

# STATE OF OREGON



## *STATUTES PERTAINING TO THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY*

**Oregon Revised Statutes (2023)**

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**STATUTES PERTAINING TO THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
**2023 Edition - Oregon Revised Statutes**

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## **OREGON EVIDENCE CODE- PRIVILEGES**

### **40.230 Rule 504. Psychotherapist-Patient Privilege**

(1) As used in this section, unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) “Confidential communication” means a communication not intended to be disclosed to third persons except:

(A) Persons present to further the interest of the patient in the consultation, examination or interview;

(B) Persons reasonably necessary for the transmission of the communication; or

(C) Persons who are participating in the diagnosis and treatment under the direction of the psychotherapist, including members of the patient’s family.

(b) “Patient” means a person who consults or is examined or interviewed by a psychotherapist.

(c) “Psychotherapist” means a person who is:

(A) Licensed, registered, certified or otherwise authorized under the laws of any state to engage in the diagnosis or treatment of a mental or emotional condition; or

(B) Reasonably believed by the patient so to be, while so engaged.

(2) A patient has a privilege to refuse to disclose and to prevent any other person from disclosing confidential communications made for the purposes of diagnosis or treatment of the patient’s mental or emotional condition among the patient, the patient’s psychotherapist or persons who are participating in the diagnosis or treatment under the direction of the psychotherapist, including members of the patient’s family.

(3) The privilege created by this section may be claimed by:

(a) The patient.

(b) A guardian or conservator of the patient.

(c) The personal representative of a deceased patient.

(d) The person who was the psychotherapist, but only on behalf of the patient. The psychotherapist’s authority so to do is presumed in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

(4) The following is a nonexclusive list of limits on the privilege granted by this section:

(a) If the judge orders an examination of the mental, physical or emotional condition of the patient, communications made in the course thereof are not privileged under this section with respect to the particular purpose for which the examination is ordered unless the judge orders otherwise.

(b) There is no privilege under this rule as to communications relevant to an issue of the mental or emotional condition of the patient:

(A) In any proceeding in which the patient relies upon the condition as an element of the patient’s claim or defense; or

(B) After the patient’s death, in any proceeding in which any party relies upon the condition as an element of the party’s claim or defense.

(c) Except as provided in ORCP 44, there is no privilege under this section for communications made in the course of mental examination performed under ORCP 44.

(d) There is no privilege under this section with regard to any confidential communication or record of such confidential communication that would otherwise be privileged under this section when the use of the communication or record is allowed specifically under ORS 426.070, 426.074, 426.075, 426.095, 426.120 or 426.307. This paragraph only applies to the use of the communication or record to the extent and for the purposes set forth in the described statute sections. [1981 c.892 §33; 1987 c.903 §1]

### **40.252 Rule 504-5. Communications revealing intent to commit certain crimes.**

(1) In addition to any other limitations on privilege that may be imposed by law, there is no privilege under ORS 40.225, 40.230, 40.250, 40.264 or 40.274 for communications if:

(a) In the professional judgment of the person receiving the communications, the communications reveal that the declarant has a clear and serious intent at the time the communications are made to subsequently commit a crime involving physical injury, a threat to the physical safety of any person, sexual abuse or death or involving an act described in ORS 167.322;

(b) In the professional judgment of the person receiving the communications, the declarant poses a danger of committing the crime; and

(c) The person receiving the communications makes a report to another person based on the communications.

(2) The provisions of this section do not create a duty to report any communication to any person.

(3) A person who discloses a communication described in subsection (1) of this section, or fails to disclose a communication described in subsection (1) of this section, is not liable to any other person in a civil action for any damage or injury arising out of the disclosure or failure to disclose. [2001 c.640 §2; 2007 c.731 §4; 2015 c.265 §3; 2019 c.604 §18]

**Note:** 40.252 was added to and made a part of 40.225 to 40.295 by legislative action but was not added to any smaller series therein. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

#### **40.264 Rule 507-1. Certified advocate-victim privilege.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) “Certified advocate” means a person who:

(A) Has completed at least 40 hours of training in advocacy for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking, approved by the Attorney General by rule; and

(B) Is an employee or a volunteer of a qualified victim services program.

(b) “Confidential communication” means a written or oral communication that is not intended for further disclosure, except to:

(A) Persons present at the time the communication is made who are present to further the interests of the victim in the course of seeking safety planning, counseling, support or advocacy services;

(B) Persons reasonably necessary for the transmission of the communication; or

(C) Other persons, in the context of group counseling.

(c) “Qualified victim services program” means:

(A) A nongovernmental, nonprofit, community-based program receiving moneys administered by the state Department of Human Services or the Oregon or United States Department of Justice, or a program administered by a tribal government, that offers safety planning, counseling, support or advocacy services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking; or

(B) A sexual assault center, victim advocacy office, women’s center, student affairs center, health center or other program providing safety planning, counseling, support or advocacy services to victims that is on the campus of or affiliated with a two- or four-year post-secondary institution that enrolls one or more students who receive an Oregon Opportunity Grant.

(d) “Victim” means a person seeking safety planning, counseling, support or advocacy services related to domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking at a qualified victim services program.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a victim has a privilege to refuse to disclose and to prevent any other person from disclosing:

(a) Confidential communications made by the victim to a certified advocate in the course of safety planning, counseling, support or advocacy services.

(b) Records that are created or maintained in the course of providing services regarding the victim.

(3) The privilege established by this section does not apply to the disclosure of confidential communications, only to the extent disclosure is necessary for defense, in any civil, criminal or administrative action that is brought against the certified advocate, or against the qualified victim services program, by or on behalf of the victim.

(4) The privilege established in this section is not waived by disclosure of the communications by the certified advocate to another person if the disclosure is reasonably necessary to accomplish the purpose for which the certified advocate is consulted.

(5) This section does not prohibit the disclosure of aggregate, nonpersonally identifying data.

(6) This section applies to civil, criminal and administrative proceedings and to institutional disciplinary proceedings at a two-year or four-year post-secondary institution that enrolls one or more students who receive an Oregon Opportunity Grant. [2015 c.265 §2; 2017 c.256 §1]

**Note:** 40.264 was added to and made a part of 40.225 to 40.295 by legislative action but was not added to any smaller series therein. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**40.280 Rule 511. Waiver of privilege by voluntary disclosure.**

A person upon whom ORS 40.225 to 40.295 confer a privilege against disclosure of the confidential matter or communication waives the privilege if the person or the person's predecessor while holder of the privilege voluntarily discloses or consents to disclosure of any significant part of the matter or communication. This section does not apply if the disclosure is itself a privileged communication. Voluntary disclosure does not occur with the mere commencement of litigation or, in the case of a deposition taken for the purpose of perpetuating testimony, until the offering of the deposition as evidence. Voluntary disclosure does not occur when representatives of the news media are allowed to attend executive sessions of the governing body of a public body as provided in ORS 192.660 (4), or when representatives of the news media disclose information after the governing body has prohibited disclosure of the information under ORS 192.660 (4). Voluntary disclosure does not occur when a public body, as defined in ORS 192.311, discloses information or records in response to a written request for public records made under ORS 192.311 to 192.478. Voluntary disclosure does occur, as to psychotherapists in the case of a mental or emotional condition and physicians in the case of a physical condition upon the holder's offering of any person as a witness who testifies as to the condition. [1981 c.892 §39; 2003 c.259 §1; 2017 c.456 §9]

**AUTHORITY OF PARENT WHEN OTHER PARENT GRANTED SOLE CUSTODY OF CHILD, ORS 107.154**

**107.154** Unless otherwise ordered by the court, an order of sole custody to one parent shall not deprive the other parent of the following authority:

(1) To inspect and receive school records and to consult with school staff concerning the child's welfare and education, to the same extent as the custodial parent may inspect and receive such records and consult with such staff;

(2) To inspect and receive governmental agency and law enforcement records concerning the child to the same extent as the custodial parent may inspect and receive such records;

(3) To consult with any person who may provide care or treatment for the child and to inspect and receive the child's medical, dental and psychological records, to the same extent as the custodial parent may consult with such person and inspect and receive such records;

(4) To authorize emergency medical, dental, psychological, psychiatric or other health care for the child if the custodial parent is, for practical purposes, unavailable; or

(5) To apply to be the child's conservator, guardian ad litem or both. [1987 c.795 §3]

## **RIGHTS OF MINORS, ORS 109.672 – 109.695**

**109.672 Certain persons immune from liability for providing care to minor.** (1) No person licensed, certified or registered to practice a health care profession or health care facility shall be liable for damages in any civil action arising out of the failure of the person or facility to obtain the consent of a parent to the giving of medical care or treatment to a minor child of the parent if consent to the care has been given by the other parent of the child.

(2) The immunity provided by subsection (1) of this section shall apply regardless of whether:

(a) The parents are married, unmarried or separated at the time of consent or treatment.

(b) The consenting parent is, or is not, a custodial parent of the minor.

(c) The giving of consent by only one parent is, or is not, in conformance with the terms of any agreement between the parents, any custody order or any judgment of dissolution or separation.

(3) The immunity created by subsection (1) of this section shall not apply if the parental rights of the parent who gives consent have been terminated pursuant to ORS 419B.500 to 419B.524.

(4) For the purposes of this section, “health care facility” means a facility as defined in ORS 442.015 or any other entity providing medical service. [Formerly 109.133; 1993 c.33 §296; 2003 c.576 §158]

**109.675 Right to diagnosis or treatment for mental or emotional disorder or chemical dependency without parental consent.** (1) A minor 14 years of age or older may obtain, without parental knowledge or consent:

(a) Outpatient diagnosis or treatment of a mental or emotional disorder or a chemical dependency, excluding methadone maintenance, by a physician or physician assistant licensed by the Oregon Medical Board, a psychologist licensed by the Oregon Board of Psychology, a nurse practitioner registered by the Oregon State Board of Nursing, a clinical social worker licensed by the State Board of Licensed Social Workers, a professional counselor or marriage and family therapist licensed by the Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists, a naturopathic physician licensed by the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine or a community mental health program established and operated pursuant to ORS 430.620 when approved to do so by the Oregon Health Authority pursuant to rule.

(b) Outpatient applied behavior analysis, as defined in ORS 676.802, as a treatment of a mental or emotional disorder or a chemical dependency, excluding methadone maintenance, by a behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst licensed under ORS 676.810 or a behavior analysis interventionist registered by the Health Licensing Office under ORS 676.815 if the treatment is within the scope of practice of the behavior analyst, assistant behavior analyst or behavior analysis interventionist.

(2) However, the person providing treatment shall have the parents of the minor involved before the end of treatment unless the parents refuse or unless there are clear clinical indications to the contrary, which shall be documented in the treatment record. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to:

(a) A minor who has been sexually abused by a parent; or

(b) An emancipated minor, whether emancipated under the provisions of ORS 109.510 and 109.520 or 419B.550 to 419B.558 or, for the purpose of this section only, emancipated by virtue of having lived apart from the parents or legal guardian while being self-sustaining for a period of 90 days prior to obtaining treatment as provided by this section. [1985 c.525 §1; 1989 c.721 §47; 1993 c.546 §137; 1997 c.249 §38; 2009 c.442 §30; 2009 c.595 §71; 2013 c.178 §1; 2014 c.45 §13; 2017 c.6 §1; 2017 c.356 §6; 2023 c.500 §7]

**109.680 Disclosure by mental health care provider without minor’s consent; civil immunity.** (1) As used in this section, “mental health care provider” means a physician or physician assistant licensed by the Oregon Medical Board, psychologist licensed by the Oregon Board of



Psychology, nurse practitioner registered by the Oregon State Board of Nursing, clinical social worker licensed under ORS 675.530, professional counselor or marriage and family therapist licensed by the Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists, naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685 or community mental health program established and operated pursuant to ORS 430.620 when approved to do so by the Oregon Health Authority pursuant to rule.

(2)(a) A mental health care provider that is providing services to a minor pursuant to ORS 109.675 may disclose relevant health information about the minor without the minor's consent as provided in ORS 109.675 (2) and this subsection.

(b) If the minor's condition has deteriorated or the risk of a suicide attempt has become such that inpatient treatment is necessary, or if the minor's condition requires detoxification in a residential or acute care facility, the minor's mental health care provider may disclose the relevant information regarding the minor's diagnosis and treatment to the minor's parent or legal guardian to the extent the mental health care provider determines the disclosure is clinically appropriate and will serve the best interests of the minor's treatment.

(c) If the mental health care provider assesses the minor to be at serious and imminent risk of a suicide attempt but inpatient treatment is not necessary or practicable:

(A) The mental health care provider shall disclose relevant information about the minor to and engage in safety planning with the minor's parent, legal guardian or other individuals the provider reasonably believes may be able to prevent or lessen the minor's risk of a suicide attempt.

(B) The mental health care provider may disclose relevant information regarding the minor's treatment and diagnosis that the mental health care provider determines is necessary to further the minor's treatment to those organizations, including appropriate schools and social service entities, that the mental health care provider reasonably believes will provide treatment support to the minor to the extent the mental health care provider determines necessary.

(d) Except as provided in ORS 109.675 (2) and paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, if a mental health care provider has provided the minor with the opportunity to object to the disclosure and the minor has not expressed an objection, the mental health care provider may disclose information related to the minor's treatment and diagnosis to individuals, including the minor's parent or legal guardian, and organizations when the information directly relates to the individual's or organization's involvement in the minor's treatment.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2)(c)(A) of this section, a mental health care provider is not required to disclose the minor's treatment and diagnosis information to an individual if the mental health care provider:

(a) Reasonably believes the individual has abused or neglected the minor or subjected the minor to domestic violence or may abuse or neglect the minor or subject the minor to domestic violence;

(b) Reasonably believes disclosure of the minor's information to the individual could endanger the minor; or

(c) Determines that it is not in the minor's best interest to disclose the information to the individual.

(4) Nothing in this section is intended to limit a mental health care provider's authority to disclose information related to the minor with the minor's consent.

(5) If a mental health care provider discloses a minor's information as provided in subsection (2) of this section in good faith, the mental health care provider is immune from civil liability for making the disclosure without the consent of the minor. [1985 c.525 §2; 1989 c.721 §48; 2009 c.442 §31; 2009 c.595 §72; 2013 c.178 §2; 2014 c.45 §14; 2017 c.356 §7; 2021 c.301 §1; 2023 c.9 §7]

**109.685 Immunity from civil liability for person providing treatment or diagnosis.** A physician, physician assistant, psychologist, nurse practitioner, clinical social worker licensed under ORS 675.530, professional counselor or marriage and family therapist licensed by the Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists, naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685 or

community mental health program described in ORS 109.675 who in good faith provides diagnosis or treatment to a minor as authorized by ORS 109.675 shall not be subject to any civil liability for providing such diagnosis or treatment without consent of the parent or legal guardian of the minor. [1985 c.525 §3; 1989 c.721 §49; 2009 c.442 §32; 2009 c.595 §73; 2013 c.178 §3; 2014 c.45 §15; 2017 c.356 §8]

**109.690 Parent or guardian not liable for payment under ORS 109.675.** If diagnosis or treatment services are provided to a minor pursuant to ORS 109.675 without consent of the minor's parent or legal guardian, the parent, parents or legal guardian of the minor shall not be liable for payment for any such services rendered. [1985 c.525 §4]

**109.695 Rules for implementation of ORS 109.675 to 109.695.** For the purpose of carrying out the policy and intent of ORS 109.675 to 109.695 while taking into account the respective rights of minors at risk of chemical dependency or mental or emotional disorder and the rights and interests of parents or legal guardians of such minors, the Oregon Health Authority shall adopt rules for the implementation of ORS 109.675 to 109.695 by community mental health programs approved to do so. Such rules shall provide for the earliest feasible involvement of the parents or guardians in the treatment plan consistent with clinical requirements of the minor. [1985 c.525 §5; 2009 c.595 §74]

## **REPORTING OF ABUSE OF ELDERLY PERSONS, ORS 124.050 – 124.095**

### **124.050 Definitions for ORS 124.050 to 124.095.** As used in ORS 124.050 to 124.095:

- (1) “Abuse” means one or more of the following:
  - (a) Any physical injury to an elderly person caused by other than accidental means, or which appears to be at variance with the explanation given of the injury.
  - (b) Neglect.
  - (c) Abandonment, including desertion or willful forsaking of an elderly person or the withdrawal or neglect of duties and obligations owed an elderly person by a caretaker or other person.
  - (d) Willful infliction of physical pain or injury upon an elderly person.
  - (e) An act that constitutes a crime under ORS 163.375, 163.405, 163.411, 163.415, 163.425, 163.427, 163.465, 163.467 or 163.525.
  - (f) Verbal abuse.
  - (g) Financial exploitation.
  - (h) Sexual abuse.
  - (i) Involuntary seclusion of an elderly person for the convenience of a caregiver or to discipline the person.
  - (j) A wrongful use of a physical or chemical restraint of an elderly person, excluding an act of restraint prescribed by a physician licensed under ORS chapter 677 and any treatment activities that are consistent with an approved treatment plan or in connection with a court order.
- (2) “Elderly person” means any person 65 years of age or older who is not subject to the provisions of ORS 441.640 to 441.665.
  - (3) “Facility” means:
    - (a) A long term care facility as that term is defined in ORS 442.015.
    - (b) A residential facility as that term is defined in ORS 443.400, including but not limited to an assisted living facility.
    - (c) An adult foster home as that term is defined in ORS 443.705.
  - (4) “Financial exploitation” means:
    - (a) Wrongfully taking the assets, funds or property belonging to or intended for the use of an elderly person or a person with a disability.
    - (b) Alarming an elderly person or a person with a disability by conveying a threat to wrongfully take or appropriate money or property of the person if the person would reasonably believe that the threat conveyed would be carried out.
    - (c) Misappropriating, misusing or transferring without authorization any money from any account held jointly or singly by an elderly person or a person with a disability.
    - (d) Failing to use the income or assets of an elderly person or a person with a disability effectively for the support and maintenance of the person.
  - (5) “Intimidation” means compelling or deterring conduct by threat.
  - (6) “Law enforcement agency” means:
    - (a) Any city or municipal police department.
    - (b) Any county sheriff’s office.
    - (c) The Oregon State Police.
    - (d) Any district attorney.
    - (e) A police department established by a university under ORS 352.121 or 353.125.
  - (7) “Neglect” means failure to provide basic care or services that are necessary to maintain the health or safety of an elderly person.
  - (8) “Person with a disability” means a person described in:
    - (a) ORS 410.040 (7); or

(b) ORS 410.715.

