hospital Finance to provide hospitals with technical assistance. Lynn Cowles, the health and food justice director for Every Texan, a public policy institute in Texas, said the bill is good but requires a lot of oversight and monitoring. "We do want to make sure that the bill's emphasis on administrative improvements and training is going to serve the bill's intent and not line pockets for consulting firms," Cowles said.
- 3. The bill also creates a Rural Hospital Financial Vulnerability Index and Needs Assessment, which will evaluate the financial health of rural hospitals, along with a Rural Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program and other measures. Under the bill, each hospital's reimbursement rates will be updated every two years.

- 4. Rural emergency services will also get a boost from lawmakers. House Bill 3000 by state Rep. Ken King, R-Canadian, addresses the lack of resources for rural emergency services, which largely happens because of tight budgets that keep medical departments from affording equipment. The bill establishes a grant program for qualified rural counties to purchase ambulances as a way to strengthen emergency services and improve response times.
- Disaster recovery and emergency preparedness
 - 1. Lawmakers also passed a bill directing the state's emergency division to establish a disaster recovery program. Authored by Rep. Trent Ashby, R-Lufkin, House Bill 3010 makes new money available to certain counties, cities and colleges when extreme weather devastates infrastructure. The bill does not include specific amount. Counties must have fewer than 100,000 residents to apply for this funding, which will be administered by the Texas Division of Emergency Management. To be eligible, the cost of restoring destroyed infrastructure must exceed 10% of what the county collects in state and local sales taxes. Applications must include an estimate of the total cost of the repairs and evidence that the project does not qualify for federal assistance. "We're on our own for the first 72 hours [of a disaster]," Ryder said. "Everything is spent, and then we hope we get reimbursed by FEMA."
 - 2. Another bill by Rep. David Spiller, R-Jacksboro, seeks to eliminate the disparities between rural and urban firefighting and rescue capabilities. The bill requires Texas A&M Engineering Service to conduct a study that evaluates the disparities and provide recommendations on how to improve it. Another requirement is that the study considers several factors, including available funding for personnel and equipment and the number of qualified candidates to fill new or vacant positions. The study is to be submitted by Dec. 1, 2026 to the governor, lieutenant governor and speaker of the House.
 - 3. Lawmakers also passed a slew of bills aimed at <u>preparing the state for wildfires</u> and mitigating the damage. The package of legislation includes 10% of money in the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance program to go to volunteer firefighters at risk for wildfires.

National

 Save Healthcare Workers Act would make it a federal crime to assault or otherwise interfere with health care workers while they are working. This bill has not been introduced to the House or Senate yet (as of 5/6/25). ENA is working with Rep. Madeleine Deen (D-PA) and Sen. Cindy Hyde- Smith (R-MS) to get bill introduced to both chambers. This is a refiling of H.R. 2584/ S. 2768 from the 118 Congress (2023-2024). It was previously named the Safety from Violence for Healthcare Employees (SAVE) Act.

- H.R. 929/ S. 266 Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act: provides direct support and training to combat mental health struggles among health care workers. This program has already provided more than \$100 million to support these workers, and ENA is looking to extend that program by an additional 5 years. Referred to House Energy & Commerce Committee, Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee for hearings.
- Advocacy Resources Below are one-page legislative priority information sheets and infographics that ENA advocates can use for reference:
- 1. File Save Healthcare Workers Act130 KB
- 2. File Workplace Violence Infographic649.19 KB
- 3. File Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act.pdf134.49 KB
- 4. File Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act114.1 KB
- 5. File <u>Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act129.85 KB</u>

ENA State Leaders: Got a State Bill to Track?

Contact ENA Government Relations and let us know the bill number - gov@ena.org

ENA411 Grassroots Advocacy Members of Congress need to hear from their constituents – this means you! Action Alerts highlight ENA's priorities before the House and Senate. Current Federal Legislative Priorities

Find out about current legislative priorities on the **ENA Government Relations page**.

If you haven't signed up already, click below and never miss another Action Alert!

