



## FRIDAY HUDDLE

*Convene • Connect • Collaborate*

A gathering of Oregon nursing workforce leaders to offer timely updates and share insights from peers and stakeholders.



### NURSE WORKFORCE

**Save the Date- “Caring for All, Diminishing None”:** The upcoming OCN conference on October 19<sup>th</sup> will focus on highlighting ongoing concerns around workplace culture, including incivility, bullying, and well-being within nursing. These themes continue to emerge in workforce data, signaling a need for more open dialogue and actionable strategies to strengthen workplace environments.

**Consumer Advocacy Support:** Looking for some good news? A Lund Report article on the [Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services](#) demonstrated how small teams are making a meaningful impact by helping patients navigate medical bills and maintain continuity of care—serving as an important reminder of external supports available to patients and providers.

### NURSE EDUCATION

**National Accreditation Requirements:** Huddlers focused on Oregon’s requirement that all nursing programs obtain national accreditation by 2029. Accreditation is increasingly essential for students’ ability to advance their education and careers. Without it, graduates may face barriers entering graduate programs or practicing in other states, sometimes forcing them into less desirable or out-of-state educational pathways. While this supports consistency and student mobility, significant concerns remain about cost and administrative burden. Expenses include candidacy fees, annual fees, and site visit costs that can exceed \$10,000, in addition to substantial staff time and preparation efforts.

**NCLEX Exam Access:** The possibility of offering the NCLEX online remains uncertain. While the technology may exist, concerns about exam security and integrity—particularly related to AI-assisted cheating—have paused progress. Testing will continue through controlled testing centers for now, though accessibility challenges, especially for rural students, remain part of the broader conversation.

**Leadership Opportunities in Education:** The [National League for Nursing is seeking nominations](#) for board and committee positions, offering opportunities for Oregon nurses involved in education to expand leadership, influence national conversations, and build professional connections.

### RESOURCES

**Dr. Pam Fifer Memorial:** A memorial service for [Dr. Pam Fifer](#)—GFU Dean of Nursing, former OCN board president, and deeply respected leader in the nursing community—will be held April 18, 10am, at George Fox University.

**OCN Trends Report AND Extended Cut:** The Oregon Center for Nursing released a new [workforce trends report](#), highlighting key insights of the nursing workforce in Oregon. A [Friday Huddle: Extended Cut](#) session on April 17 will provide a deeper dive into the findings and implications.

**Pharmacology Conference:** The [NPO Pharmacology Conference](#) is taking place this weekend in Portland, with on-site registration available. Topics include emerging and evolving therapies such as psilocybin, cannabis, and ketamine.



NEXT FRIDAY HUDDLE:

Friday, April 17th, at 8:00 a.m.

[OregonCenterForNursing.org](https://OregonCenterForNursing.org)

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