(9) “Public or private official” means:

(a) Physician or physician assistant licensed under ORS chapter 677, naturopathic physician or chiropractor, including any intern or resident.

(b) Licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, nurse’s aide, home health aide or employee of an in-home health service.

(c) Employee of the Department of Human Services or community developmental disabilities program.

(d) Employee of the Oregon Health Authority, local health department or community mental health program.

(e) Peace officer.

(f) Member of the clergy.

(g) Regulated social worker.

(h) Physical, speech or occupational therapist.

(i) Senior center employee.

(j) Information and referral or outreach worker.

(k) Licensed professional counselor or licensed marriage and family therapist.

(L) Elected official of a branch of government of this state or a state agency, board, commission or department of a branch of government of this state or of a city, county or other political subdivision in this state.

(m) Firefighter or emergency medical services provider.

(n) Psychologist.

(o) Provider of adult foster care or an employee of the provider.

(p) Audiologist.

(q) Speech-language pathologist.

(r) Attorney.

(s) Dentist.

(t) Optometrist.

(u) Chiropractor.

(v) Personal support worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.

(w) Home care worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.

(x) Referral agent, as defined in ORS 443.370.

(y) A person providing agency with choice services under ORS 427.181.

(10) “Services” includes but is not limited to the provision of food, clothing, medicine, housing, medical services, assistance with bathing or personal hygiene or any other service essential to the well-being of an elderly person.

(11)(a) “Sexual abuse” means:

(A) Sexual contact with an elderly person who does not consent or is considered incapable of consenting to a sexual act under ORS 163.315;

(B) Verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature, including but not limited to severe or pervasive exposure to sexually explicit material or language;

(C) Sexual exploitation;

(D) Any sexual contact between an employee of a facility or paid caregiver and an elderly person served by the facility or caregiver; or

(E) Any sexual contact that is achieved through force, trickery, threat or coercion.

(b) “Sexual abuse” does not mean consensual sexual contact between an elderly person and:

(A) An employee of a facility who is also the spouse of the elderly person; or

(B) A paid caregiver.

(12) “Sexual contact” has the meaning given that term in ORS 163.305.

(13) “Verbal abuse” means to threaten significant physical or emotional harm to an elderly person or a person with a disability through the use of:

(a) Derogatory or inappropriate names, insults, verbal assaults, profanity or ridicule; or

(b) Harassment, coercion, threats, intimidation, humiliation, mental cruelty or inappropriate sexual comments. [Formerly 410.610; 1999 c.463 §6; 2001 c.104 §36; 2005 c.671 §4; 2007 c.70 §29; 2009 c.442 §33; 2009 c.595 §84; 2009 c.708 §1; 2009 c.837 §9; 2011 c.36 §3; 2011 c.506 §5; 2011 c.703 §23; 2013 c.129 §23; 2013 c.180 §7; 2013 c.352 §5; 2014 c.104 §9; 2015 c.179 §2; 2015 c.416 §1; 2015 c.736 §49; 2017 c.656 §4; 2018 c.75 §§7,8; 2021 c.251 §1; 2022 c.91 §7]

**124.055 Policy.** The Legislative Assembly finds that for the purpose of preventing abuse, safeguarding and enhancing the welfare of elderly persons, it is necessary and in the public interest to require mandatory reports and investigations of allegedly abused elderly persons. [Formerly 410.620]

**124.060 Duty of officials to report; exception.** (1) Any public or private official having reasonable cause to believe that any person 65 years of age or older with whom the official comes in contact has suffered abuse, or that any person with whom the official comes in contact has abused a person 65 years of age or older, shall report or cause a report to be made in the manner required in ORS 124.065.

(2) Nothing contained in ORS 40.225 to 40.295 affects the duty to report imposed by this section, except that a psychiatrist, psychologist, member of the clergy or attorney is not required to report such information communicated by a person if the communication is privileged under ORS 40.225 to 40.295.

(3) An attorney is not required to make a report under this section by reason of information communicated to the attorney in the course of representing a client if disclosure of the information would be detrimental to the client.

(4) The Long Term Care Ombudsman or a designee of the ombudsman is not required to make a report under this section to the extent the report would violate 42 U.S.C. 3058g(d). [Formerly 410.630; 2009 c.708 §2; 2013 c.352 §6; 2019 c.117 §7]

**124.065 Method of reporting; content; notice to law enforcement agency and to department.**

(1) When a report is required under ORS 124.060, an oral report shall be made immediately by telephone or otherwise to the local office of the Department of Human Services or to a law enforcement agency within the county where the person making the report is at the time of contact. If known, such reports shall contain the names and addresses of the elderly person and any persons responsible for the care of the elderly person, the nature and the extent of the abuse (including any evidence of previous abuse), the explanation given for the abuse and any other information which the person making the report believes might be helpful in establishing the cause of the abuse and the identity of the perpetrator.

(2) When a report of a possible crime is received by the department under ORS 124.060, the department or the designee of the department shall notify the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction within the county where the report was made. If the department or the designee of the department is unable to gain access to the allegedly abused elderly person, the department or the designee of the department may contact the law enforcement agency for assistance and the agency shall provide assistance.

(3) If the department or the designee of the department determines that there is reason to believe a crime has been committed, the department or the designee of the department shall immediately notify the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction within the county where the report was made. The law enforcement agency shall confirm to the department or the designee of the department its receipt of the notification.

(4) When a report is received by a law enforcement agency, the agency shall immediately notify the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction if the receiving agency does not. The receiving agency shall

also immediately notify the local office of the department in the county where the report was made.  
[Formerly 410.640; 2009 c.837 §§10,11]

**124.070 Duty to investigate; notice to law enforcement agency and department; written findings; review by district attorney.** (1) Upon receipt of the report required under ORS 124.060, the Department of Human Services or the law enforcement agency shall cause an investigation to be commenced promptly to determine the nature and cause of the abuse. The investigation shall include a visit to the named elderly person and communication with those individuals having knowledge of the facts of the particular case. If the alleged abuse occurs in a residential facility, the department shall conduct an investigation regardless of whether the suspected abuser continues to be employed by the facility.

(2) If the department finds reasonable cause to believe that a crime has occurred, the department shall notify in writing the appropriate law enforcement agency. If the law enforcement agency conducting the investigation finds reasonable cause to believe that abuse has occurred, the agency shall notify the department in writing. Upon completion of the evaluation of each case, the department shall prepare written findings that include recommended action and a determination of whether protective services are needed.

(3) After receiving notification from the department that there is reasonable cause to believe that a crime has occurred, a law enforcement agency shall notify the department:

(a) That there will be no criminal investigation, including an explanation of why there will be no criminal investigation;

(b) That the investigative findings have been given to the district attorney for review; or

(c) That a criminal investigation will take place.

(4) If a law enforcement agency gives the findings of the department to the district attorney for review, the district attorney shall notify the department that the district attorney has received the findings and shall inform the department whether the findings have been received for review or for filing charges. A district attorney shall make the determination of whether to file charges within six months of receiving the findings of the department.

(5) If a district attorney files charges stemming from the findings of the department and the district attorney makes a determination not to proceed to trial, the district attorney shall notify the department of the determination and shall include information explaining the basis for the determination. [Formerly 410.650; 2009 c.837 §§12,13]

**124.071 Deadline to complete abuse investigation; exception; written report required.** (1) Investigations commenced by the Department of Human Services pursuant to ORS 124.070 must be completed by the department on or before 120 days after receipt of the report of abuse made under ORS 124.060, unless there is an ongoing concurrent criminal investigation, in which case the department may take a reasonable amount of additional time in which to complete the investigation.

(2) Upon completion of an investigation in accordance with subsection (1) of this section, a written report shall be prepared that includes information as required by rule adopted by the department, including but not limited to the following:

(a) The date and location of the report of abuse and of the incident of abuse that was reported;

(b) The dates that the investigation was commenced and completed and by what entity;

(c) A description of documents and records reviewed during the investigation;

(d) An identification of any witness statements that were obtained during the investigation; and

(e) A statement of the factual basis for any findings and a summary of the findings made as a result of the investigation. [2014 c.104 §2]

**124.072 Required disclosure of protected health information to law enforcement agency; liability for disclosure.** (1) Upon notice by a law enforcement agency that an investigation into abuse is being conducted under ORS 124.070, and without the consent of the named elderly person or of the named elderly person’s caretaker, fiduciary or other legal representative, a health care provider must:

(a) Permit the law enforcement agency to inspect and copy, or otherwise obtain, protected health information of the named elderly person; and

(b) Upon request of the law enforcement agency, consult with the agency about the protected health information.

(2) A health care provider who in good faith discloses protected health information under this section is not civilly or criminally liable under state law for the disclosure.

(3) For purposes of this section:

(a) “Health care provider” has the meaning given that term in ORS 192.556.

(b) “Protected health information” has the meaning given that term in ORS 192.556. [2012 c.70 §6]

**124.073 Training for abuse investigators.** (1) The Department of Human Services shall:

(a) Using new or existing materials, develop and implement a training and continuing education curriculum for persons other than law enforcement officers required by law to investigate allegations of abuse under ORS 124.070 or 441.650. The curriculum shall address the areas of training and education necessary to facilitate the skills required to investigate reports of abuse, including, but not limited to, risk assessment, investigatory technique, evidence gathering and report writing.

(b) Using new or existing materials, develop and implement training for persons that provide care to vulnerable persons to facilitate awareness of the dynamics of abuse, abuse prevention strategies and early detection of abuse.

(2) For purposes of this section, “vulnerable person” means a person 65 years of age or older. [2012 c.70 §21]

**Note:** 124.073 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 124 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**124.075 Immunity of person making report in good faith; identity confidential.** (1) Anyone participating in good faith in the making of a report of elder abuse and who has reasonable grounds for making the report shall have immunity from any criminal or civil liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the making or content of such report. Any such participant shall have the same immunity with respect to participating in any judicial proceeding resulting from such report.

(2) The identity of the person making the report shall be treated as confidential information and shall be disclosed only with the consent of that person or by judicial process, or as required to perform the functions under ORS 124.070. [Formerly 410.660; 2005 c.671 §5; 2015 c.179 §5]

**124.077 Immunity for disclosure to prospective employer.** A person who has personal knowledge that an employee or former employee of the person was found by the Department of Human Services, a law enforcement agency or a court to have committed abuse under ORS 124.005 to 124.040, 124.050 to 124.095 or 124.100 to 124.140, is immune from civil liability for the disclosure to a prospective employer of the employee or former employee of known facts concerning the abuse. [2009 c.837 §14]

**Note:** 124.077 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 124 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**124.080 Photographing of victim; photograph as record.** (1) In carrying out its duties under ORS 124.070 a law enforcement agency or the Department of Human Services may photograph or cause to have photographed any victim who is the subject of the investigation for purposes of preserving evidence of the condition of the victim at the time of the investigation.

(2) For purposes of ORS 124.090, photographs taken under authority of subsection (1) of this section shall be considered records. [Formerly 410.670]

**124.085 Catalog of abuse records; confidentiality.** A proper record of complaints made under ORS 124.060 and 124.065 shall be maintained by the Department of Human Services. The department shall prepare reports in writing when investigation has shown that the condition of the elderly person was the result of abuse even if the cause remains unknown. The complaints and investigative reports shall be cataloged under the name of the victim but shall be treated as confidential information subject to ORS 124.090, and shall be disclosed only with the consent of that person or by judicial process. [Formerly 410.680; 2012 c.70 §11]

**124.087 Policies and guidelines to plan for development and standardization of certain resources and technologies.** The Department of Human Services shall adopt policies and guidelines to plan for the development and standardization of resources and technologies to:

(1) Create a database, registry or other electronic record of reports of abuse made under ORS 124.060 and 441.640 and investigations of abuse conducted pursuant to ORS 124.070 and 441.650 with information including, but not limited to:

(a) The date and location of the report of abuse and the incident of abuse that was reported;

(b) If applicable, the date that the initial status report required under ORS 441.650 was completed and a summary of the information required to be contained in the initial status report as set forth in ORS 441.650;

(c) The date that the investigation was commenced and by what entity;

(d) Any actions taken during the course of the investigation, including but not limited to the actions required under ORS 441.650 (6);

(e) The date that a written report, including but not limited to the written report required under ORS 124.071 and 441.650 (6), was completed and a summary of the information contained in the written report; and

(f) The disposition of the report of abuse or the investigation of the report, including but not limited to the date and time that the investigation, if applicable, was completed and the date that a letter of determination under ORS 441.677 was prepared;

(2) Standardize procedures and protocols for making and responding to reports of abuse made under ORS 124.060 and 441.640;

(3) Standardize procedures and protocols for investigations of reports of abuse conducted pursuant to ORS 124.070 and 441.650; and

(4) Promote and coordinate communication and information sharing with law enforcement agencies regarding reports and investigations of abuse under ORS 124.060, 124.070, 441.640 and 441.650. [2014 c.104 §4]

**Note:** 124.087 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 124 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.



**124.088 Certain privileges not grounds for excluding evidence in court proceedings.** (1) In the case of abuse of an elderly person, the privileges created in ORS 40.230 to 40.255, including the psychotherapist-patient privilege, the physician-patient privilege, the privileges extended to nurses, to staff members of schools and to regulated social workers and the spousal privilege, shall not be a ground for excluding evidence regarding an elderly person's abuse, or the cause thereof, in any judicial proceeding resulting from a report made pursuant to ORS 124.050 to 124.095.

(2) In any judicial proceedings resulting from a report made pursuant to ORS 124.050 to 124.095, either spouse shall be a competent and compellable witness against the other.

(3) As used in this section, "abuse" and "elderly person" have the meanings given those terms in ORS 124.050. [2021 c.323 §1]

**Note:** 124.088 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 124 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**124.090 Confidentiality of records; exceptions.** (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 192.410 to 192.505, the names of the public or private official or any other person who made the complaint, the witnesses and the elderly persons, and the reports and records compiled under the provisions of ORS 124.050 to 124.095, are confidential and are not accessible for public inspection.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the Department of Human Services or the department's designee may, if appropriate, make the names of the witnesses and the elderly persons, and the reports and records compiled under ORS 124.050 to 123.095, available to:

(a) A law enforcement agency;

(b) A public agency that licenses or certifies residential facilities or licenses or certifies the persons practicing in the facilities;

(c) A public agency or private nonprofit agency or organization providing protective services for the elderly person;

(d) The Long Term Care Ombudsman;

(e) A public agency that licenses or certifies a person that has abused or is alleged to have abused an elderly person;

(f) A court pursuant to a court order or as provided in ORS 125.012; and

(g) An administrative law judge in an administrative proceeding when necessary to provide protective services as defined in ORS 410.040 to an elderly person, when in the best interests of the elderly person or when necessary to investigate, prevent or treat abuse of an elderly person.

(3) Information made available under subsection (2) of this section, and the recipient of the information, are otherwise subject to the confidentiality provisions of ORS 124.050 to 124.095. [Formerly 410.690; 2001 c.900 §21; 2012 c.70 §12]

**124.095 Spiritual treatment not abuse.** An elderly person who in good faith is voluntarily under treatment solely by spiritual means through prayer in accordance with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination by a duly accredited practitioner thereof shall, for this reason alone, not be considered subjected to abuse by reason of neglect under ORS 124.050 to 124.095. [Formerly 410.700]

## **SEXUALLY VIOLENT DANGEROUS OFFENDERS, ORS 137.765 – 137.771**

### **137.765 Sexually violent dangerous offenders; definitions; mandatory lifetime post-prison supervision.** (1) As used in this section:

- (a) “History of sexual assault” means that a person has engaged in unlawful sexual conduct that:
    - (A) Was not committed as part of the same criminal episode as the crime for which the person is currently being sentenced; and
    - (B) Seriously endangered the life or safety of another person or involved a victim under 12 years of age.
  - (b) “Sexually violent dangerous offender” means a person who has psychopathic personality features, sexually deviant arousal patterns or interests and a history of sexual assault and presents a substantial probability of committing a crime listed in subsection (3) of this section.
- (2) Notwithstanding ORS 161.605, when a person is convicted of a crime listed in subsection (3) of this section, in addition to any sentence of imprisonment required by law, a court shall impose a period of post-prison supervision that extends for the life of the person if:
- (a) The person was 18 years of age or older at the time the person committed the crime; and
  - (b) The person is a sexually violent dangerous offender.
- (3) The crimes to which subsection (2) of this section applies are:
- (a) Rape in the first degree and sodomy in the first degree if the victim was:
    - (A) Subjected to forcible compulsion by the person;
    - (B) Under 12 years of age; or
    - (C) Incapable of consent by reason of mental incapacitation, physical helplessness or incapability of appraising the nature of the victim’s conduct;
  - (b) Unlawful sexual penetration in the first degree; and
  - (c) An attempt to commit a crime listed in paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection. [1999 c.163 §1; 2005 c.463 §§11,16; 2007 c.16 §6; 2021 c.82 §8]

**Note:** 137.765 to 137.771 were enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but were not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 137 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

### **137.767 Presentence investigation and examination.** (1)(a) A court shall order a presentence investigation and an examination of the defendant by a psychiatrist or psychologist upon motion of the district attorney if:

- (A) The defendant is convicted of a crime listed in ORS 137.765 (3); and
  - (B) In the opinion of the court, there is reason to believe that the defendant is a sexually violent dangerous offender as defined in ORS 137.765.
- (b) The court may appoint one or more qualified psychiatrists or psychologists to examine the defendant in the local correctional facility.
- (2) The state shall pay all costs connected with an examination under this section.
- (3) The examination performed pursuant to this section must be completed within 30 days if the defendant is in custody or within 60 days if the defendant is not in custody. The court may order extensions not exceeding 30 days. Each psychiatrist or psychologist appointed to examine a defendant under this section shall file with the court a written report of findings and conclusions, including an evaluation of whether the defendant is predisposed to commit a crime listed in ORS 137.765 (3) because the defendant has:
- (a) Psychopathic personality features; and
  - (b) Sexually deviant arousal patterns or interests.

