

Date: March 28, 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

Celebrating Five Years of the Friday Huddle: Did you know the OCN Friday Huddle celebrates an exciting milestone this month? Our virtual community turns five years old this year. And we want to hear from you! Tell us how the Friday Huddle has impacted you and [how we can continue to make our weekly conversations beneficial](#).

Nursing-Centric Legislative Updates: Learn about the nursing and healthcare-focused bills that are being discussed in Oregon's legislature. [The OCN Legislature Tracker is a bipartisan tool](#) updated weekly with new information about the status of proposed bills and upcoming milestones associated with them.

Impact of Federal Grant Cuts in Oregon: The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) [published a review of the effects expected on statewide programs](#), following the announcement of numerous budget cuts at the Federal level. The CDC and SAMHSA will terminate \$117,000,000 in COVID-era grants and funding for Oregon-based programs. While COVID-era funding was expected to end eventually, many programs anticipated at least another year of financial security, according to one attendee. Initiatives impacted include immunizations, rural health training programs, communicable disease surveillance, and more. Huddlers discussed how these changes could significantly impact healthcare for Oregonians across the state.

Removing Barriers to Nursing Licensure: Huddlers also heard from Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) Executive Director Rachel Prusak about [new updates to Division 31](#). As part of its mission to remove barriers to nurse licensure, OSBN recently removed mental health questions and English proficiency requirements for applicants applying for a new license or renewing an existing one. The organization will evaluate these changes over the next year to assess their impact. [Watch a replay of a Lunch and Learn session addressing these updates](#) on the OSBN YouTube channel.

Events & Happenings

NPO Annual Pharmacology Conference: Join the Nurse Practitioners of Oregon (NPO) for its annual conference—happening next week, April 5, in Wilsonville, Oregon! This day-long event will cover highly relevant topics for Oregon's advanced practice providers, including recent updates in prescription medications, communicable diseases, and more. [Learn more and register online before the conference sells out!](#)

Launch Your Public Health Career with OPHA: Do you know a student exploring the healthcare sector or a professional ready for a change in their career? Join the [Oregon Public Health Association for a virtual workshop on Wednesday, April 9](#), exploring how to establish a career in public health. The event is open to the public, but [prior registration is required](#).

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, April 4, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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www.oregoncenterfornursing.org