Join EN411

For any questions or concerns contact littlemommanurse@aol.com



Safety Whys Update



Janet Pena and Mary Leblond 2025 Cornyval Strawberry Shortcake Booth

A special thanks to Janet Pena and Mary Leblond for their help with the Safety Whys C.A.R.E.S. Foundation Booth at Cornyval in Helotes in May 2025.

This picture was noted as the "Change of Shift" between the two. A lot of fun & fellowship was to be had & for the 4 days of the event, the booth took in a little over \$1000, with the proceeds going to the Resource Center Project.

YOUR 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Leslie Hinson

<u>President Elect</u>: Dustin English <u>Past President</u>: Barbara Baldwin

<u>Treasurer:</u> Diane Walcutt <u>Secretary:</u> Carol Twombly

Directors: Lisa King and Susan Douglass

2025 Texas ENA Meetings

Q3 – July 18 - 19, 2025 – Austin, Texas Hosted by Austin Chapter

For location and hotel info check the Meetings page of the TxEA website.

https://txena.org/meetings/

YOUR 2025 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bylaws / Policies: Dustin English
Election Process: Barbara Baldwin

Media: Yvonne Moseley

QSIP / Trauma / TNCC: Susan Douglass
 QSIP Co-Chair: Barbara Baldwin
Pediatrics / ENPC Diane Walcutt

Nursing Practice/Government Affairs: Mary Leblond

Membership: Wanda Sparks Fundraising: Linda Simpson

Conference: Lisa King

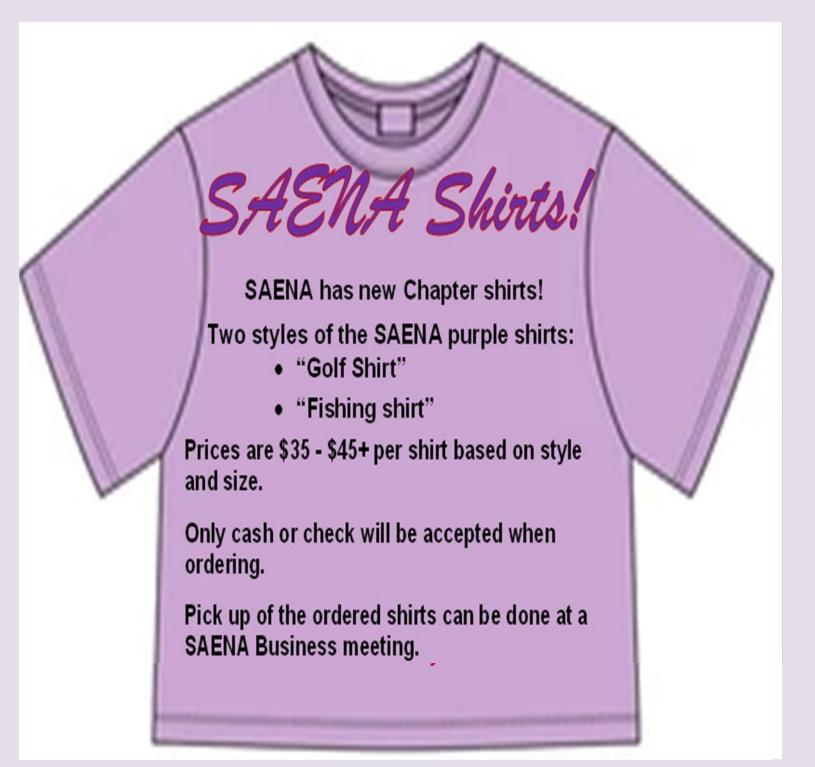
Professional Education: Leslie Hinson / Carol Twombly

Newsletter: Carol Twombly Scholarship: Thomas Culwell

Opting Out

If you wish to opt out of receiving this

Newsletter or other SAENA announcements,
please notify SAENA at cltwombly@aol.com



Texas Board of Nursing - Continuing Education Requirements for RNs

All Texas RNs are reminded to review the Texas Board of Nursing's mandatory continuing education re-licensure requirements located on the website at https://www.bon.texas.gov/education continuing education.asp#D

There are several factors which must be kept in mind when reviewing the information on the website:

- Course content must meet the stipulation requirements of the Texas Board of Nursing
- The time frame or licensure cycle for repeating the requirement differs from course to course
- The RN's practice type and/or 'float unit' may determine if a nurse needs to take a course
- Advance Practice RNs (APRN) have additional course requirements than RNs
- Course requirements are not automatically met with certification
- Additional education requirements may be added at any time. These requirements are announced in the Texas Board of Nursing's Bulletin.