(4) No statement made by a defendant under this section may be used against the defendant in any civil proceeding or in any other criminal proceeding.

(5) Upon receipt of the examination and presentence reports the court shall set a time for a sentence hearing. At the sentence hearing the district attorney and the defendant may question any psychiatrist or psychologist who examined the defendant pursuant to this section.

(6) If, after considering the evidence in the case or in the sentence hearing, the jury or, if the defendant waives the right to a jury trial, the court finds that the defendant is a sexually violent dangerous offender, the court shall sentence the defendant as provided in ORS 137.765.

(7) The fact that a person is a sexually violent dangerous offender is an enhancement fact, as defined in ORS 136.760, and ORS 136.765 to 136.785 apply to making a determination of the fact. [1999 c.163 §3; 2005 c.463 §§12,17; 2007 c.16 §7]

**Note:** See note under 137.765.

**137.769 Defendant's right to independent examination.** (1) When a defendant is examined under ORS 137.767, the defendant may retain a psychiatrist, psychologist or other expert to perform an examination on the defendant's behalf. A psychiatrist, psychologist or other expert retained by the defendant must be provided reasonable access to:

- (a) The defendant for the purpose of the examination; and
- (b) All relevant medical and psychological records and reports.

(2) If the defendant is financially eligible for appointed counsel at state expense, the defendant may request preauthorization to incur the fees and expenses of a psychiatrist, psychologist or other expert as provided in ORS 135.055 (3). [1999 c.163 §4; 2001 c.962 §97; 2003 c.449 §6]

**Note:** See note under 137.765.

**137.771 Resentencing hearing; petition; findings; modification of sentence.** (1) No sooner than 10 years after a person sentenced under ORS 137.765 is released to post-prison supervision, the person may petition the sentencing court for a resentencing hearing requesting that the judgment be modified to terminate post-prison supervision. The district attorney of the county must be named and served as a respondent in the petition. The district attorney may file a response either in support of or in opposition to the petition.

(2) Upon filing the petition, the court may order an examination as provided in ORS 137.767. If the court orders an examination and the petitioner is financially eligible for appointed counsel at state expense, the court may appoint counsel for the petitioner, as provided in ORS 135.050, if the court determines that there are substantial or complex issues involved and the petitioner appears incapable of self-representation.

(3) The court shall review the petition and may hold a hearing on the petition. However, if the state opposes the petition, the court shall hold a hearing on the petition. In determining whether to amend the judgment, the court shall consider:

- (a) The nature of the crime for which the petitioner was sentenced to lifetime post-prison supervision;
- (b) The degree of violence involved in the crime;
- (c) The age of the victim;
- (d) The petitioner's prior history of sexual assault;
- (e) Whether the petitioner continues to have psychopathic personality features or sexually deviant arousal patterns or interests;
- (f) Other criminal and relevant noncriminal behavior of the petitioner before and after conviction;
- (g) The period of time during which the petitioner has not reoffended;

(h) Whether the petitioner has successfully completed a court-approved sex offender treatment program; and

(i) Any other relevant factors.

(4) If the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the petitioner does not present a substantial probability of committing a crime listed in ORS 137.765 (3), the court shall amend the judgment and impose a lesser sentence.

(5) The sentencing court retains authority to modify its judgment and sentence to reflect the results of a resentencing hearing ordered under this section.

(6) Not less than five years after the denial of a petition under this section, a person sentenced under ORS 137.765 may petition again for a resentencing hearing under subsections (1) to (5) of this section. [1999 c.163 §7; 2001 c.962 §98]

**Note:** See note under 137.765.

## **INMATE RECORDS, ORS 179.495 – 179.509**

**179.495 Disclosure of written accounts of adult in custody; penalty.** (1) Written accounts of the adults in custody of any Department of Corrections institution as defined in ORS 421.005, maintained in the institution by the officers or employees of the institution who are authorized to maintain written accounts within the official scope of their duties, are not subject to disclosure unless the disclosure is permitted or authorized by the Department of Corrections in compliance with ORS 179.505 (3), (4), (6), (7), (9), (11), (12), (14), (15), (16) or (17) or 179.508 or upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction. The restriction contained in this section does not apply to disclosure of written accounts made under ORS 179.505 (3) with the authorization of the individual or a personal representative of the individual.

(2) Except as authorized under subsection (1) of this section, any person who discloses or any person who knowingly obtains information from a written account referred to in subsection (1) of this section commits a Class B violation.

(3) As used in this section, “disclosure,” “personal representative” and “written account” have the meanings given those terms in ORS 179.505. [1955 c.452 §1; 1969 c.597 §44; 1973 c.736 §3; 1977 c.812 §5; 1987 c.320 §133; 1991 c.807 §2; 1999 c.1051 §165; 2003 c.14 §76; 2003 c.88 §1; 2005 c.498 §4; 2019 c.213 §52]

**179.505 Disclosure of written accounts by health care services provider.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Disclosure” means the release of, transfer of, provision of access to or divulgence in any other manner of information outside the health care services provider holding the information.

(b) “Health care services provider” means:

(A) Medical personnel or other staff employed by or under contract with a public provider to provide health care or maintain written accounts of health care provided to individuals; or

(B) Units, programs or services designated, operated or maintained by a public provider to provide health care or maintain written accounts of health care provided to individuals.

(c) “Individually identifiable health information” means any health information that is:

(A) Created or received by a health care services provider; and

(B) Identifiable to an individual, including demographic information that identifies the individual, or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify an individual, and that relates to:

(i) The past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual;

(ii) The provision of health care to an individual; or

(iii) The past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.

(d) “Personal representative” includes but is not limited to:

(A) A person appointed as a guardian under ORS 125.305, 419B.372, 419C.481 or 419C.555 with authority to make medical and health care decisions;

(B) A person appointed as a health care representative under ORS 127.505 to 127.660 or a representative under ORS 127.700 to 127.737 to make health care decisions or mental health treatment decisions; and

(C) A person appointed as a personal representative under ORS chapter 113.

(e) “Psychotherapy notes” means notes recorded in any medium:

(A) By a mental health professional, in the performance of the official duties of the mental health professional;

(B) Documenting or analyzing the contents of conversation during a counseling session; and

(C) That are maintained separately from the rest of the individual’s record.

(f) “Psychotherapy notes” does not mean notes documenting:

- (A) Medication prescription and monitoring;
- (B) Counseling session start and stop times;
- (C) Modalities and frequencies of treatment furnished;
- (D) Results of clinical tests; or
- (E) Any summary of the following items:

- (i) Diagnosis;
- (ii) Functional status;
- (iii) Treatment plan;
- (iv) Symptoms;
- (v) Prognosis; or
- (vi) Progress to date.

(g) “Public provider” means:

- (A) The Oregon State Hospital campuses;
- (B) Department of Corrections institutions as defined in ORS 421.005;
- (C) A contractor of the Department of Corrections or the Oregon Health Authority that provides health care to individuals residing in a state institution operated by the agencies;
- (D) A community mental health program or community developmental disabilities program as described in ORS 430.610 to 430.695 and the public and private entities with which it contracts to provide mental health or developmental disabilities programs or services;
- (E) A program or service provided under ORS 431.001 to 431.550 and 431.990;
- (F) A community mental health program or service established or maintained under ORS 430.630 or a community developmental disabilities program described in ORS 430.620 (1)(a) or (c);
- (G) A program or facility providing an organized full-day or part-day program of treatment that is licensed, approved, established, maintained or operated by or contracted with the Oregon Health Authority for alcoholism, drug addiction or mental or emotional disturbance;
- (H) A program or service providing treatment by appointment that is licensed, approved, established, maintained or operated by or contracted with the authority for alcoholism, drug addiction or mental or emotional disturbance; or

(I) The impaired health professional program established under ORS 676.190.

(h) “Written account” means records containing only individually identifiable health information.

(2) Except as provided in subsections (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), (9), (11), (12), (14), (15), (16), (17) and (18) of this section or unless otherwise permitted or required by state or federal law or by order of the court, written accounts of the individuals served by any health care services provider maintained in or by the health care services provider by the officers or employees thereof who are authorized to maintain written accounts within the official scope of their duties are not subject to access and may not be disclosed. This subsection applies to written accounts maintained in or by facilities of the Department of Corrections only to the extent that the written accounts concern the medical, dental or psychiatric treatment as patients of those under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections.

(3) If the individual or a personal representative of the individual provides an authorization, the content of any written account referred to in subsection (2) of this section must be disclosed accordingly, if the authorization is in writing and is signed and dated by the individual or the personal representative of the individual and sets forth with specificity the following:

(a) Name of the health care services provider authorized to make the disclosure, except when the authorization is provided by recipients of or applicants for public assistance or medical assistance, as defined in ORS 414.025, to a governmental entity for purposes of determining eligibility for benefits or investigating for fraud;

(b) Name or title of the persons or organizations to which the information is to be disclosed or that information may be disclosed to the public;

(c) Name of the individual;

(d) Extent or nature of the information to be disclosed; and

(e) Statement that the authorization is subject to revocation at any time except to the extent that action has been taken in reliance thereon, and a specification of the date, event or condition upon which it expires without express revocation. However, a revocation of an authorization is not valid with respect to inspection or records necessary to validate expenditures by or on behalf of governmental entities.

(4) The content of any written account referred to in subsection (2) of this section may be disclosed without an authorization:

(a) To any person to the extent necessary to meet a medical emergency.

(b) At the discretion of the responsible officer of the health care services provider, which in the case of any Oregon Health Authority facility or community mental health program is the Director of the Oregon Health Authority, to persons engaged in scientific research, program evaluation, peer review and fiscal audits. However, individual identities may not be disclosed to such persons, except when the disclosure is essential to the research, evaluation, review or audit and is consistent with state and federal law.

(c) To governmental agencies when necessary to secure compensation for services rendered in the treatment of the individual.

(5) When an individual's identity is disclosed under subsection (4) of this section, a health care services provider shall prepare, and include in the permanent records of the health care services provider, a written statement indicating the reasons for the disclosure, the written accounts disclosed and the recipients of the disclosure.

(6) The content of any written account referred to in subsection (2) of this section and held by a health care services provider currently engaged in the treatment of an individual may be disclosed to officers or employees of that provider, its agents or cooperating health care services providers who are currently acting within the official scope of their duties to evaluate treatment programs, to diagnose or treat or to assist in diagnosing or treating an individual when the written account is to be used in the course of diagnosing or treating the individual. Nothing in this subsection prevents the transfer of written accounts referred to in subsection (2) of this section among health care services providers, the Department of Corrections, the Oregon Health Authority or a local correctional facility when the transfer is necessary or beneficial to the treatment of an individual.

(7) When an action, suit, claim, arbitration or proceeding is brought under ORS 34.105 to 34.240 or 34.310 to 34.730 and involves a claim of constitutionally inadequate medical care, diagnosis or treatment, or is brought under ORS 30.260 to 30.300 and involves the Department of Corrections or an institution operated by the department, nothing in this section prohibits the disclosure of any written account referred to in subsection (2) of this section to the Department of Justice, Oregon Department of Administrative Services, or their agents, upon request, or the subsequent disclosure to a court, administrative hearings officer, arbitrator or other administrative decision maker.

(8)(a) When an action, suit, claim, arbitration or proceeding involves the Oregon Health Authority or an institution operated by the authority, nothing in this section prohibits the disclosure of any written account referred to in subsection (2) of this section to the Department of Justice, Oregon Department of Administrative Services, or their agents.

(b) Disclosure of information in an action, suit, claim, nonlabor arbitration or proceeding is limited by the relevancy restrictions of ORS 40.010 to 40.585, 183.710 to 183.730, 183.745 and 183.750 and ORS chapter 183. Only written accounts of a plaintiff, claimant or petitioner shall be disclosed under this paragraph.

(c) Disclosure of information as part of a labor arbitration or proceeding to support a personnel action taken against staff is limited to written accounts directly relating to alleged action or inaction by staff for which the personnel action was imposed.

(9)(a) The copy of any written account referred to in subsection (2) of this section, upon written request of the individual or a personal representative of the individual, shall be disclosed to the individual

or the personal representative of the individual within a reasonable time not to exceed five working days. The individual or the personal representative of the individual shall have the right to timely access to any written accounts.

(b) If the disclosure of psychiatric or psychological information contained in the written account would constitute an immediate and grave detriment to the treatment of the individual, disclosure may be denied, if medically contraindicated by the treating physician or a licensed health care professional in the written account of the individual.

(c) The Department of Corrections may withhold psychiatric or psychological information if:

(A) The information relates to an individual other than the individual seeking it.

(B) Disclosure of the information would constitute a danger to another individual.

(C) Disclosure of the information would compromise the privacy of a confidential source.

(d) However, a written statement of the denial under paragraph (c) of this subsection and the reasons therefor must be entered in the written account.

(10) A health care services provider may require a person requesting disclosure of the contents of a written account under this section to reimburse the provider for the reasonable costs incurred in searching files, abstracting if requested and copying if requested. However, an individual or a personal representative of the individual may not be denied access to written accounts concerning the individual because of inability to pay.

(11) A written account referred to in subsection (2) of this section may not be used to initiate or substantiate any criminal, civil, administrative, legislative or other proceedings conducted by federal, state or local authorities against the individual or to conduct any investigations of the individual. If the individual, as a party to an action, suit or other judicial proceeding, voluntarily produces evidence regarding an issue to which a written account referred to in subsection (2) of this section would be relevant, the contents of that written account may be disclosed for use in the proceeding.

(12) Information obtained in the course of diagnosis, evaluation or treatment of an individual that, in the professional judgment of the health care services provider, indicates a clear and immediate danger to others or to society may be reported to the appropriate authority. A decision not to disclose information under this subsection does not subject the provider to any civil liability. Nothing in this subsection may be construed to alter the provisions of ORS 124.088, 146.750, 146.760, 419B.010, 419B.015, 419B.020, 419B.025, 419B.030, 419B.035, 419B.040, 419B.045, 430.738 or 441.674.

(13) The prohibitions of this section apply to written accounts concerning any individual who has been treated by any health care services provider irrespective of whether or when the individual ceases to receive treatment.

(14) Persons other than the individual or the personal representative of the individual who are granted access under this section to the contents of a written account referred to in subsection (2) of this section may not disclose the contents of the written account to any other person except in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(15) Nothing in this section prevents the Department of Human Services or the Oregon Health Authority from disclosing the contents of written accounts in its possession to individuals or agencies with whom children in its custody are placed.

(16) The system described in ORS 192.517 (1) shall have access to records, as defined in ORS 192.515, as provided in ORS 192.517.

(17)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, a health care services provider must obtain an authorization from an individual or a personal representative of the individual to disclose psychotherapy notes.

(b) A health care services provider may use or disclose psychotherapy notes without obtaining an authorization from the individual or a personal representative of the individual to carry out the following treatment, payment and health care operations:

(A) Use by the originator of the psychotherapy notes for treatment;



(B) Disclosure by the health care services provider for its own training program in which students, trainees or practitioners in mental health learn under supervision to practice or improve their skills in group, joint, family or individual counseling; or

(C) Disclosure by the health care services provider to defend itself in a legal action or other proceeding brought by the individual or a personal representative of the individual.

(c) An authorization for the disclosure of psychotherapy notes may not be combined with an authorization for a disclosure of any other individually identifiable health information, but may be combined with another authorization for a disclosure of psychotherapy notes.

(18) A health care services provider may disclose information contained in a written account if the conditions of ORS 192.567 (1) to (5) or 192.577 are met. [1973 c.736 §2; 1977 c.812 §3; 1981 c.326 §2; 1985 c.219 §1; 1987 c.320 §134; 1987 c.322 §1; 1989 c.81 §1; 1991 c.175 §1; 1991 c.807 §1; 1993 c.262 §3; 1993 c.546 §101; 2001 c.900 §44; 2003 c.88 §2; 2005 c.498 §5; 2009 c.595 §145; 2009 c.697 §12; 2011 c.720 §65; 2013 c.36 §55; 2013 c.688 §24; 2015 c.318 §12; 2015 c.473 §4; 2015 c.736 §53; 2017 c.484 §3; 2021 c.192 §1; 2021 c.323 §4]

**179.507 Enforcement of ORS 179.495 and 179.505; actions; venue; damages.** (1) Any individual, a person appointed as a personal representative under ORS chapter 113 or the legal guardian of the individual may commence an action for equitable relief in the circuit court for the county in which the individual resides or in which the written accounts referred to in ORS 179.505 (2) are kept for the purpose of requiring compliance with ORS 179.495 and 179.505. In an action brought under this section, the court shall order payment of reasonable attorney fees at trial and on appeal and actual costs and disbursements to the prevailing party.

(2) Any individual, a person appointed as a personal representative under ORS chapter 113 or the legal guardian of the individual may commence an action in the circuit court for the county in which the individual resides or in which the written accounts referred to in ORS 179.505 (2) are kept for damages for any violation of ORS 179.495 or 179.505 and to restrain future violations. If a violation of ORS 179.495 or 179.505 is proven, the person commencing the action shall recover actual damages or \$500, whichever is greater. Upon a showing of an intentional violation of ORS 179.495 or 179.505, the individual may receive punitive damages. The prevailing party in an action brought under this subsection shall receive reasonable attorney fees at trial and on appeal and costs and disbursements actually incurred. [1977 c.812 §4; 1979 c.284 §120; 1981 c.897 §39; 2003 c.88 §3]

**179.508 Disclosure of individually identifiable health information about adult in custody.**

(1) The Department of Corrections may disclose individually identifiable health information without obtaining an authorization from an adult in custody or a personal representative of the adult in custody if disclosure of the information is necessary for:

- (a) The provision of health care to the adult in custody;
- (b) The health and safety of the adult in custody or other adults in custody;
- (c) The health and safety of the officers or employees of or others at the Department of Corrections institution as defined in ORS 421.005 where the adult in custody is incarcerated;
- (d) The health and safety of the adult in custody or officers or other persons responsible for transporting or transferring adults in custody from one setting to another;
- (e) Law enforcement purposes on the premises of the correctional institution; or
- (f) The administration and maintenance of the safety, security and good order of the correctional institution.

