

**Date: February 21, 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

**OSBN February Meeting Round-up:** The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) held its public meeting this week; [replays are available on the organization's YouTube channel](#). New reports showed that OSBN processed over 2,500 licensure applications in January, up from its usual 800 monthly applications. The spike is largely attributed to current nursing labor strikes. Board representatives also shared their continued work on a DEI statement.

**Addressing Opioid Abuse in Emergency Care:** A new pilot program will provide [six months of training to improve the accessibility and uptake of addiction care](#) in emergency care settings in Multnomah and Marion counties. The program will train emergency responders to assess patients and provide medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder in the field, as well as support emergency departments in implementing 24/7 addiction services.

**Oregon Healthcare Spending By County:** New [research from the University of Washington](#) found that Oregon spent \$30.3 billion on healthcare in 2019. Clackamas and Deschutes counties spent the most per patient among all counties in the state.

**Improving Rural Health Care for Mothers and Babies:** The state of Pennsylvania has [launched research efforts inspired by the closure of labor and delivery](#) units in rural communities. We are seeing some of this same trend in rural parts of Oregon. Research in other states might help inform potential improvement strategies that could be used nationally.

## Nursing Education

**Projections of High School Graduates:** A new study [explores high school graduates across the country](#), broken down by state. America's number of high school graduates is expected to peak in 2025 and steadily decline. This demographic is often focused on when considering nursing workforce trends across the United States.

**Barriers Facing Out-of-State Clinical Placements:** Huddlers report an equal increase in in-state and out-of-state clinical placement requests, including graduate-level students enrolled in advanced practice programs. According to OSBN, many students attending these out-of-state programs are Oregon-based students enrolled in online programs. The latest research into why Oregon facilities and clinics deny clinical placement requests took place more than 12 years ago. But the barriers still exist. Anecdotally, these challenges include employers prioritizing orientation for newly hired employees and the [mental burden involved in precepting a student](#) on staff employees who are already experiencing burnout. Huddlers also discussed the qualifications of clinical faculty who support students during clinical placements. While OSBN requires these instructors to be registered nurses, schools ultimately decide on qualifications, including graduate-level education and clinical specialties.

### Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, February 28, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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