



# FRIDAY MORNING HUDDLE

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

**DATE: August 7, 2020**

## Workforce Concerns:

**Long Term Care.** National statistics related to COVID-19's impact on long term care residents were shared, including over 7,000 deaths and 1.5% of long-term care residents testing positive for COVID-19. Additionally, facilities are reporting increased numbers of falls, depression and other health issues among residents. For Oregon-specific information, consider referring to [OHA's daily/weekly updates](#) and [Oregon Health Care Association's COVID-19 resource page](#).

**Impact of Childcare/Education on Staffing.** As school districts react to and release Fall education plans, employees may be facing child care shortages. Some facilities dealt with this in the spring and tried to identify community partners/child care providers for staff to utilize. Facilities are starting to think about plans to address increased call-outs and staffing needs in the Fall. Some facilities are reaching out to staff now to look at anticipated childcare support needs and/or schedule modification needs.

**Emergency Nurse License Authorization.** The Board of Nursing has extended the emergency license authorization but an application for licensure must be on file with the Board of Nursing to be considered.

**CNA Training and Retention.** Long term care facilities offering CNA trainings are running into issue with having to cancel clinicals for students due to COVID-19 positive residents in the buildings, which delays the training completion. Nursing homes and long-term care facilities are federally-regulated and anyone who is a nursing assistant in a long-term care facility must be certified. With a shortage of CNAs in nursing homes/skilled nursing, there is a concerted effort to try and recruit CNAs from assisted living facilities to work in long term care. Issues affecting recruitment included workload and pay disparities.

## Nursing Education:

**COVID Testing for Students.** Students are being asked to submit COVID-19 test results prior to attending clinicals but are having trouble securing referrals for testing. University of Portland has worked with their student health center to make testing available. A link of active testing sites is [available here](#).

**Deferred Enrollment.** Some schools are seeing requests from students to defer enrollment in the Fall. It appears nursing program deferments may be lower than general school deferments. Students opting to defer are concerned about reduced in-person instruction, on-campus housing or underlying medical conditions that put them at higher risk. Community college, which start classes later in the school year are not yet seeing requests for deferment. They are still looking at creative ways to address room capacity guidelines.

## Resources:

**Simulation Q&A Meeting.** Join Oregon simulation experts to get answers to your simulation questions. [Registration Link](#)

**National Academy of Medicine Webinar: Nursing's Role in Health Equity, Public Health Emergencies, and COVID-19.** [Registration Link](#)

NEXT HUDDLE:  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 8 A.M.

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