(2) As used in this section, “disclosure,” “individually identifiable health information” and “personal representative” have the meanings given those terms in ORS 179.505. [2003 c.88 §4; 2019 c.213 §53]

**Note:** 179.508 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 179 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**179.509 Reports on deaths at institutions; compilation submitted to President and Speaker. (1)**

The superintendent of each state institution shall submit quarterly reports on the number of deaths, including the ages of the deceased, the causes of death and the disposition of the remains, within the institution to the Department of Corrections or the Oregon Health Authority, as the case may be, having jurisdiction over the institution.

(2) The agencies shall compile the reports described in subsection (1) of this section and submit them quarterly to the offices of the President of the Senate and of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. [1985 c.207 §26; 1987 c.320 §135; 2001 c.900 §45; 2009 c.595 §146; 2013 c.36 §56].

## **RECORDS OF INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITY OR MENTAL ILLNESS, ORS 192.515 – 192.517**

**192.515 Definitions for ORS 192.515 and 192.517.** As used in this section and ORS 179.505 and 192.517:

(1) “Facilities” includes, but is not limited to, hospitals, nursing homes, facilities defined in ORS 430.205, board and care homes, homeless shelters, juvenile training schools, youth care centers, juvenile detention centers, jails and prisons.

(2) “Individual” means:

(a) An individual with a developmental disability as defined in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 15002) as in effect on January 1, 2003;

(b) An individual with mental illness as defined in the Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act (42 U.S.C. 10802) as in effect on January 1, 2003; or

(c) An individual with disabilities as described in 29 U.S.C. 794e as in effect on January 1, 2006, other than:

(A) An adult in custody in a facility operated by the Department of Corrections whose only disability is drug or alcohol addiction; and

(B) A person confined in a youth correction facility, as that term is defined in ORS 420.005, whose only disability is drug or alcohol addiction.

(3)(a) “Other legal representative” means a person who has been granted or retains legal authority to exercise an individual’s power to permit access to the individual’s records.

(b) “Other legal representative” does not include a legal guardian, the state or a political subdivision of this state.

(4) “Records” includes, but is not limited to, reports prepared or received by any staff of a facility rendering care or treatment, any medical examiner’s report, autopsy report or laboratory test report ordered by a medical examiner, reports prepared by an agency or staff person charged with investigating reports of incidents of abuse, neglect, injury or death occurring at the facility that describe such incidents and the steps taken to investigate the incidents and discharge planning records or any information to which the individual would be entitled access, if capable. [1993 c.262 §1; 1995 c.504 §1; 2003 c.14 §92; 2003 c.803 §7; 2005 c.498 §7; 2019 c.213 §55]

**Note:** 192.515 and 192.517 were enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but were not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 192 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**192.517 Access to records of individual with disability or individual with mental illness.** (1) The system designated to protect and advocate for the rights of individuals shall have access to all records of:

(a) Any individual who is a client of the system if the individual or the legal guardian or other legal representative of the individual has authorized the system to have such access;

(b) Any individual, including an individual who has died or whose whereabouts are unknown:

(A) If the individual by reason of the individual’s mental or physical condition or age is unable to authorize such access;

(B) If the individual does not have a legal guardian or other legal representative, or the state or a political subdivision of this state is the legal guardian of the individual; and

(C) If a complaint regarding the rights or safety of the individual has been received by the system or if, as a result of monitoring or other activities which result from a complaint or other evidence, there is probable cause to believe that the individual has been subject to abuse or neglect; and

(c) Any individual who has a legal guardian or other legal representative, who is the subject of a complaint of abuse or neglect received by the system, or whose health and safety is believed with probable cause to be in serious and immediate jeopardy if the legal guardian or other legal representative:

(A) Has been contacted by the system upon receipt of the name and address of the legal guardian or other legal representative;

(B) Has been offered assistance by the system to resolve the situation; and

(C) Has failed or refused to act on behalf of the individual.

(2) The system shall have access to the name, address and telephone number of any legal guardian or other legal representative of an individual.

(3) The system that obtains access to records under this section shall maintain the confidentiality of the records to the same extent as is required of the provider of the services, except as provided under the Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act (42 U.S.C. 10806) as in effect on January 1, 2003.

(4) The system shall have reasonable access to facilities, including the residents and staff of the facilities.

(5) This section is not intended to limit or overrule the provisions of ORS 41.675 or 441.055 (7). [1993 c.262 §2; 1995 c.504 §2; 2003 c.14 §93; 2003 c.803 §8; 2005 c.498 §8; 2009 c.595 §165; 2009 c.792 §72]

## **PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION, ORS 192.553 – 192.581**

**192.553 Policy for protected health information.** (1) It is the policy of the State of Oregon that an individual has:

(a) The right to have protected health information of the individual safeguarded from unlawful use or disclosure; and

(b) The right to access and review protected health information of the individual.

(2) In addition to the rights and obligations expressed in ORS 192.553 to 192.581, the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act privacy regulations, 45 C.F.R. parts 160 and 164, establish additional rights and obligations regarding the use and disclosure of protected health information and the rights of individuals regarding the protected health information of the individual. [Formerly 192.518]

**Note:** 192.553 to 192.581 were enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but were not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 192 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**192.556 Definitions for ORS 192.553 to 192.581.** As used in ORS 192.553 to 192.581:

(1) “Authorization” means a document written in plain language that contains at least the following:

(a) A description of the information to be used or disclosed that identifies the information in a specific and meaningful way;

(b) The name or other specific identification of the person or persons authorized to make the requested use or disclosure;

(c) The name or other specific identification of the person or persons to whom the covered entity may make the requested use or disclosure;

(d) A description of each purpose of the requested use or disclosure, including but not limited to a statement that the use or disclosure is at the request of the individual;

(e) An expiration date or an expiration event that relates to the individual or the purpose of the use or disclosure;

(f) The signature of the individual or personal representative of the individual and the date;

(g) A description of the authority of the personal representative, if applicable; and

(h) Statements adequate to place the individual on notice of the following:

(A) The individual’s right to revoke the authorization in writing;

(B) The exceptions to the right to revoke the authorization;

(C) The ability or inability to condition treatment, payment, enrollment or eligibility for benefits on whether the individual signs the authorization; and

(D) The potential for information disclosed pursuant to the authorization to be subject to redisclosure by the recipient and no longer protected.

(2) “Covered entity” means:

(a) A state health plan;

(b) A health insurer;

(c) A health care provider that transmits any health information in electronic form to carry out financial or administrative activities in connection with a transaction covered by ORS 192.553 to 192.581; or

(d) A health care clearinghouse.

(3) “Health care” means care, services or supplies related to the health of an individual.

(4) “Health care operations” includes but is not limited to:

(a) Quality assessment, accreditation, auditing and improvement activities;

(b) Case management and care coordination;

- (c) Reviewing the competence, qualifications or performance of health care providers or health insurers;
  - (d) Underwriting activities;
  - (e) Arranging for legal services;
  - (f) Business planning;
  - (g) Customer services;
  - (h) Resolving internal grievances;
  - (i) Creating deidentified information; and
  - (j) Fundraising.
- (5) “Health care provider” includes but is not limited to:
- (a) A psychologist, occupational therapist, regulated social worker, professional counselor or marriage and family therapist licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under ORS chapter 675 or an employee of the psychologist, occupational therapist, regulated social worker, professional counselor or marriage and family therapist;
  - (b) A physician or physician assistant licensed under ORS chapter 677, an acupuncturist licensed under ORS 677.759 or an employee of the physician, physician assistant or acupuncturist;
  - (c) A nurse or nursing home administrator licensed under ORS chapter 678 or an employee of the nurse or nursing home administrator;
  - (d) A dentist licensed under ORS chapter 679 or an employee of the dentist;
  - (e) A dental hygienist or denturist licensed under ORS chapter 680 or an employee of the dental hygienist or denturist;
  - (f) A speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under ORS chapter 681 or an employee of the speech-language pathologist or audiologist;
  - (g) An emergency medical services provider licensed under ORS chapter 682;
  - (h) An optometrist licensed under ORS chapter 683 or an employee of the optometrist;
  - (i) A chiropractic physician licensed under ORS chapter 684 or an employee of the chiropractic physician;
  - (j) A naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685 or an employee of the naturopathic physician;
  - (k) A massage therapist licensed under ORS 687.011 to 687.250 or an employee of the massage therapist;
  - (L) A direct entry midwife licensed under ORS 687.405 to 687.495 or an employee of the direct entry midwife;
  - (m) A physical therapist licensed under ORS 688.010 to 688.201 or an employee of the physical therapist;
  - (n) A medical imaging licensee under ORS 688.405 to 688.605 or an employee of the medical imaging licensee;
  - (o) A respiratory care practitioner licensed under ORS 688.815 or an employee of the respiratory care practitioner;
  - (p) A polysomnographic technologist licensed under ORS 688.819 or an employee of the polysomnographic technologist;
  - (q) A pharmacist licensed under ORS chapter 689 or an employee of the pharmacist;
  - (r) A dietitian licensed under ORS 691.405 to 691.485 or an employee of the dietitian;
  - (s) A funeral service practitioner licensed under ORS chapter 692 or an employee of the funeral service practitioner;
  - (t) A health care facility as defined in ORS 442.015;
  - (u) A home health agency as defined in ORS 443.014;
  - (v) A hospice program as defined in ORS 443.850;
  - (w) A clinical laboratory as defined in ORS 438.010;

- (x) A pharmacy as defined in ORS 689.005; and
- (y) Any other person or entity that furnishes, bills for or is paid for health care in the normal course of business.
- (6) “Health information” means any oral or written information in any form or medium that:
  - (a) Is created or received by a covered entity, a public health authority, an employer, a life insurer, a school, a university or a health care provider that is not a covered entity; and
  - (b) Relates to:
    - (A) The past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual;
    - (B) The provision of health care to an individual; or
    - (C) The past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.
- (7) “Health insurer” means an insurer as defined in ORS 731.106 who offers:
  - (a) A health benefit plan as defined in ORS 743B.005;
  - (b) A short term health insurance policy, the duration of which does not exceed three months including renewals;
  - (c) A student health insurance policy;
  - (d) A Medicare supplemental policy; or
  - (e) A dental only policy.
- (8) “Individually identifiable health information” means any oral or written health information in any form or medium that is:
  - (a) Created or received by a covered entity, an employer or a health care provider that is not a covered entity; and
  - (b) Identifiable to an individual, including demographic information that identifies the individual, or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify an individual, and that relates to:
    - (A) The past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual;
    - (B) The provision of health care to an individual; or
    - (C) The past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.
- (9) “Payment” includes but is not limited to:
  - (a) Efforts to obtain premiums or reimbursement;
  - (b) Determining eligibility or coverage;
  - (c) Billing activities;
  - (d) Claims management;
  - (e) Reviewing health care to determine medical necessity;
  - (f) Utilization review; and
  - (g) Disclosures to consumer reporting agencies.
- (10) “Personal representative” includes but is not limited to:
  - (a) A person appointed as a guardian under ORS 125.305, 419B.372, 419C.481 or 419C.555 with authority to make medical and health care decisions;
  - (b) A person appointed as a health care representative under ORS 127.505 to 127.660 or a representative under ORS 127.700 to 127.737 to make health care decisions or mental health treatment decisions;
  - (c) A person appointed as a personal representative under ORS chapter 113; and
  - (d) A person described in ORS 192.573.
- (11)(a) “Protected health information” means individually identifiable health information that is maintained or transmitted in any form of electronic or other medium by a covered entity.
  - (b) “Protected health information” does not mean individually identifiable health information in:
    - (A) Education records covered by the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g);
    - (B) Records described at 20 U.S.C. 1232g(a)(4)(B)(iv); or

(C) Employment records held by a covered entity in its role as employer.

(12) “State health plan” means:

(a) Medical assistance as defined in ORS 414.025;

(b) The Cover All People program; or

(c) Any medical assistance or premium assistance program operated by the Oregon Health Authority.

(13) “Treatment” includes but is not limited to:

(a) The provision, coordination or management of health care; and

(b) Consultations and referrals between health care providers. [Formerly 192.519; 2013 c.129 §24; 2013 c.681 §42; 2013 c.698 §30; 2017 c.152 §§1,2; 2017 c.206 §§12,13; 2021 c.554 §3]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.558 Use or disclosure by health care provider or state health plan.** A health care provider or state health plan:

(1) May use or disclose protected health information of an individual in a manner that is consistent with an authorization provided by the individual or a personal representative of the individual.

(2) May use or disclose protected health information of an individual without obtaining an authorization from the individual or a personal representative of the individual:

(a) For the provider’s or plan’s own treatment, payment or health care operations; or

(b) As otherwise permitted or required by state or federal law or by order of the court.

(3) May disclose protected health information of an individual without obtaining an authorization from the individual or a personal representative of the individual:

(a) To another covered entity for health care operations activities of the entity that receives the information if:

(A) Each entity has or had a relationship with the individual who is the subject of the protected health information; and

(B) The protected health information pertains to the relationship and the disclosure is for the purpose of:

(i) Health care operations as listed in ORS 192.556 (4)(a) or (b); or

(ii) Health care fraud and abuse detection or compliance;

(b) To another covered entity or any other health care provider for treatment activities of a health care provider;

(c) To another covered entity or any other health care provider for the payment activities of the entity that receives that information; or

(d) In accordance with ORS 192.567 or 192.577. [Formerly 192.520; 2015 c.473 §5; 2017 c.484 §4]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.561 Health care provider in coordinated care organization.** (1) Notwithstanding ORS 179.505, a health care provider that is a participant in a coordinated care organization, as defined in ORS 414.025, shall disclose protected health information:

(a) To other health care providers participating in the coordinated care organization for treatment purposes, and to the coordinated care organization for health care operations and payment purposes, as permitted by ORS 192.558; and

(b) To public health entities as required for health oversight purposes.

(2) The disclosures described in subsection (1) of this section may be provided without the authorization of the patient or the patient’s personal representative.



(3) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to psychotherapy notes, as defined in ORS 179.505. [2012 c.8 §16]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.563 Health care provider and state health plan charges.** A health care provider or state health plan that receives an authorization to disclose protected health information may charge:

(1)(a) No more than \$30 for copying 10 or fewer pages of written material, no more than 50 cents per page for pages 11 through 50 and no more than 25 cents for each additional page; and

(b) A bonus charge of \$5 if the request for records is processed and the records are mailed by first class mail to the requester within seven business days after the date of the request;

(2) Postage costs to mail copies of protected health information or an explanation or summary of protected health information, if requested by an individual or a personal representative of the individual; and

(3) Actual costs of preparing an explanation or summary of protected health information, if requested by an individual or a personal representative of the individual. [Formerly 192.521]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.566 Authorization form.** A health care provider may use an authorization that contains the following provisions in accordance with ORS 192.558:

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AUTHORIZATION  
TO USE AND DISCLOSE PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION

I authorize: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of person/entity disclosing information) to use and disclose a copy of the specific health information described below regarding: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of individual) consisting of: (Describe information to be used/disclosed)

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to: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name and address of recipient or recipients) for the purpose of: (Describe each purpose of disclosure or indicate that the disclosure is at the request of the individual)

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If the information to be disclosed contains any of the types of records or information listed below, additional laws relating to the use and disclosure of the information may apply. I understand and agree that this information will be disclosed if I place my initials in the applicable space next to the type of information.

- \_\_\_\_\_ HIV/AIDS information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mental health information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Genetic testing information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drug/alcohol diagnosis, treatment, or referral information.

I understand that the information used or disclosed pursuant to this authorization may be subject to redisclosure and no longer be protected under federal law. However, I also understand that federal or state law may restrict redisclosure of HIV/AIDS information, mental health information, genetic testing information and drug/alcohol diagnosis, treatment or referral information.

### PROVIDER INFORMATION

You do not need to sign this authorization. Refusal to sign the authorization will not adversely affect your ability to receive health care services or reimbursement for services. The only circumstance when refusal to sign means you will not receive health care services is if the health care services are solely for the purpose of providing health information to someone else and the authorization is necessary to make that disclosure.

You may revoke this authorization in writing at any time. If you revoke your authorization, the information described above may no longer be used or disclosed for the purposes described in this written authorization. The only exception is when a covered entity has taken action in reliance on the authorization or the authorization was obtained as a condition of obtaining insurance coverage.

To revoke this authorization, please send a written statement to \_\_\_\_\_ (contact person) at \_\_\_\_\_ (address of person/entity disclosing information) and state that you are revoking this authorization.

### SIGNATURE

I have read this authorization and I understand it. Unless revoked, this authorization expires \_\_\_\_\_ (insert either applicable date or event).

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(individual or personal representative)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of personal representative's authority:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

[Formerly 192.522]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.567 Disclosure without authorization form.** (1)(a) A health care provider may use or disclose protected health information of an individual without obtaining an authorization from the individual or a personal representative of the individual if the conditions in paragraph (b) of this subsection are met and:

(A) The disclosure is to a family member, other relative, a close personal friend or other person identified by the individual, and the protected health information is directly relevant to the person's involvement with the individual's health care; or

(B) The disclosure is for the purpose of notifying a family member, a personal representative of the individual or another person responsible for the care of the individual of the individual's location, general condition or death.

(b) A health care provider may make the disclosures described in paragraph (a) of this subsection if:

(A)(i) The individual is not present or obtaining the individual's authorization is not practicable due to the individual's incapacity or an emergency circumstance; and

(ii) In the exercise of professional judgment and based on reasonable inferences, the health care provider determines that the disclosure is in the best interests of the individual; or

(B) The individual is present and the health care provider gives the individual an opportunity to object to the disclosure and the individual does not express an objection or the health care provider reasonably infers from the circumstances, based on the exercise of professional judgment, that the individual does not object to the disclosure.

