

Date: October 11, 2024



Oregon Center for
N U R S I N G

FRIDAY HUDDLE

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

Mark Your Calendars: We recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day on Monday, October 14. Learn more [about the day and culturally sensitive resources here](#). In addition, Mental Health Awareness Week was celebrated October 6-12. The National Alliance on Mental Health prepared [a digital toolkit to help you join the conversation](#) at home and work.

Nursing Workforce

Hurricane Season Causes IV Fluid Shortages: As hurricane season continues to batter the East Coast, healthcare systems nationwide face [an impending shortage of IV fluids and other essential supplies](#). Huddlers reported that numerous Oregon hospitals are already feeling the strain. Systems such as PeaceHealth, Providence, and Salem Health report implementing conservation plans to make the most of their current supplies, including tactics such as rescheduling elective procedures. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [has not declared an official shortage yet](#).

Nurse Policy Entrepreneur Cafe: A collective of nursing professionals interested in becoming effective policy entrepreneurs, the [Nurse Policy Entrepreneur Cafe](#) is a virtual conversation on the second Saturday of every month. October's event is scheduled for tomorrow, October 12, at 0900 (PST). Advanced registration is required. This is an exciting opportunity for both current professionals and students who are passionate about policy work and advocacy.

State Board of Nursing Updates: [The Oregon State Board of Nursing](#) (OSBN) shared exciting updates on its continued work, including furthering its ideal that nurse wellness is public protection. Leadership is working to remove barriers from many policies, including nursing license renewal, clinical placement, and hiring nurse educators. Additionally, OSBN is planning a Lunch and Learn session to address [the Nurse Intern licensure](#). Replays of all public OSBN meetings are available on the Board's official [YouTube Channel](#).

OHA Hospital Staffing Program Resources: The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) hosted an informational webinar on nurse staffing ratios on Friday, October 11. A replay of the webinar should be available. In addition, OHA released [an updated version of its FAQ document](#), including topics such as mandatory overtime.

Nursing Education

Making Nursing School Accessible: Huddlers explored the barriers that can make pursuing a nursing education unreachable for interested individuals—including those already working in the healthcare space. Many nontraditional students must continue working to pay for housing, living expenses, and family needs. Unfortunately, work schedules do not often align with nursing school obligations, such as lectures, clinicals, and skills labs, which take place during the work week. Huddlers discussed how local employers might be willing to pay tuition expenses for employees looking to return to school. However, scheduling conflicts and the loss of income can still deter potential students. Accelerated BSN programs and community college-based ADN programs address some, but not all, of these barriers.

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, October 18, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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