Current RN Requirements:

- Forensics Evidence Collection
- Older Adult and Geriatric Care
- Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics
- *Human Trafficking Prevention

*Must be an approved Texas HHS course.

Current APRN Requirements:

- Pharmacotherapeutics
- Tick-Borne Diseases
- *Pain management and prescription of opioids
- *Prescription of opioids
- Authorization to receive information from the Texas Prescription Monitoring Program

^{*} All APRNs with prescriptive authority authorized to prescribe opioids



San Antonio Emergency Nurses Association

'Concepts in Emergency and Critical Care Nursing - 2025'

August 19, 2025

Featured Speaker:

Terry M. Foster

MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, CCRN, TCRN, FAEN

Featured in the TV series "Untold Stories of the ER" – 9 episodes

President of the ENA – 2023

In-person Attendance

Shrine Auditorium 901 N. Loop 1604 West (Access Road) San Antonio, Texas 78232



Virtually Attendance

Via Zoom

Access information provided after registration

SCAN ME

7 Hours of Nursing Education!

Free Secure Parking! Free Wifi!



Registration starts: 0700 Welcome: 0730 Lectures: 0745-1630

Registration form, speaker information, course descriptions and conference schedule are posted at:

https://www.sanantonioena.org/2025-conference/



San Antonio Emergency Nurses Association 'Concepts of Emergency and Critical Care Nursing – 2025' August 19, 2025

Conference Mail-In Registration Form

Please type or print legibly								
First Name (will be displayed on badge) Employer/Facility Home Address E-mail address			Credentials (eg: RN, APN, LVN, EMT-P, etc.)					
		Title	City, State, Zip Contact Phone Number					
		City						
		Cor						
ENA Number:		:-	Check correct box below					
			**ENA Member	Non- E Meml	10/00/00		N / EMS, *Studen	
MUST indicate <u>REGISTRATION Type</u> for August 19, 202		025	\$70	\$	85	\$70		
			<u>c</u>	heck corre	ct box	below		
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MUST indicate <u>ATTENDANCE</u> Option for August 19, 2025		2025						

Registration Fees and Payment Information

Conference registration includes: Access to all sessions for all attendees. Access to a continental breakfast, lunch, and the exhibit hall for in-person attendees.

Make checks payable to: SAENA, Inc

Send registration form and payment to: Carol Twombly Contact:

15215 Wayside Oaks St cltwombly@aol.com San Antonio, Texas 78232 Phone: (210)260-3699

To register by credit card, go to the SAENA website:

https://www.sanantonioena.org/2025-conference/

**Registrant must be an ENA member on the day of the seminar to receive the ENA Member Discount
*** Student – as defined by ENA: an individual obtaining their *initial* licensure as an RN (registered nurse).

Cancellation Notice: A written request must be received before July 15, 2025 to receive a 75% refund. A written request received between July 16 and Aug 1, 2025 will receive a 25% refund. There will be no refunds issued after August 1, 2025

Save the Dates!



Pre-Conference July 15, 2025

STRAC Emergency Healthcare
Systems Conference
July 16-17, 2025



Whole Blood Academy July 14, 2025

National Whole Blood Summit July 15, 2025



Location: Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in historic downtown San Antonio, just steps from the scenic River Walk. Stay with us at the luxurious Grand Hyatt, our host hotel, for an all-encompassing event experience.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

INFO@STRAC.ORG



REGISTER FOR NATIONAL WHOLE BLOOD SUMMIT