(2) A health care provider may disclose protected health information to a person if the health care provider, consistent with standards of ethical conduct, believes in good faith that the disclosure is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious threat to the health or safety of any person or the public, and if the information is disclosed only to a person who is reasonably able to prevent or lessen the threat, including the target of the threat.

(3) With respect to an individual who is being treated for a mental illness, the protected health information disclosed under this section may include, to the extent consistent with the health care provider's professional judgment and standards of ethical conduct:

(a) The individual's diagnoses and the treatment recommendations;

(b) Issues concerning the safety of the individual, including risk factors for suicide, steps that can be taken to make the individual's home safer, and a safety plan to monitor and support the individual;

(c) Information about resources that are available in the community to help the individual, such as case management and support groups; and

(d) The process to ensure that the individual safely transitions to a higher or lower level of care, including an interim safety plan.

(4) Any disclosure of protected health information under this section must be limited to the minimum necessary to accomplish the purpose of the disclosure.

(5) A health care provider is not subject to any civil liability for making a disclosure in accordance with this section.

(6) This section shall be known and may be cited as the Susanna Blake Gabay Act. [2015 c.473 §§2,3]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.568 Confidentiality; use and disclosure.** A health care provider or a state health plan does not breach a confidential relationship with an individual if the health care provider or state health plan uses or discloses protected health information in accordance with ORS 192.558. [Formerly 192.523]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.571 No right of action.** Nothing in ORS 192.556 or 192.558 may be construed to create a new private right of action against a health care provider or a state health plan. [Formerly 192.524]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.573 Personal representative of deceased individual.** If no person has been appointed as a personal representative under ORS chapter 113 or a person appointed as a personal representative under

ORS chapter 113 has been discharged, the personal representative of a deceased individual shall be the first of the following persons, in the following order, who can be located upon reasonable effort by the covered entity and who is willing to serve as the personal representative:

- (1) A person appointed as guardian under ORS 125.305, 419B.372, 419C.481 or 419C.555 with authority to make medical and health care decisions at the time of the individual's death.
- (2) The individual's spouse.
- (3) An adult designated in writing by the persons listed in this section, if no person listed in this section objects to the designation.
- (4) A majority of the adult children of the individual who can be located.
- (5) Either parent of the individual or an individual acting in loco parentis to the individual.
- (6) A majority of the adult siblings of the individual who can be located.
- (7) Any adult relative or adult friend. [Formerly 192.526]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.576 Disclosure to individual appealing denial of Social Security benefits.** (1) In the case of an individual appealing the denial of Social Security disability benefits, a covered entity shall upon request provide to the individual or the individual's personal representative, free of charge, one copy of the individual's health information created after the date that the individual alleged as the onset of disability in the individual's initial application for Social Security disability benefits and before the date of the administrative hearing. At the election of the individual or the individual's personal representative, the health information shall be provided in paper or electronic format.

(2) A covered entity may deny a request for a copy of health information if:

(a) The covered entity has already provided one copy of the health information to the individual or the individual's personal representative; or

(b) The request is made by a person other than the individual or the individual's personal representative and the requester has not presented a valid authorization for the release of information.

(3) A covered entity may charge a fee for providing copies of health information, as provided in ORS 192.563, if:

(a) The request for copies is made by a person other than the individual or the individual's personal representative; or

(b) The covered entity has already provided to the individual or the individual's personal representative one copy of the information. [2015 c.360 §2; 2017 c.551 §1]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.577 Disclosure of information concerning adult in custody of Department of Corrections.**

(1) A health care provider shall disclose protected health information concerning an adult in custody of a Department of Corrections facility to the physician of an employee of the department or of Oregon Corrections Enterprises, without an authorization from the adult in custody or a personal representative of the adult in custody, if:

(a) The employee, in the performance of the employee's official duties, was directly exposed to the bodily fluids of the adult in custody; and

(b) The adult in custody has tested positive for a blood-borne infection or other communicable disease that may be transmitted through an individual's bodily fluids.

(2) A disclosure under subsection (1) of this section must be limited to the minimum necessary to inform the physician of possible exposure to a blood-borne infection or other communicable disease. [2017 c.484 §2; 2019 c.213 §56; 2019 c.280 §4]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.579 Allowed disclosure for coordinating care.** (1) As used in this section, “entity” means a health care provider, a coordinated care organization, as defined in ORS 414.025 or a prepaid managed care health services organization, as defined in ORS 414.025, that provides health care to an individual, if the care is paid for by a state health plan.

(2) Notwithstanding ORS 179.505, an entity may disclose the identity of an individual who receives health care from the entity without obtaining an authorization from the individual, or a personal representative of the individual, to another entity for the purpose of coordinating the health care and treatment provided to the individual by either entity. [2011 c.418 §2; 2015 c.792 §4]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

**192.581 Allowed retention or disclosure of genetic information.** (1) Notwithstanding ORS 192.537 (3), a health care provider may retain genetic information of an individual without obtaining an authorization from the individual or a personal representative of the individual if the retention is for treatment, payment or health care operations by the provider.

(2) Notwithstanding ORS 192.539 (1), a health care provider may disclose genetic information of an individual without obtaining an authorization from the individual or a personal representative of the individual if the provider discloses the genetic information in accordance with ORS 192.558 (3).

(3) As used in this section, “retain genetic information” has the meaning given that term in ORS 192.531. [Formerly 192.529]

**Note:** See note under 192.553.

## **REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE, ORS 419B.005 – 419B.055**

**419B.005 Definitions.** As used in ORS 419B.005 to 419B.050, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1)(a) “Abuse” means:

(A) Any assault, as defined in ORS chapter 163, of a child and any physical injury to a child that has been caused by other than accidental means, including any injury that appears to be at variance with the explanation given of the injury.

(B) Any mental injury to a child, which shall include only cruel or unconscionable acts or statements made, or threatened to be made, to a child if the acts, statements or threats result in severe harm to the child’s psychological, cognitive, emotional or social well-being and functioning.

(C) Rape of a child, which includes but is not limited to rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual penetration and incest, as those acts are described in ORS chapter 163.

(D) Sexual abuse, as described in ORS chapter 163.

(E) Sexual exploitation, including but not limited to:

(i) Contributing to the sexual delinquency of a minor, as defined in ORS chapter 163, and any other conduct that allows, employs, authorizes, permits, induces or encourages a child to engage in the performing for people to observe or the photographing, filming, tape recording or other exhibition that, in whole or in part, depicts sexual conduct or contact, as defined in ORS 167.002 or described in ORS 163.665 and 163.670, sexual abuse involving a child or rape of a child, but not including any conduct that is part of any investigation conducted pursuant to ORS 419B.020 or that is designed to serve educational or other legitimate purposes; and

(ii) Allowing, permitting, encouraging or hiring a child to engage in prostitution as described in ORS 167.007 or a commercial sex act as defined in ORS 163.266, to purchase sex with a minor as described in ORS 163.413 or to engage in commercial sexual solicitation as described in ORS 167.008.

(F) Negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child, including but not limited to the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter or medical care that is likely to endanger the health or welfare of the child.

(G) Threatened harm to a child, which means subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child’s health or welfare.

(H) Buying or selling a person under 18 years of age as described in ORS 163.537.

(I) Permitting a person under 18 years of age to enter or remain in or upon premises where methamphetamines are being manufactured.

(J) Unlawful exposure to a controlled substance, as defined in ORS 475.005, or to the unlawful manufacturing of a cannabinoid extract, as defined in ORS 475C.009, that subjects a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child’s health or safety.

(K) The restraint or seclusion of a child in violation of ORS 339.285, 339.288, 339.291, 339.303 or 339.308.

(L) The infliction of corporal punishment on a child in violation of ORS 339.250 (9).

(b) “Abuse” does not include reasonable discipline unless the discipline results in one of the conditions described in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(2) “Child” means an unmarried person who:

(a) Is under 18 years of age; or

(b) Is a child in care, as defined in ORS 418.257.

(3) “Higher education institution” means:

(a) A community college as defined in ORS 341.005;

(b) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;

(c) The Oregon Health and Science University; and

- (d) A private institution of higher education located in Oregon.
- (4)(a) “Investigation” means a detailed inquiry into or assessment of the safety of a child alleged to have experienced abuse.
  - (b) “Investigation” does not include screening activities conducted upon the receipt of a report.
- (5) “Law enforcement agency” means:
  - (a) A city or municipal police department.
  - (b) A county sheriff’s office.
  - (c) The Oregon State Police.
  - (d) A police department established by a university under ORS 352.121 or 353.125.
  - (e) A county juvenile department.
- (6) “Public or private official” means:
  - (a) Physician or physician assistant licensed under ORS chapter 677 or naturopathic physician, including any intern or resident.
  - (b) Dentist.
  - (c) School employee, including an employee of a higher education institution.
  - (d) Licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, nurse’s aide, home health aide or employee of an in-home health service.
  - (e) Employee of the Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Early Learning and Care, Department of Education, Youth Development Division, the Oregon Youth Authority, a local health department, a community mental health program, a community developmental disabilities program, a county juvenile department, a child-caring agency as that term is defined in ORS 418.205 or an alcohol and drug treatment program.
  - (f) Peace officer.
  - (g) Psychologist.
  - (h) Member of the clergy.
  - (i) Regulated social worker.
  - (j) Optometrist.
  - (k) Chiropractor.
  - (L) Certified provider of foster care, or an employee thereof.
  - (m) Attorney.
  - (n) Licensed professional counselor.
  - (o) Licensed marriage and family therapist.
  - (p) Firefighter or emergency medical services provider.
  - (q) Court appointed special advocate, as defined in ORS 419A.004.
  - (r) Child care provider registered or certified under ORS 329A.250 to 329A.450.
  - (s) Elected official of a branch of government of this state or a state agency, board, commission or department of a branch of government of this state or of a city, county or other political subdivision in this state.
  - (t) Physical, speech or occupational therapist.
  - (u) Audiologist.
  - (v) Speech-language pathologist.
  - (w) Employee of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission directly involved in investigations or discipline by the commission.
  - (x) Pharmacist.
  - (y) Operator of a preschool recorded program under ORS 329A.255.
  - (z) Operator of a school-age recorded program under ORS 329A.255.
  - (aa) Employee of a private agency or organization facilitating the provision of respite services, as defined in ORS 418.205, for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney under ORS 109.056.

(bb) Employee of a public or private organization providing child-related services or activities:

(A) Including but not limited to an employee of a:

(i) Youth group or center;

(ii) Scout group or camp;

(iii) Summer or day camp;

(iv) Survival camp; or

(v) Group, center or camp that is operated under the guidance, supervision or auspices of a religious, public or private educational system or a community service organization; and

(B) Excluding an employee of a qualified victim services program as defined in ORS 147.600 that provides confidential, direct services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking.

(cc) Coach, assistant coach or trainer of an amateur, semiprofessional or professional athlete, if compensated and if the athlete is a child.

(dd) Personal support worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.

(ee) Home care worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.

(ff) Animal control officer, as defined in ORS 609.500.

(gg) Member of a school district board, an education service district board or a public charter school governing body.

(hh) Individual who is paid by a public body, in accordance with ORS 430.215, to provide a service identified in an individualized service plan of a child with a developmental disability.

(ii) Referral agent, as defined in ORS 418.351.

(jj) Parole and probation officer, as defined in ORS 181A.355.

(kk) Behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst licensed under ORS 676.810 or behavior analysis interventionist registered by the Health Licensing Office under ORS 676.815. [1993 c.546 §12; 1993 c.622 §1a; 1995 c.278 §50; 1995 c.766 §1; 1997 c.127 §1; 1997 c.561 §3; 1997 c.703 §3; 1997 c.873 §30; 1999 c.743 §22; 1999 c.954 §4; 2001 c.104 §148; 2003 c.191 §1; 2005 c.562 §26; 2005 c.708 §4; 2009 c.199 §1; 2009 c.442 §36; 2009 c.518 §1; 2009 c.570 §6; 2009 c.595 §364; 2009 c.633 §10; 2009 c.708 §3; 2010 c.60 §§4,5; 2011 c.151 §12; 2011 c.506 §38; 2011 c.703 §34; 2012 c.37 §60; 2012 c.92 §1; 2013 c.129 §26; 2013 c.180 §40; 2013 c.623 §17; 2013 c.624 §82; 2013 c.720 §11; 2015 c.98 §7; 2015 c.179 §1; 2015 c.736 §65; 2016 c.106 §39; 2017 c.21 §55; 2018 c.75 §21; 2019 c.137 §§1,2; 2019 c.176 §§1,2; 2019 c.455 §§3,4; 2019 c.618 §§16,17; 2021 c.97 §44; 2021 c.214 §1; 2021 c.251 §2; 2021 c.391 §4; 2021 c.590 §4; 2021 c.631 §58; 2022 c.27 §16; 2022 c.90 §§7,8; 2023 c.9 §§28,29; 2023 c.267 §§5,6; 2023 c.500 §§8,9; 2023 c.554 §52; 2023 c.581 §§3,4]

**Note:** The amendments to 419B.005 by section 6, chapter 581, Oregon Laws 2023, become operative July 1, 2028, and apply to incidents occurring on or after July 1, 2028. See sections 13 and 14, chapter 581, Oregon Laws 2023. The text that is operative on and after July 1, 2028, is set forth for the user's convenience.

**419B.005.** As used in ORS 419B.005 to 419B.050, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1)(a) "Abuse" means:

(A) Any assault, as defined in ORS chapter 163, of a child and any physical injury to a child that has been caused by other than accidental means, including any injury that appears to be at variance with the explanation given of the injury.

(B) Any mental injury to a child, which shall include only cruel or unconscionable acts or statements made, or threatened to be made, to a child if the acts, statements or threats result in severe harm to the child's psychological, cognitive, emotional or social well-being and functioning. (C) Rape of a child, which includes but is not limited to rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual penetration and incest, as those acts are described in ORS chapter 163.

(D) Sexual abuse, as described in ORS chapter 163.



(E) Sexual exploitation, including but not limited to:

(i) Contributing to the sexual delinquency of a minor, as defined in ORS chapter 163, and any other conduct that allows, employs, authorizes, permits, induces or encourages a child to engage in the performing for people to observe or the photographing, filming, tape recording or other exhibition that, in whole or in part, depicts sexual conduct or contact, as defined in ORS 167.002 or described in ORS 163.665 and 163.670, sexual abuse involving a child or rape of a child, but not including any conduct that is part of any investigation conducted pursuant to ORS 419B.020 or that is designed to serve educational or other legitimate purposes; and

(ii) Allowing, permitting, encouraging or hiring a child to engage in prostitution as described in ORS 167.007 or a commercial sex act as defined in ORS 163.266, to purchase sex with a minor as described in ORS 163.413 or to engage in commercial sexual solicitation as described in ORS 167.008.

(F) Negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child, including but not limited to the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter or medical care that is likely to endanger the health or welfare of the child.

(G) Threatened harm to a child, which means subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child's health or welfare.

(H) Buying or selling a person under 18 years of age as described in ORS 163.537.

(I) Permitting a person under 18 years of age to enter or remain in or upon premises where methamphetamines are being manufactured.

(J) Unlawful exposure to a controlled substance, as defined in ORS 475.005, or to the unlawful manufacturing of a cannabinoid extract, as defined in ORS 475C.009, that subjects a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child's health or safety.

(K) The infliction of corporal punishment on a child in violation of ORS 339.250 (9).

(b) "Abuse" does not include reasonable discipline unless the discipline results in one of the conditions described in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(2) "Child" means an unmarried person who:

(a) Is under 18 years of age; or

(b) Is a child in care, as defined in ORS 418.257.

(3) "Higher education institution" means:

(a) A community college as defined in ORS 341.005;

(b) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;

(c) The Oregon Health and Science University; and

(d) A private institution of higher education located in Oregon.

(4)(a) "Investigation" means a detailed inquiry into or assessment of the safety of a child alleged to have experienced abuse.

(b) "Investigation" does not include screening activities conducted upon the receipt of a report.

(5) "Law enforcement agency" means:

(a) A city or municipal police department.

(b) A county sheriff's office.

(c) The Oregon State Police.

(d) A police department established by a university under ORS 352.121 or 353.125.

(e) A county juvenile department.

(6) "Public or private official" means:

(a) Physician or physician assistant licensed under ORS chapter 677 or naturopathic physician, including any intern or resident.

(b) Dentist.

(c) School employee, including an employee of a higher education institution.

(d) Licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, nurse's aide, home health aide or employee of an in-home health service.

(e) Employee of the Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Early Learning and Care, Department of Education, Youth Development Division, the Oregon Youth Authority, a local health department, a community mental health program, a community developmental disabilities program, a county juvenile department, a child-caring agency as that term is defined in ORS 418.205 or an alcohol and drug treatment program.

(f) Peace officer.

(g) Psychologist.

(h) Member of the clergy.

(i) Regulated social worker.

(j) Optometrist.

(k) Chiropractor.

(L) Certified provider of foster care, or an employee thereof.

(m) Attorney.

(n) Licensed professional counselor.

(o) Licensed marriage and family therapist.

(p) Firefighter or emergency medical services provider.

(q) Court appointed special advocate, as defined in ORS 419A.004.

(r) Child care provider registered or certified under ORS 329A.250 to 329A.450.

(s) Elected official of a branch of government of this state or a state agency, board, commission or department of a branch of government of this state or of a city, county or other political subdivision in this state.

(t) Physical, speech or occupational therapist.

(u) Audiologist.

(v) Speech-language pathologist.

(w) Employee of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission directly involved in investigations or discipline by the commission.

(x) Pharmacist.

(y) Operator of a preschool recorded program under ORS 329A.255.

(z) Operator of a school-age recorded program under ORS 329A.255.

