

Date: January 3, 2025



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

Rogue Community College Explores AI Usage: Rouge Community College is exploring how different industries utilize artificial intelligence in Oregon. The college invites public input [via a short digital survey](#). Feedback is due by EOD today, January 3.

Highest Pertussis Case Count Since 1950: The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) [registered 1,105 cases of pertussis](#)—also known as whooping cough—in 2024. This is the highest number of cases in a single year since 1950. Experts believe that one contributor to the spike might be related to a need for vaccine boosters, especially among older adults who might have gotten the initial vaccination a number of years ago.

Nursing Education

Clinical Placements During Labor Negotiations: Huddlers explored the possible impact [the upcoming Providence strike](#) might have on clinical placement for nursing students. Nursing schools anticipate disruptions to both student practicum placements as well as clinical rotations. Educators are actively preparing to minimize the disruption, recognizing that the effects of the strike could extend well beyond its conclusion and potentially impact placements for an entire academic term. While the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) does not engage in labor negotiations, it is working proactively to mitigate disruptions in student learning and prevent delays in academic progression. Drawing on lessons learned during COVID-19, the Board invites nursing programs to develop and submit individualized plans to maintain clinical hours. Flexibility for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) students is also being considered to address potential interruptions. OSBN is [adding a public portion to its executive session](#) on Wednesday, January 15, to share additional guidance and insight on the situation.

Events and Happenings

Health Care Workforce Committee Meeting: Join the Health Care Workforce Committee for a meeting on Monday, January 6. The committee will explore the need for Oregon healthcare workers across the state and practice areas, including nursing. [Click here for additional information](#).

Upcoming Nursing Conferences: Mark your calendars for some exciting conference opportunities coming up in 2025! First, [NurseLearn will host its first annual event](#) on Friday, March 21, in Salem, Oregon. The day-long conference explores nursing in community-based care, including keynote speaker OSBN Director Rachel Prusak and numerous workshops. Then, join the [Northwest Organization of Nurse Leaders](#) (NWNOL) in downtown Portland on May 18-20 for the organization's annual conference. Topics include staff development, cultivating healthy workplaces, and more.

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, January 10, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

Find OCN Online

www.oregoncenterfornursing.org

