

**Date: September 22, 2023**



Oregon Center for  
**NURSING**

# FRIDAY HUDDLE

A gathering of Oregon nursing workforce leaders to offer timely updates and share insights from peers and stakeholders.

## Nursing Workforce

**Combining CNA 1 and 2 Roles:** Discussions continue around Oregon's scope of practice for certified nursing assistants. OSBN will hold its next public RAC for Division 63 on Tuesday, September 26, from 8-11 a.m. [Click here for additional information and dial-in information](#). Details for future meetings will be available [here](#).

**Respiratory Disease Season:** The CDC has put out [an advisory outlook](#) on the upcoming respiratory disease season, which explores the potential impact of COVID-19, flu, and RSV over the coming months. Predictions indicate that while all three will be prevalent this year, it will not be as severe as 2022. The Oregon Health Authority also [released information](#) for the state level.

**Updates and Highlights from OSBN:** The Oregon State Board of Nursing remains hard at work on numerous initiatives. Yesterday's meeting included numerous updates, including the [Oregon Wellness Program](#) receiving additional funds and clarification around the use of APRN credentials and titles. Executive Director Rachel Prusak reports that the turnaround time for nurse license applications has continued to improve. The team is working hard to hire additional team members and reintroduce a public call center. Finally, OSBN is seeking a direct care nurse to join the board—[apply here](#).

**CMS Staffing Mandate:** Huddlers discussed a [CMS new staffing mandate](#) that could impact long-term care (LTC) facilities in Oregon and beyond. The order fails to recognize LPNs as part of its staffing ratios, which could result in extreme hardships for LTC settings. The Oregon Center for Nursing plans to dive deeper into this new mandate and prepare an official review for future distribution.

**National Provider Identification (NPI) Survey:** The American Nurses Association (ANA) seeks input from registered nurses on utilizing unique nurse identifiers to measure, record, and value the services nurses provide to our healthcare communities. [Access the anonymous survey here](#).

## Nursing Education

**Back to School:** Many nursing programs have returned to the classroom for about a month. Various Huddlers from the education space agreed that returning to pre-pandemic status is far off. Several programs are in the process of reviewing applications for their Spring 2024 cohorts. Concordia St. Paul is digging into an increased number of application petitions, which cite COVID-related hardships that impacted their pre-nursing education.

## Events and Happenings

**High School Career Event Volunteers:** Portland Public Schools is seeking guest speakers for an upcoming Health Services Career Event! The event is scheduled for Thursday, November 9, from 9-11:30 a.m. at Grant High School in Portland. Interested? Contact Lisa Klingsporn at 971-221-9275 or [lklingsporn@pps.net](mailto:lklingsporn@pps.net) to volunteer.

### Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, September 29, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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[www.oregoncenterfornursing.org](http://www.oregoncenterfornursing.org)

