



FRIDAY MORNING HUDDLE

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

DATE: June 19, 2020

Nursing Education:

Summer/Fall Term Placements on Hold. Portland Metro area schools have received notices from multiple clinical partners that in-person acute care clinicals remain on hold for Summer/Fall. Some facilities have postponed clinicals until Summer 2021. Many rural schools report their clinical partners are resuming or planning to resume clinicals shortly. PeaceHealth is evaluating their capacity for Fall clinical students (across all health care disciplines), but also wants to leave capacity to staff/run their nurse residency program in the Fall. Facilities recognize the need to maintain connections with nursing education programs and their student pipelines, but are balancing PPE requirements, low census numbers and staffing concerns.

OSBN Clinical Placement Guidance. The Board of Nursing will allow programs the flexibility to say how there are meeting their educational goals (i.e. clinical placements, virtual simulation, simulation, etc.).

NCLEX Testing Delays. The Board of Nursing has heard that NCLEX testing is currently booked out until September – October. NCLEX is prioritizing nursing tests above other tests they administer. Schools are voicing their concern about extended wait times for students and the effect this may have on pass rates. According to the Board of Nursing, current state statutes do not allow for temporary licenses for nursing graduates. Graduate nurse licenses, in the past, were issued for nurses who had taken the NCLEX exam and were waiting for final results. They were not available for nurses who had not yet been tested. Facilities can still hire nursing graduates into technician roles and validate competencies internally but may not employ graduates as nurses.

Nurse Workforce:

License Delays. Lower Umpqua Hospital has hired multiple new nurse graduates. The grads have taken their NCLEX tests but have not receive updates on their license status. The Board of Nursing provided contact information so the facility can follow-up and get an update on the license status for these new employees. In addition to test results, there are other licensure components (fingerprints, background checks, etc.) that can potentially delay an application.

Nurse Residency Programs. PeaceHealth reports they are actively reviewing their nurse residency program and adjusting material to include upskilling and additional competency evaluations.

Resources:

[Nursing Maldistribution: The Intersection Between Practice Setting and Years of Nursing Experience](#) - OCN's latest study on the nursing workforce is out now.

**NEXT HUDDLE:
FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 8 A.M.**

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