

Date: February 14, 2025



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.

Nursing Workforce

Nursing-Related Legislature Tracker: The [OCN Legislature Tracker](#) is a nonpartisan digital tool updated weekly to help the nursing community stay informed about the latest nursing and healthcare-related bills circulating in the Oregon legislature this season.

Updates from OSBN: The first public Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) meeting is scheduled for next week, February 19, with a full agenda. Find all the [details on the organization's website](#). You can also watch [live on the OSBN YouTube channel](#). In addition, correcting misinformation shared in last week's Friday Huddle Summary, applicants applying for a nursing license or renewal still must answer mental health-related questions. OSBN is working to remove these from the application in the coming months.

Most Intense Flu Season in 15 Years: Data suggests that the United States is [facing its worst flu season in more than a decade](#), according to CNN. Huddlers discussed how our communities can support public health efforts, including being aware of current infectious diseases and reporting new known cases per guidelines. A Huddler working in the public health sector reminded those on the call that the [Oregon Health Authority is a good resource](#) for state-level insights. In addition, each county has information about cases and testing resources on [its local health department website](#).

Websites to Follow Federal Changes: Huddlers also discussed how members of the nursing community can stay informed as new federal mandates and executive orders are rolled out. The [Oregon Health Authority website](#) and the [Department of Human Services website](#) have pages dedicated to how these federal-level motions impact Oregonians. Currently, there has been no widespread impact, but Huddlers expect to see the effects soon.

Friday Huddle Favorite Resources: In addition, Huddlers also shared their favorite resources for staying informed of healthcare-related news and beyond. Organizations like the [World Health Organization](#) and [OHA](#) send regular email newsletters. Other go-to online sources for Huddlers include [Your Local Epidemiologist](#), [Ground News](#), [NPR](#), and [1440](#). Favorite podcasts include [The Daily](#), [Public Health on Call](#), and [KFF Health News: What the Health](#).

Nursing is STEM Coalition: Founded in 2023, the Nursing is STEM Coalition is a national coalition working to have the academic and professional discipline of nursing broadly adopted as STEM-designated by educators, policymakers, healthcare providers, and the public domain. The coalition's efforts aim to accelerate the growth of the professional workforce, unlock new funding sources, and more. [Learn more about the coalition's efforts on the organization's website](#).

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, February 21, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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