

Date: April 11, 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

**Oregon State Board of Nursing's Monthly Meeting:** The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) will [host its monthly meeting](#) next week, April 16-17. Hear from Jana Bitton on the Oregon Center for Nursing's current research on behalf of our statewide nursing workforce. You can also [tune into any OSBN meeting live](#) on YouTube.

**Judge Overturns Nursing Home Staffing Mandate:** This week, a federal judge in Texas blocked the Biden administration's [proposed mandate of minimum staffing levels](#) in federally funded nursing homes. The regulation required a registered nurse on-site 24/7 and at least 3.5 hours of nursing care per resident daily. The case states that the Department of Health and Human Services exceeded its authority, as current law mandates eight hours of daily registered nurse coverage. It's unclear what will happen to the proposed staffing guidelines next.

**Navigating Nursing During Economic Downturns:** Huddlers explored the impact of the 2008 recession on nursing in Oregon and discussed parallels with the current economic climate. While hiring slowed during the previous downturn, attendees who had been practicing at that time recalled that it wasn't catastrophic, though new graduates faced significant challenges finding employment. Creative solutions often emerged in response to limited opportunities. For example, the Oregon Health Care Association (OHCA) is launching a program to sponsor nurse residencies in skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), funded by state-level grants.

**Finding New Graduate Roles During an Economic Downturn:** The conversation also addressed the challenges that recent nursing graduates might face and how economic challenges influence how employers hire new professionals. Attendees emphasized the importance of creativity, networking, and flexibility for students entering the workforce. Other ideas included leveraging job fairs and mentorships, requesting informational interviews, and staying engaged with professional organizations. The Oregon Nurses Association's Professional Practice Department is available for nursing students seeking support entering the workforce—email [Practice@oregonrn.org](mailto:Practice@oregonrn.org). In addition, any Huddlers interested in serving as a mentor or students interested in connecting with a professional mentor can contact the Oregon Center for Nursing (email [Jana.Bitton@oregoncenterfornursing.org](mailto:Jana.Bitton@oregoncenterfornursing.org)) for support in connecting with others.

## Events & Happenings

**Upcoming Nursing Conferences and Events:** Spring is the time for continuing education! Mark your calendars for these exciting nursing conferences and events:

- [Healing, Belonging, & the Passion for Nursing Conference](#) (May 16, 2025)
- [Linfield University SON Healthcare Symposium](#) (May 17, 2025)
- [Northwest Organization of Nurse Leaders Conference](#) (May 18-20, 2025)

### Next Friday Huddle:

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

[Register Here!](#)

### Find OCN Online:

[www.oregoncenterfornursing.org](http://www.oregoncenterfornursing.org)