(aa) Employee of a private agency or organization facilitating the provision of respite services, as defined in ORS 418.205, for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney under ORS 109.056.

(bb) Employee of a public or private organization providing child-related services or activities:

(A) Including but not limited to an employee of a:

(i) Youth group or center;

(ii) Scout group or camp;

(iii) Summer or day camp;

(iv) Survival camp; or

(v) Group, center or camp that is operated under the guidance, supervision or auspices of a religious, public or private educational system or a community service organization; and

(B) Excluding an employee of a qualified victim services program as defined in ORS 147.600 that provides confidential, direct services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking.

(cc) Coach, assistant coach or trainer of an amateur, semiprofessional or professional athlete, if compensated and if the athlete is a child.

(dd) Personal support worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.

(ee) Home care worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.

(ff) Animal control officer, as defined in ORS 609.500.

(gg) Member of a school district board, an education service district board or a public charter school governing body.

(hh) Individual who is paid by a public body, in accordance with ORS 430.215, to provide a service identified in an individualized service plan of a child with a developmental disability.

(ii) Referral agent, as defined in ORS 418.351.

(jj) Parole and probation officer, as defined in ORS 181A.355.

(kk) Behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst licensed under ORS 676.810 or behavior analysis interventionist registered by the Health Licensing Office under ORS 676.815.

**419B.007 Policy.** The Legislative Assembly finds that for the purpose of facilitating the use of protective social services to prevent further abuse, safeguard and enhance the welfare of abused children, and preserve family life when consistent with the protection of the child by stabilizing the family and improving parental capacity, it is necessary and in the public interest to require mandatory reports and investigations of abuse of children and to encourage voluntary reports. [1993 c.546 §13]

**419B.010 Duty of officials to report child abuse; exceptions; penalty.** (1) Any public or private official having reasonable cause to believe that any child with whom the official comes in contact has suffered abuse or that any person with whom the official comes in contact has abused a child shall immediately report or cause a report to be made in the manner required in ORS 419B.015. Nothing contained in ORS 40.225 to 40.295 or 419B.234 (6) affects the duty to report imposed by this section, except that a psychiatrist, psychologist, member of the clergy, attorney or guardian ad litem appointed under ORS 419B.231 is not required to report such information communicated by a person if the communication is privileged under ORS 40.225 to 40.295 or 419B.234 (6). An attorney is not required to make a report under this section by reason of information communicated to the attorney in the course of representing a client if disclosure of the information would be detrimental to the client.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a report need not be made under this section if the public or private official acquires information relating to abuse by reason of a report made under this section, or by reason of a proceeding arising out of a report made under this section, and the public or private official reasonably believes that the information is already known by a law enforcement agency or the Department of Human Services.

(3) The duty to report under this section is personal to the public or private official alone, regardless of whether the official is employed by, a volunteer of or a representative or agent for any type of entity or organization that employs persons or uses persons as volunteers who are public or private officials in its operations.

(4) The duty to report under this section exists regardless of whether the entity or organization that employs the public or private official or uses the official as a volunteer has its own procedures or policies for reporting abuse internally within the entity or organization.

(5) A person who violates subsection (1) of this section commits a Class A violation. Prosecution under this subsection shall be commenced at any time within 18 months after commission of the offense. [1993 c.546 §14; 1999 c.1051 §180; 2001 c.104 §149; 2001 c.904 §15; 2005 c.450 §7; 2012 c.92 §11]

**419B.015 Report form and content; notice.** (1)(a) A person making a voluntary report of child abuse shall make an oral report to the Department of Human Services by telephone to the child abuse reporting hotline described in ORS 418.190 or to a law enforcement agency within the county where the person making the report is located at the time of the contact. A person making a report of child abuse that is required by ORS 419B.010 shall make the report to the department through the centralized child abuse reporting system described in ORS 418.190 or to a law enforcement agency within the county where the person making the report is located at the time of the contact. The report must contain, if known, the

names and addresses of the child and the parents of the child or other persons responsible for care of the child, the child's age, the nature and extent of the abuse, including any evidence of previous abuse, the explanation given for the abuse and any other information that the person making the report believes might be helpful in establishing the cause of the abuse and the identity of the perpetrator.

(b)(A) When a report of alleged child abuse is received by the department, the department shall notify a law enforcement agency within the county where the alleged abuse occurred or, if that county is unknown, the county where the child resides or, if that county is unknown, the county where the reporter came into contact with the child or the alleged perpetrator of the abuse.

(B) When a report of alleged child abuse is received by a law enforcement agency, the agency shall notify the department by making a report of the alleged child abuse to the centralized child abuse reporting system described in ORS 418.190.

(c) When a report of alleged child abuse is received by the department or by a law enforcement agency, the department or law enforcement agency, or both, may collect information concerning the military status of the parent or guardian of the child who is the subject of the report and may share the information with the appropriate military authorities. Disclosure of information under this paragraph is subject to ORS 419B.035 (7).

(2) When a report of alleged child abuse is received under subsection (1)(a) of this section, the entity receiving the report shall make the notification required by subsection (1)(b) of this section according to rules adopted by the department under ORS 419B.017.

(3)(a) When a report alleging that a child or ward in substitute care may have been subjected to abuse is received by the department, the department shall notify the attorney for the child or ward, the child's or ward's court appointed special advocate, the parents of the child or ward and any attorney representing a parent of the child or ward that a report has been received.

(b) The name and address of and other identifying information about the person who made the report may not be disclosed under this subsection. Any person or entity to whom notification is made under this subsection may not release any information not authorized by this subsection.

(c) The department shall make the notification required by this subsection within three business days of receiving the report of alleged child abuse.

(d) Notwithstanding the obligation imposed by this subsection, the department is not required under this subsection to notify the parent or parent's attorney that a report of alleged child abuse has been received if the notification may interfere with an investigation or assessment or jeopardize the child's or ward's safety. [1993 c.546 §15; 1993 c.734 §1a; 2005 c.250 §1; 2007 c.237 §1; 2017 c.210 §1; 2019 c.181 §1; 2023 c.132 §2]

**419B.016 Offense of false report of child abuse.** (1) A person commits the offense of making a false report of child abuse if, with the intent to influence a custody, parenting time, visitation or child support decision, the person:

(a) Makes a false report of child abuse to the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency, knowing that the report is false; or

(b) With the intent that a public or private official make a report of child abuse to the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency, makes a false report of child abuse to the public or private official, knowing that the report is false.

(2) Making a false report of child abuse is a Class A violation. [2011 c.606 §2]

**Note:** 419B.016 was added to and made a part of 419B.005 to 419B.050 by legislative action but was not added to any smaller series therein. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**419B.017 Time limits for notification between law enforcement agencies and Department of Human Services; rules.** (1) The Department of Human Services shall adopt rules establishing:

(a) The time within which the notification required by ORS 419B.015 (1)(b) must be made. At a minimum, the rules shall:

- (A) Establish which reports of child abuse require notification within 24 hours after receipt;
- (B) Provide that all other reports of child abuse require notification within 10 days after receipt; and
- (C) Establish criteria that enable the department or a law enforcement agency to quickly and easily identify reports that require notification within 24 hours after receipt.

(b) How the notification is to be made.

(2) The department shall appoint an advisory committee to advise the department in adopting rules required by this section. The department shall include as members of the advisory committee representatives of law enforcement agencies and multidisciplinary teams formed pursuant to ORS 418.747 and other interested parties.

(3) The department may recommend practices and procedures to local law enforcement agencies to meet the requirements of rules adopted under this section. [2005 c.250 §3; 2019 c.181 §2; 2023 c.132 §6]

**Note:** 419B.017 was added to and made a part of 419B.005 to 419B.050 by legislative action but was not added to any smaller series therein. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**419B.019 Investigation of report involving school; notification; report to Legislative Assembly; rules.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Agent” means a person who:

(A) Acts as an agent for an education provider in a manner that requires the person to have direct, unsupervised contact with children; and

(B) Interacts with a child because of the person’s status as an agent for an education provider.

(b) “Contractor” means a person who:

(A) Provides services to an education provider under a contract in a manner that requires the person to have direct, unsupervised contact with children; and

(B) Interacts with a child because of the person’s status as a contractor for an education provider.

(c) “Education provider” has the meaning given that term in ORS 339.370.

(d) “School employee” means a person who:

(A) Is an employee of an education provider; and

(B) Interacts with a child because of the person’s status as an employee of an education provider.

(e) “Volunteer” means a person who:

(A) Acts as a volunteer for an education provider in a manner that requires the person to have direct, unsupervised contact with children; and

(B) Interacts with a child because of the person’s status as a volunteer of an education provider.

(2) A law enforcement agency or the Department of Human Services must conduct an investigation as provided by ORS 419B.020 if the law enforcement agency or department receives a report of abuse that involves a child and a person who is a school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer.

(3) A law enforcement agency shall notify the department as provided by ORS 419B.015 if the law enforcement agency receives a report described in subsection (2) of this section. The department shall notify a law enforcement agency as provided by ORS 419B.015 if the department receives a report described in subsection (2) of this section. The department shall ensure that an investigation related to the report is conducted if the report is not investigated by a law enforcement agency.

(4)(a) Within three business days of receiving a report or notification of a report described in subsection (2) of this section, the department shall notify:

(A) The appropriate education provider to ensure the safety of the child, if the department believes the report of suspected abuse involves the child and a person who is a school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer;

(B) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, if the department believes the school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer is licensed, registered or certified by the commission; or

(C) The Department of Education, if the Department of Human Services believes the report of suspected abuse:

(i) Occurred in a school or was related to a school-sponsored activity; or

(ii) Involves a child and a person who is a school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer and whose conduct may be subject to actions taken by the Department of Education under ORS 339.370 to 339.400.

(b) For the purpose of notification made under this subsection, the Department of Human Services may not disclose the name and address of, and other identifying information about, the person who made the report, but the department shall make available any information necessary to ensure the safety of the child, including the name of the school and the name of the person who may have conducted the suspected abuse. Except as provided by ORS 339.389, any person or entity to whom notification is made under this subsection may not release any information not authorized by this subsection.

(c) When the Department of Education receives notification under this subsection, the department shall act under, and is subject to, ORS 339.389.

(5) The Department of Human Services shall submit a report on the first day of every calendar quarter to the committees or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to child welfare, for the purposes of public review and oversight of the quality and safety of education providers. Information provided in reports under this subsection may not contain the name of a child or any identifying information about a child. The reports must contain all of the following information about each investigation described in subsection (2) of this section that resulted in a finding, during the preceding quarter, that the report of abuse was substantiated:

(a) The name of the education provider where the department conducted the investigation;

(b) The approximate date that the abuse occurred;

(c) The nature of the abuse and a brief narrative description of the abuse that occurred; and

(d) Whether a reportable injury, sexual abuse or death resulted from the abuse.

(6) The department may adopt any rules necessary for the administration of this section. [2019 c.618 §14; 2021 c.386 §5; 2023 c.570 §14; 2023 c.581 §7]

**Note:** 419B.019 was added to and made a part of 419B.005 to 419B.050 by legislative action but was not added to any smaller series therein. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**419B.020 Duty of department or law enforcement agency receiving report; investigation; notice; physical examination; child's consent; notice at conclusion of investigation.** (1) If the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency receives a report of child abuse, the department or the agency shall immediately:

(a) Cause an investigation to be made to determine the nature and cause of the abuse of the child; and

(b) Make the following notifications:

(A) To the Department of Early Learning and Care if the alleged child abuse occurred in a child care facility as defined in ORS 329A.250; or

(B) To the Department of Education if the alleged child abuse occurred in a school, was related to a school-sponsored activity or was conduct that may be subject to actions taken by the Department of Education under ORS 339.370 to 339.400.

(2) The Department of Human Services shall ensure that an investigation required by subsection (1) of this section is completed if the report is not investigated by a law enforcement agency.

(3) If the alleged child abuse reported in subsection (1) of this section occurred at a child care facility or in a school, was related to a school-sponsored activity or was conduct that may be subject to actions taken by the Department of Education under ORS 339.370 to 339.400:

(a) The Department of Human Services and the law enforcement agency shall jointly determine the roles and responsibilities of the Department of Human Services and the agency in their respective investigations; and

(b) The Department of Human Services and the agency shall each report the outcomes of their investigations:

(A) To the Department of Early Learning and Care if the alleged child abuse occurred in a child care facility as defined in ORS 329A.250; or

(B) To the Department of Education if the alleged child abuse:

(i) Occurred in a school;

(ii) Was related to a school-sponsored activity; or

(iii) Was conduct that may be subject to actions taken by the Department of Education under ORS 339.370 to 339.400.

(4) If the law enforcement agency conducting the investigation finds reasonable cause to believe that abuse has occurred, the law enforcement agency shall notify the Department of Human Services by making an oral report followed by a written report to the centralized child abuse reporting system described in ORS 418.190. The department shall provide protective social services of its own or of other available social agencies if necessary to prevent further abuses to the child or to safeguard the child's welfare.

(5) If a child is taken into protective custody by the Department of Human Services, the department shall promptly make reasonable efforts to ascertain the name and address of the child's parents or guardian.

(6)(a) If a child is taken into protective custody by the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement official, the department or law enforcement official shall, if possible, make reasonable efforts to advise the parents or guardian immediately, regardless of the time of day, that the child has been taken into custody, the reasons the child has been taken into custody and general information about the child's placement, and the telephone number of the local office of the department and any after-hours telephone numbers.

(b) Notice may be given by any means reasonably certain of notifying the parents or guardian, including but not limited to written, telephonic or in-person oral notification. If the initial notification is not in writing, the information required by paragraph (a) of this subsection also shall be provided to the parents or guardian in writing as soon as possible.

(c) The department also shall make a reasonable effort to notify the noncustodial parent of the information required by paragraph (a) of this subsection in a timely manner.

(d) If a child is taken into custody while under the care and supervision of a person or organization other than the parent, the department, if possible, shall immediately notify the person or organization that the child has been taken into protective custody.

(7) If a law enforcement officer or the Department of Human Services, when taking a child into protective custody, has reasonable cause to believe that the child has been affected by sexual abuse and rape of a child as defined in ORS 419B.005 (1)(a)(C) and that physical evidence of the abuse exists and is likely to disappear, the court may authorize a physical examination for the purposes of preserving evidence if the court finds that it is in the best interest of the child to have such an examination. Nothing in this section affects the authority of the department to consent to physical examinations of the child at other times.

(8) A minor child of 12 years of age or older may refuse to consent to the examination described in subsection (7) of this section. The examination shall be conducted by or under the supervision of a physician licensed under ORS chapter 677, a physician assistant licensed under ORS 677.505 to 677.525

or a nurse practitioner licensed under ORS chapter 678 and, whenever practicable, trained in conducting such examinations.

(9) When the Department of Human Services completes an investigation under this section, if the person who made the report of child abuse provided contact information to the department, the department shall notify the person about whether contact with the child was made, whether the department determined that child abuse occurred and whether services will be provided. The department is not required to disclose information under this subsection if the department determines that disclosure is not permitted under ORS 419B.035.

(10) When the Department of Education receives a notification under subsection (1) of this section or a report on the outcomes of an investigation under subsection (3) of this section, the Department of Education shall act under, and is subject to, ORS 339.389. [1993 c.546 §16; 1993 c.622 §7a; 1997 c.130 §13; 1997 c.703 §1; 1997 c.873 §33; 2007 c.501 §4; 2007 c.781 §1; 2013 c.624 §83; 2014 c.45 §41; 2017 c.356 §41; 2019 c.141 §24; 2019 c.618 §18; 2021 c.386 §6; 2023 c.132 §7; 2023 c.554 §53; 2023 c.570 §13]

**419B.021 Degree requirements for persons conducting investigation or making determination regarding child.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a person who conducts an investigation under ORS 419B.020, makes a determination that a child must be taken into protective custody under ORS 419B.150 or 419B.152 or makes a determination that a child should not be released to the child’s parent or other responsible person under ORS 419B.165 (1)(b) must have:

(a) At least a bachelor’s degree in:

(A) Human services or a field related to human services; or

(B) A field other than one described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, if the Department of Human Services determines by rule that the coursework completed by the person is equivalent to a bachelor’s degree in human services and that the person has sufficient training in providing human services; or

(b) An associate degree with additional training or additional certification in human services or a field related to human services, as determined by the department by rule.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to a law enforcement official as defined in ORS 147.005. [2011 c.431 §1; 2019 c.153 §1; 2019 c.594 §6a; 2019 c.631 §3]

**Note:** 419B.021 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 419B or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**419B.023 Duties of person conducting investigation under ORS 419B.020.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Designated medical professional” means the person described in ORS 418.747 (9) or the person’s designee.

(b) “Medical assessment” has the meaning given that term in ORS 418.782.

(c) “Suspicious physical injury” includes, but is not limited to:

(A) Burns or scalds;

(B) Extensive bruising or abrasions on any part of the body;

(C) Bruising, swelling or abrasions on the head, neck or face;

(D) Fractures of any bone in a child under the age of three;

(E) Multiple fractures in a child of any age;

(F) Dislocations, soft tissue swelling or moderate to severe cuts;

(G) Loss of the ability to walk or move normally according to the child’s developmental ability;



(H) Unconsciousness or difficulty maintaining consciousness;

(I) Multiple injuries of different types;

(J) Injuries causing serious or protracted disfigurement or loss or impairment of the function of any bodily organ; or

(K) Any other injury that threatens the physical well-being of the child.

(2)(a) If a person conducting an investigation under ORS 419B.020 observes a child who has suffered suspicious physical injury and the person is certain or has a reasonable suspicion that the injury is or may be the result of abuse, the person shall, in accordance with the protocols and procedures of the county child abuse multidisciplinary team described in ORS 418.747:

(A) Immediately photograph or cause to have photographed the suspicious physical injuries in accordance with ORS 419B.028; and

(B) Ensure that a designated medical professional conducts a medical assessment within 48 hours, or sooner if dictated by the child's medical needs.

(b) Notwithstanding ORS 419B.150, the person described in paragraph (a) of this subsection may take the child into protective custody, without a court order, only for the period of time necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of this subsection.

(3) The requirement of subsection (2) of this section shall apply:

(a) Each time suspicious physical injury is observed by Department of Human Services or law enforcement personnel:

(A) During the investigation of a new allegation of abuse; or

(B) If the injury was not previously observed by a person conducting an investigation under ORS 419B.020; and

(b) Regardless of whether the child has previously been photographed or assessed during an investigation of an allegation of abuse.

(4)(a) Department or law enforcement personnel shall make a reasonable effort to locate a designated medical professional. If after reasonable efforts a designated medical professional is not available to conduct a medical assessment within 48 hours, the child shall be evaluated by an available physician, a physician assistant licensed under ORS 677.505 to 677.525 or a nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390.

(b) If the child is evaluated by a health care provider as defined in ORS 127.505 other than a designated medical professional, the health care provider shall make photographs, clinical notes, diagnostic and testing results and any other relevant materials available to the designated medical professional for consultation within 72 hours following evaluation of the child.

(c) The person conducting the medical assessment may consult with and obtain records from the child's health care provider under ORS 419B.050.

(5) Nothing in this section prevents a person conducting a child abuse investigation from seeking immediate medical treatment from a hospital emergency room or other medical provider for a child who is physically injured or otherwise in need of immediate medical care.

(6) If the child described in subsection (2) of this section is less than five years of age, the designated medical professional may, within 14 days, refer the child for a screening for early intervention services or early childhood special education, as those terms are defined in ORS 343.035. The referral may not indicate the child is subject to a child abuse investigation unless written consent is obtained from the child's parent authorizing such disclosure. If the child is already receiving those services, or is enrolled in the Head Start program, a person involved in the delivery of those services to the child shall be invited to participate in the county child abuse multidisciplinary team's review of the case and shall be provided with paid time to do so by the person's employer.

(7) Nothing in this section limits the rights provided to minors in ORS chapter 109 or the ability of a minor to refuse to consent to the medical assessment described in this section. [2007 c.674 §3; 2009 c.296 §1; 2014 c.45 §42; 2017 c.356 §42; 2019 c.141 §25; 2019 c.594 §5]

**Note:** 419B.023 was added to and made a part of 419B.005 to 419B.050 by legislative action but was not added to any smaller series therein. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**419B.025 Immunity of person making report in good faith.** Anyone participating in good faith in the making of a report of child abuse and who has reasonable grounds for the making thereof shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the making or content of such report. Any such participant shall have the same immunity with respect to participating in any judicial proceeding resulting from such report. [1993 c.546 §17]

**419B.026 Required findings for investigation conducted under ORS 419B.020.** (1) An investigation conducted under ORS 419B.020 must conclude in one of the following findings:

- (a) That the report of child abuse is founded;
- (b) That the report of child abuse is unfounded; or
- (c) That the report of child abuse cannot be determined.

(2) All investigations conducted under ORS 419B.020 must be conducted in accordance with ORS 419B.005 to 419B.050 and result in the findings described in subsection (1) of this section until all of the following criteria have been met:

- (a) The child welfare workload model for the Department of Human Services is staffed at 95 percent or greater;
- (b) A centralized, statewide child abuse hotline has been established and in operation for at least six consecutive months;
- (c) The department has completed investigations within timelines mandated by law and rule at least 90 percent of the time for at least six consecutive months;
- (d) The department has conducted in-person contacts with children who are the subject of reports of child abuse, as mandated by law and rule, in at least 90 percent of the reports of child abuse for at least six consecutive months; and
- (e) The reabuse rate for children in this state is below the national average. [2017 c.740 §2]

**Note:** 419B.026 was added to and made a part of 419B.005 to 419B.050 by legislative action but was not added to any smaller series therein. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**419B.027 Notice of founded disposition.** Whenever an investigation conducted under ORS 419B.020 results in a notice of founded disposition being delivered to the person identified as the perpetrator in the founded disposition, the notice must also be provided to the person's attorney, if applicable. [2023 c.188 §1]

**Note:** 419B.027 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 419B or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**Note:** Sections 8 and 12, chapter 581, Oregon Laws 2023, provide:

**Sec. 8. Exception against substantiation of allegation of abuse by public education program personnel.** (1) Notwithstanding ORS 419B.005 (1)(a)(K), at the conclusion of an investigation under ORS 419B.020, the Department of Human Services may not substantiate an allegation of abuse against personnel of a public education program who have not been trained to the standard established in ORS 339.300 but who impose a restraint on a student if:

- (a) The restraint is imposed in response to an imminent risk of serious bodily injury of any person;

(b) The person imposing the restraint does not act with reckless disregard for student safety; and

(c) The restraint does not impose a significant risk of impeding the student's breathing.

(2) Nothing in this section prohibits the department from finding that the public education program is responsible under section 2 of this 2023 Act [339.296] for abuse arising from the untrained personnel's inappropriate use of restraint.

(3) As used in this section, "public education program" and "restraint" have the meanings given those terms in ORS 339.285. [2023 c.581 §8]

**Sec. 12.** Section 8 of this 2023 Act is repealed on June 30, 2028. [2023 c.581 §12]

**419B.028 Photographing child during investigation; photographs as records.** (1) In carrying out its duties under ORS 419B.020, any law enforcement agency or the Department of Human Services may photograph or cause to have photographed any child subject of the investigation for purposes of preserving evidence of the child's condition at the time of the investigation. Photographs of the anal or genital region may be taken only by medical personnel.

(2) When a child is photographed pursuant to ORS 419B.023, the person taking the photographs or causing to have the photographs taken shall, within 48 hours or by the end of the next regular business day, whichever occurs later:

(a) Provide hard copies or prints of the photographs and, if available, copies of the photographs in an electronic format to the designated medical professional described in ORS 418.747 (9); and

(b) Place hard copies or prints of the photographs and, if available, copies of the photographs in an electronic format in any relevant files pertaining to the child maintained by the law enforcement agency or the department.

(3) For purposes of ORS 419B.035, photographs taken under authority of this section shall be considered records. [1993 c.546 §18; 2007 c.674 §5]

**419B.029 Power to subpoena documents and records in child abuse investigations.** In connection with an investigation under ORS 419B.020, the Director of Human Services may by subpoena compel the production of documents and records, including audio records, video records, photographs and student records, that the director deems relevant or material to the investigation. [2023 c.195 §1]

**419B.030 Central registry of reports.** (1) A central state registry shall be established and maintained by the Department of Human Services. The local offices of the department shall report to the state registry in writing when an investigation has shown reasonable cause to believe that a child's condition was the result of abuse even if the cause remains unknown. Each registry shall contain current information from reports cataloged both as to the name of the child and the name of the family.

(2) When the department provides specific case information from the central state registry, the department shall include a notice that the information does not necessarily reflect any subsequent proceedings that are not within the jurisdiction of the department. [1993 c.546 §19]

**419B.035 Confidentiality of records; when available to others; rules.** (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 192.001 to 192.170, 192.210 to 192.478 and 192.610 to 192.810 relating to confidentiality and accessibility for public inspection of public records and public documents, reports and records compiled under the provisions of ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050 are confidential and may not be disclosed except as provided in this section. The Department of Human Services shall make the records available to:

(a) Any law enforcement agency or a child abuse registry in any other state for the purpose of subsequent investigation of child abuse;

- (b) Any physician, physician assistant licensed under ORS 677.505 to 677.525 or nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390, at the request of the physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner, regarding any child brought to the physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner or coming before the physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner for examination, care or treatment;
- (c) Attorneys of record for the child or child's parent or guardian in any juvenile court proceeding;
- (d) Citizen review boards established by the Judicial Department for the purpose of periodically reviewing the status of children, youths and adjudicated youths under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court under ORS 419B.100 and 419C.005. Citizen review boards may make such records available to participants in case reviews;
- (e) A court appointed special advocate in any juvenile court proceeding in which it is alleged that a child has been subjected to child abuse or neglect;
- (f) The Department of Early Learning and Care for the purpose of carrying out the functions of the department, including the certification, registration or regulation of child care facilities and child care providers and the administration of enrollment in the Central Background Registry;
- (g) The Office of Children's Advocate;
- (h) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission for investigations conducted under ORS 339.390 or 342.176 involving any child or any student;
- (i) Any person, upon request to the Department of Human Services, if the reports or records requested regard an incident in which a child, as the result of abuse, died or suffered serious physical injury as defined in ORS 161.015. Reports or records disclosed under this paragraph must be disclosed in accordance with ORS 192.311 to 192.478;
- (j) The Department of Early Learning and Care for purposes of applications described in ORS 329A.030 (11)(c)(G) to (J);
- (k) With respect to a report of abuse occurring at a school or in an educational setting that involves a child with a disability, Disability Rights Oregon;
- (L) The Department of Education for purposes of investigations conducted under ORS 339.391;
- (m) An education provider for the purpose of making determinations under ORS 339.388; and
- (n) A national nonprofit organization designated by the Department of Human Services that provides assistance with locating, recovering or providing services to children or youth determined by the department to be missing.

(2)(a) When disclosing reports and records pursuant to subsection (1)(i) of this section, the Department of Human Services may exempt from disclosure the names, addresses and other identifying information about other children, witnesses, victims or other persons named in the report or record if the department determines, in written findings, that the safety or well-being of a person named in the report or record may be jeopardized by disclosure of the names, addresses or other identifying information, and if that concern outweighs the public's interest in the disclosure of that information.

(b) If the Department of Human Services does not have a report or record of abuse regarding a child who, as the result of abuse, died or suffered serious physical injury as defined in ORS 161.015, the department may disclose that information.

(3) The Department of Human Services may make reports and records compiled under the provisions of ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050 available to any person, administrative hearings officer, court, agency, organization or other entity when the department determines that such disclosure is necessary to administer its child welfare services and is in the best interests of the affected child, or that such disclosure is necessary to investigate, prevent or treat child abuse and neglect, to protect children from abuse and neglect or for research when the Director of Human Services gives prior written approval. The Department of Human Services shall adopt rules setting forth the procedures by which it will make the disclosures authorized under this subsection or subsection (1) or (2) of this section. The name, address and other identifying information about the person who made the report may not be disclosed pursuant to this subsection and subsection (1) of this section.

(4) A law enforcement agency may make reports and records compiled under the provisions of ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050 available to other law enforcement agencies, district attorneys, city attorneys with criminal prosecutorial functions and the Attorney General when the law enforcement agency determines that disclosure is necessary for the investigation or enforcement of laws relating to child abuse and neglect or necessary to determine a claim for crime victim compensation under ORS 147.005 to 147.367.

(5)(a) A law enforcement agency, upon completing an investigation and closing the file in a specific case relating to child abuse or neglect, shall make reports and records in the case available upon request to:

(A) Any law enforcement agency or community corrections agency in this state, to the Department of Corrections, to the Oregon Youth Authority or to the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision for the purpose of managing and supervising offenders in custody or on probation, parole, post-prison supervision or other form of conditional or supervised release; and

(B) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission for investigations conducted under ORS 339.390 and 342.176.

(b) A law enforcement agency may make reports and records compiled under the provisions of ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050 available to the Oregon Youth Authority, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission for investigations conducted under ORS 339.390 and 342.176, law enforcement, community corrections, corrections or parole agencies in an open case when the law enforcement agency determines that the disclosure will not interfere with an ongoing investigation in the case.

(c) The name, address and other identifying information about the person who made the report may not be disclosed under this subsection or subsection (6)(b) of this section.

(6)(a) Any record made available to a law enforcement agency or community corrections agency in this state, to the Department of Corrections, the Oregon Youth Authority, the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision or the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission or to a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner in this state, as authorized by subsections (1) to (5) of this section, shall be kept confidential by the agency, department, board, commission, physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner. Any record or report disclosed by the Department of Human Services to other persons or entities pursuant to subsections (1) and (3) of this section shall be kept confidential.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection:

(A) A law enforcement agency, a community corrections agency, the Department of Corrections, the Oregon Youth Authority and the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision may disclose records made available to them under subsection (5) of this section to each other, to law enforcement, community corrections, corrections and parole agencies of other states and to authorized treatment providers for the purpose of managing and supervising offenders in custody or on probation, parole, post-prison supervision or other form of conditional or supervised release.

(B) The Department of Corrections and the Oregon Youth Authority may disclose records made available to them under subsection (5) of this section regarding a person in the custody of the Department of Corrections or the Oregon Youth Authority to each other, to the court, to the district attorney and to the person's attorney for the purpose of the person's hearing under ORS 420A.200 to 420A.206.

(C) A person may disclose records made available to the person under subsection (1)(i) of this section if the records are disclosed for the purpose of advancing the public interest.

(7) Except as provided by ORS 339.389, an officer or employee of the Department of Human Services or of a law enforcement agency or any person or entity to whom disclosure is made pursuant to subsections (1) to (6) of this section may not release any information not authorized by subsections (1) to (6) of this section.

(8) A record of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, as defined in ORS 409.225, is exempt from disclosure under subsection (1) of this section unless:

(a) The department determines, in written findings, that failure to disclose the record is reasonably likely to jeopardize the child's safety or well-being;

(b) The department determines, in written findings, that disclosure of the record is necessary to provide services to the child or the child's family; or

(c) The child consents to the disclosure.

(9) As used in this section, "law enforcement agency" has the meaning given that term in ORS 181A.010.

(10) A person who violates subsection (6)(a) or (7) of this section commits a Class A violation. [1993 c.546 §§20,20a; 1995 c.278 §51; 1997 c.328 §8; 1999 c.1051 §181; 2003 c.14 §224; 2003 c.412 §1; 2003 c.591 §8; 2005 c.317 §1; 2005 c.659 §2; 2009 c.348 §§3,4; 2009 c.393 §1; 2012 c.3 §2; 2013 c.624 §84; 2014 c.45 §43; 2017 c.108 §5; 2017 c.356 §43; 2017 c.377 §1; 2017 c.616 §2; 2019 c.141 §26; 2019 c.618 §19; 2021 c.194 §1; 2021 c.386 §7; 2021 c.489 §57; 2022 c.27 §10; 2022 c.90 §9; 2023 c.129 §2; 2023 c.131 §2; 2023 c.267 §7; 2023 c.554 §54]

**419B.040 Certain privileges not grounds for excluding evidence in court proceedings on child abuse.** (1) In the case of abuse of a child, the privileges created in ORS 40.230 to 40.255, including the psychotherapist-patient privilege, the physician-patient privilege, the privileges extended to nurses, to staff members of schools and to regulated social workers and the spousal privilege, shall not be a ground for excluding evidence regarding a child's abuse, or the cause thereof, in any judicial proceeding resulting from a report made pursuant to ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050.

(2) In any judicial proceedings resulting from a report made pursuant to ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050, either spouse shall be a competent and compellable witness against the other. [1993 c.546 §21; 2009 c.442 §37; 2015 c.629 §49]

**419B.045 Investigation conducted on school premises; notification; role of school personnel.** (1) The Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency has the authority to conduct an investigation, on school premises, of a report of child abuse.

(2) When an investigation of a report of child abuse is conducted on school premises, the school administrator shall first be notified that the investigation is to take place, unless the school administrator is a subject of the investigation.

(3) The department or the law enforcement agency conducting the investigation shall present adequate identification to school staff members.

(4) After the department or law enforcement agency presents adequate identification, school staff members shall cooperate with the investigation by, at a minimum:

(a) Allowing the department or law enforcement agency access to the child who is the suspected victim in the report of child abuse; and

(b) Providing a private space in which to conduct an interview of the child.

(5) The department or the law enforcement agency conducting the investigation is not required to reveal information about the investigation to the school as a condition of conducting the investigation.

(6) The school administrator or a school staff member designated by the administrator may, at the investigator's discretion, be present to facilitate the investigation.

(7) The investigator shall be advised by a school administrator or a school staff member of the child's disabling conditions, if any, prior to any interview with the child.

(8)(a) A school administrator or school staff member may not notify any person, including the child's parents or guardian, other than the department or law enforcement agency and any school employee necessary to enable the investigation, of an investigation described in this section and may not disclose any information obtained during an investigation.

(b) Information obtained during an investigation is not part of the child's school records.

(9) A school administrator or school staff member may testify at any subsequent court proceeding relating to the investigation and may be interviewed by the respective litigants prior to any court proceeding.

(10) A school district, school administrator or school staff member may not be held liable for civil damages as a result of compliance with this section.

(11) This section applies solely to an investigation that involves an interview of the suspected victim in the report of child abuse or witnesses and does not apply to an investigation or interview of a person who is suspected of having committed the abuse that is the subject of the report. [1993 c.546 §22; 2003 c.14 §225; 2017 c.515 §1; 2018 c.77 §1]

**419B.050 Authority of health care provider to disclose information; immunity from liability.** (1) Upon notice by a law enforcement agency, the Department of Human Services, a member agency of a county child abuse multidisciplinary team or a member of a county child abuse multidisciplinary team that a child abuse investigation is being conducted under ORS 419B.020, a health care provider must permit the law enforcement agency, the department, the member agency of the county child abuse multidisciplinary team or the member of the county child abuse multidisciplinary team to inspect and copy medical records, including, but not limited to, prenatal and birth records, of the child involved in the investigation without the consent of the child, or the parent or guardian of the child. A health care provider who in good faith disclosed medical records under this section is not civilly or criminally liable for the disclosure.

(2) As used in this section, “health care provider” has the meaning given that term in ORS 192.556. [1997 c.873 §27; 1999 c.537 §3; 2001 c.104 §150; 2005 c.562 §27; 2019 c.141 §27]

**419B.055 Action by Attorney General for protective order on behalf of department employee; written request; eligible employees.** (1) The Attorney General may bring an action in a circuit court for a citation or a stalking protective order under ORS 30.866 or 163.730 to 163.750 on behalf of an employee of the Department of Human Services who, because of being involved in the conduct described in subsection (3) of this section, is the subject of repeated and unwanted contact by another person that causes alarm or coercion to the employee. The Attorney General’s responsibility under this subsection is limited to circumstances in which an employee of the department submits a written request to the Attorney General that:

- (a) Has been approved in writing by the Director of Human Services or the director’s designee;
- (b) Sets forth sufficient facts and evidence, the truth of which has been affirmed by the employee; and
- (c) Based solely upon the opinion of the Attorney General, is an action that is likely to succeed.

(2) The action brought under this section may not include a request for:

- (a) Special and general damages, including damages for emotional distress;
- (b) Economic or noneconomic damages;
- (c) Punitive damages; or
- (d) Attorney fees and costs.

(3) Departmental employees on whose behalf the citation or stalking protective order may be obtained under subsection (1) of this section include employees who:

- (a) Conduct a child abuse investigation under ORS 419B.020;
- (b) Make a determination that a child must be taken into protective custody under ORS 419B.150 or 419B.152;
- (c) Make a determination that a child should not be released to the child’s parent or other responsible person under ORS 419B.165 (1)(b); and
- (d) Are involved in developing a case plan or making a placement decision for a child in the legal custody of the department. [2015 c.653 §1; 2019 c.594 §7; 2019 c.631 §4]

**Note:** 419B.055 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 419B or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.



## **JUVENILE COURT**

### **419B.112 Court appointed special advocate; duties; immunity; access to information; funding; rules.**

(1) In every case under ORS chapter 419B, the court shall appoint a court appointed special advocate. The court appointed special advocate is deemed a party in these proceedings and may be represented by counsel, file pleadings and request hearings and may subpoena, examine and cross-examine witnesses. If the court appointed special advocate is represented by counsel, counsel shall be paid from funds in the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund established under ORS 184.498. Counsel representing a court appointed special advocate may not be paid from moneys in the Public Defense Services Account established by ORS 151.225, from moneys appropriated to the Public Defense Services Commission or from Judicial Department operating funds.

(2) Subject to the direction of the court, the duties of the court appointed special advocate are to:

- (a) Investigate all relevant information about the case;
- (b) Advocate for the child or ward, ensuring that all relevant facts are brought before the court;
- (c) Facilitate and negotiate to ensure that the court, the Department of Human Services, if applicable, and the child or ward's attorney, if any, fulfill their obligations to the child or ward in a timely fashion; and
- (d) Monitor all court orders to ensure compliance and to bring to the court's attention any change in circumstances that may require a modification of an order of the court.

(3) If a juvenile court does not have a sufficient number of qualified court appointed special advocates available to it, the court may, in fulfillment of the requirements of this section, appoint a juvenile department employee or other suitable person to represent the child or ward's interest in court pursuant to ORS 419A.012 or 419B.195.

(4) Any person appointed as a court appointed special advocate in any judicial proceeding on behalf of the child or ward is immune from any liability for defamation or statements made in good faith by that person, orally or in writing, in the course of the case review or judicial proceeding.

(5) Any person appointed as a court appointed special advocate, CASA Volunteer Program director, CASA Volunteer Program employee or member of the board of directors or trustees of any CASA Volunteer Program is immune from any liability for acts or omissions or errors in judgment made in good faith in the course or scope of that person's duties or employment as part of a CASA Volunteer Program.

(6) Whenever the court appoints a court appointed special advocate or other person under subsections (1) to (3) of this section to represent the child or ward, the court may require a parent, if able, or guardian of the estate, if the estate is able, to pay, in whole or in part, the reasonable costs of court appointed special advocate services, including reasonable attorney fees. The court's order of payment is enforceable in the same manner as an order of support under ORS 419B.408.

(7) Upon presentation of the order of appointment by the court appointed special advocate, any agency, hospital, school organization, division, office or department of the state, doctor, nurse or other health care provider, psychologist, psychiatrist, police department or mental health clinic shall permit the court appointed special advocate to inspect and copy, and may consult with the court appointed special advocate regarding, any records relating to the child or ward involved in the case, without the consent of the child, ward or parents.

(8) All records and information acquired or reviewed by a court appointed special advocate during the course of official duties are deemed confidential under ORS 419A.255.

(9) For the purposes of a Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) grant to this state under P.L. 93-247, or any related state or federal legislation, a court appointed special advocate or other person appointed pursuant to subsections (1) to (3) of this section is deemed a guardian ad litem

to represent the interests of the child or ward in proceedings before the court. [2012 c.97 §2; 2012 c.107 §105; 2017 c.630 §9]

**Note:** 419B.112 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 419B or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**419B.195 Appointment of counsel for child or ward; access of appointed counsel to records of child or ward.**

(1) If the child, ward, parent or guardian requests counsel for the child or ward but is without sufficient financial means to employ suitable counsel possessing skills and experience commensurate with the nature of the petition and the complexity of the case, the court may appoint suitable counsel to represent the child or ward at state expense if the child or ward is determined to be financially eligible under the policies, procedures, standards and guidelines of the Oregon Public Defense Commission. Whenever requested to do so, the court shall appoint counsel to represent the child or ward in a case filed pursuant to ORS 419B.100. The court may not substitute one appointed counsel for another except pursuant to the policies, procedures, standards and guidelines of the Oregon Public Defense Commission.

(2) Upon presentation of the order of appointment under this section by the attorney for the child or ward, any agency, hospital, school organization, division or department of the state, doctor, nurse or other health care provider, psychologist, psychiatrist, police department or mental health clinic shall permit the attorney to inspect and copy any records of the child or ward involved in the case, without the consent of the child or ward or parents. This subsection does not apply to records of a police agency relating to an ongoing investigation prior to charging. [1993 c.33 §72; 1993 c.234 §1; 1993 c.546 §38; 2001 c.962 §43; 2003 c.396 §§44,45; 2003 c.449 §§9,46; 2023 c.281 §63]

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## PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

### (Definitions)

**426.005 Definitions for ORS 426.005 to 426.390.** (1) As used in ORS 426.005 to 426.390, unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) “Community mental health program director” means the director of an entity that provides the services described in ORS 430.630 (3) to (5).

(b) “Director of the facility” means a superintendent of a state mental hospital, the chief of psychiatric services in a community hospital or the person in charge of treatment and rehabilitation programs at other treatment facilities.

(c) “Facility” means a state mental hospital, community hospital, residential facility, detoxification center, day treatment facility or such other facility as the authority determines suitable that provides diagnosis and evaluation, medical care, detoxification, social services or rehabilitation to persons who are in custody during a prehearing period of detention or who have been committed to the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 426.130.

(d) “Licensed independent practitioner” means:

(A) A physician, as defined in ORS 677.010;

(B) A nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375 and authorized to write prescriptions under ORS 678.390; or

(C) A naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685.

(e) “Nonhospital facility” means any facility, other than a hospital, that is approved by the authority to provide adequate security, psychiatric, nursing and other services to persons under ORS 426.232 or 426.233.

(f) “Person with mental illness” means a person who, because of a mental disorder, is one or more of the following:

(A) Dangerous to self or others.

(B) Unable to provide for basic personal needs that are necessary to avoid serious physical harm in the near future, and is not receiving such care as is necessary to avoid such harm.

(C) A person:

(i) With a chronic mental illness, as defined in ORS 426.495;

(ii) Who, within the previous three years, has twice been placed in a hospital or approved inpatient facility by the authority or the Department of Human Services under ORS 426.060;

(iii) Who is exhibiting symptoms or behavior substantially similar to those that preceded and led to one or more of the hospitalizations or inpatient placements referred to in sub-subparagraph (ii) of this subparagraph; and

(iv) Who, unless treated, will continue, to a reasonable medical probability, to physically or mentally deteriorate so that the person will become a person described under either subparagraph (A) or (B) of this paragraph or both.

(g) “Prehearing period of detention” means a period of time calculated from the initiation of custody during which a person may be detained under ORS 426.228, 426.231, 426.232 or 426.233.

(2) Whenever a community mental health program director, director of the facility, superintendent of a state hospital or administrator of a facility is referred to, the reference includes any designee such person has designated to act on the person’s behalf in the exercise of duties. [1961 c.706 §25; 1973 c.838 §1; 1987 c.903 §5; 1989 c.993 §3; 1993 c.484 §11; 2001 c.900 §125; 2007 c.70 §203; 2009 c.595 §381; 2009 c.828 §23; 2011 c.720 §160; 2013 c.360 §15; 2015 c.433 §1; 2015 c.461 §1; 2017 c.356 §47; 2019 c.358 §11]

(Hospitals)

**426.010 State hospitals for persons with mental illness.** Except as otherwise ordered by the Oregon Health Authority pursuant to ORS 179.325, the Oregon State Hospital campuses in Salem, Marion County, and in Junction City, Lane County, shall be used as state hospitals for the care and treatment of persons with mental illness who are assigned to the care of the institutions by the authority or who have previously been committed to the institutions. [Amended by 1955 c.651 §3; 1965 c.339 §23; 1965 c.595 §2; 1983 c.505 §1; 1999 c.983 §6; 2007 c.14 §1; 2009 c.269 §2; 2009 c.595 §382; 2013 c.360 §16; 2015 c.318 §14]

**426.020 Superintendent; chief medical officer.** (1) The superintendent of a hospital referred to in ORS 426.010 shall be a person the Oregon Health Authority considers qualified to administer the hospital. If the superintendent of any hospital is a physician licensed by the Oregon Medical Board, the superintendent shall serve as chief medical officer.

(2) If the superintendent is not a physician, the Director of the Oregon Health Authority or the designee of the director shall designate a physician to serve as chief medical officer. The designated chief medical officer may be an appointed state employee in the unclassified service, a self-employed contractor or an employee of a public or private entity that contracts with the authority to provide chief medical officer services. Unless the designated chief medical officer is specifically appointed as a state employee in the unclassified service, the designated chief medical officer shall not be deemed a state employee for purposes of any state statute, rule or policy.

(3)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the designated chief medical officer may supervise physicians and naturopathic physicians who are employed by the hospital or who provide services at the hospital pursuant to a contract.

(b) The designated chief medical officer may delegate all or part of the authority to supervise other physicians and naturopathic physicians at the hospital to a physician who is employed by the state, a self-employed contractor or an employee of a public or private entity that contracts with the authority to provide physician services. [Amended by 1955 c.651 §4; 1969 c.391 §1; 1973 c.807 §2; 1987 c.158 §76; 2003 c.14 §234; 2007 c.71 §116; 2009 c.59 §1; 2009 c.828 §14; 2017 c.356 §48]

**426.060 Commitment to Oregon Health Authority; powers of authority; placement; transfer.** (1) Commitments to the Oregon Health Authority shall be made only by the judge of a circuit court in a county of this state.

(2) The following is a nonexclusive list of powers the authority may exercise concerning the placement of persons committed or persons receiving emergency care and treatment under ORS 426.070, 426.228 to 426.235 or 426.237:

(a) In its discretion and for reasons which are satisfactory to the authority, the authority may direct any court-committed person to the facility best able to treat the person. The decision of the authority on such matters shall be final.

(b) At any time, for good cause and in the best interest of the person with mental illness, the authority may transfer a committed person from one facility to another. When transferring a person under this paragraph, the authority shall make the transfer:

(A) If the transfer is from a facility in one class to a facility of the same class, as provided by rule of the authority;

(B) If the transfer is from a facility in one class to a facility in a less restrictive class, by following the procedures for trial visits under ORS 426.273; and

(C) If the transfer is from a facility in one class to a facility in a more restrictive class, by following the procedures under ORS 426.275.

(c) At any time, for good cause and in the best interest of the person with mental illness, the authority may transfer a person receiving emergency care and treatment under ORS 426.070 or 426.228 to 426.235, or intensive treatment under ORS 426.237, between hospitals and nonhospital facilities approved by the authority to provide emergency care or treatment as defined by rule of the authority.

(d) Pursuant to its rules, the authority may delegate to a community mental health program director the responsibility for assignment of persons with mental illness to suitable facilities or transfer between such facilities under conditions which the authority may define. [Amended by 1955 c.651 §6; 1963 c.254 §1; 1967 c.534 §19; 1973 c.838 §2; 1975 c.690 §1; 1987 c.903 §6; 1993 c.484 §12; 2009 c.595 §384; 2013 c.360 §17]

(Commitment Procedure)

**426.070 Initiation; notification required; recommendation to court; citation.** (1) Any of the following may initiate commitment procedures under this section by giving the notice described under subsection (2) of this section:

- (a) Two persons;
- (b) The local health officer; or
- (c) Any magistrate or judge of a court of a federally recognized Indian tribe located in this state.

(2) For purposes of subsection (1) of this section, the notice must comply with the following:

- (a) It must be in writing under oath;
- (b) It must be given to the community mental health program director or a designee of the director in the county where the person alleged to have a mental illness resides;
- (c) It must state that a person within the county other than the person giving the notice is a person with mental illness and is in need of treatment, care or custody;
- (d) If the commitment proceeding is initiated by two persons under subsection (1)(a) of this section, it may include a request that the court notify the two persons:

- (A) Of the issuance or nonissuance of a warrant under this section; or
- (B) Of the court's determination under ORS 426.130 (1); and

(e) If the notice contains a request under paragraph (d) of this subsection, it must also include the addresses of the two persons making the request.

(3) Upon receipt of a notice under subsections (1) and (2) of this section or when notified by a circuit court that the court received notice under ORS 426.234, the community mental health program director, or designee of the director, shall:

(a) Immediately notify the judge of the court having jurisdiction for that county under ORS 426.060 of the notification described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

(b) Immediately notify the Oregon Health Authority if commitment is proposed because the person appears to be a person with mental illness, as defined in ORS 426.005 (1)(f)(C). When such notice is received, the authority may verify, to the extent known by the authority, whether or not the person meets the criteria described in ORS 426.005 (1)(f)(C)(i) and (ii) and so inform the community mental health program director or designee of the director.

(c) Initiate an investigation under ORS 426.074 to determine whether there is probable cause to believe that the person is in fact a person with mental illness.

(4) Upon completion, a recommendation based upon the investigation report under ORS 426.074 shall be promptly submitted to the court. If the community mental health program director determines that probable cause does not exist to believe that a person released from detention under ORS 426.234 (2)(c) or (3)(b) is a person with mental illness, the community mental health program director may recommend assisted outpatient treatment in accordance with ORS 426.133.

(5) When the court receives notice under subsection (3) of this section:



(a) If the court, following the investigation, concludes that there is probable cause to believe that the person investigated is a person with mental illness, it shall, through the issuance of a citation as provided in ORS 426.090, cause the person to be brought before it at a time and place as it may direct, for a hearing under ORS 426.095 to determine whether the person is a person with mental illness. The person shall be given the opportunity to appear voluntarily at the hearing unless the person fails to appear or unless the person is detained pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subsection.

(b)(A) If the court finds that there is probable cause to believe that failure to take the person into custody pending the investigation or hearing would pose serious harm or danger to the person or to others, the court may issue a warrant of detention to the community mental health program director or designee or the sheriff of the county or designee directing the director, sheriff or a designee to take the person alleged to have a mental illness into custody and produce the person at the time and place stated in the warrant.

(B) At the time the person is taken into custody, the person shall be informed by the community mental health program director, the sheriff or a designee of the following:

(i) The person's rights with regard to representation by or appointment of counsel as described in ORS 426.100;

(ii) The warning under ORS 426.123; and

(iii) The person's right, if the community mental health program director, sheriff or designee reasonably suspects that the person is a foreign national, to communicate with an official from the consulate of the person's country. A community mental health program director, sheriff or designee is not civilly or criminally liable for failure to provide the information required by this sub-subparagraph. Failure to provide the information required by this sub-subparagraph does not in itself constitute grounds for the exclusion of evidence that would otherwise be admissible in a proceeding.

(C) The court may make any orders for the care and custody of the person prior to the hearing as it considers necessary.

(c) If the notice includes a request under subsection (2)(d)(A) of this section, the court shall notify the two persons of the issuance or nonissuance of a warrant under this subsection. [Amended by 1957 c.329 §1; 1967 c.534 §20; 1973 c.838 §3; 1975 c.690 §2; 1979 c.408 §1; 1983 c.740 §149; 1987 c.903 §7; 1989 c.993 §4; 1993 c.484 §26; 1995 c.201 §2; 1995 c.498 §1; 2003 c.14 §235; 2003 c.109 §3; 2009 c.595 §385; 2009 c.828 §26; 2013 c.360 §18; 2013 c.737 §3; 2015 c.461 §2; 2015 c.736 §66; 2019 c.247 §1]

**426.072 Care while in custody; responsibilities of licensed independent practitioner; rules. (1)**

A hospital or nonhospital facility must comply with provisions of subsection (2) of this section when a person alleged to have a mental illness is placed in custody at the hospital or nonhospital facility:

(a) By a warrant of detention under ORS 426.070;

(b) By a peace officer under ORS 426.228 or other individual authorized under ORS 426.233; or

(c) By a licensed independent practitioner under ORS 426.232.

(2) In circumstances described under subsection (1) of this section, the hospital or nonhospital facility and a treating licensed independent practitioner must comply with all the following:

(a) The person shall receive the care, custody and treatment required for mental and physical health and safety.

(b) The treating licensed independent practitioner shall report any care, custody and treatment to the court as required in ORS 426.075.

(c) All methods of treatment, including the prescription and administration of drugs, shall be the sole responsibility of the treating licensed independent practitioner. However, the person shall not be subject to electroshock therapy or unduly hazardous treatment and shall receive usual and customary treatment in accordance with medical standards in the community.

(d) The treating licensed independent practitioner shall be notified immediately of any seclusion of the person or use of mechanical restraints on the person. Every use of seclusion or mechanical restraint and

the reasons for the use shall be made a part of the clinical record of the person over the signature of the treating licensed independent practitioner.

(e) The treating licensed independent practitioner shall give the person the warning under ORS 426.123 at times the treating licensed independent practitioner determines the person will reasonably understand the notice. This paragraph only requires the notice to be given as often as the licensed independent practitioner determines is necessary to assure that the person is given an opportunity to be aware of the notice.

(3) The Oregon Health Authority shall adopt rules necessary to carry out this section, including rules regarding the content of the medical record compiled during the current period of custody. [1987 c.903 §9; 1993 c.484 §13; 1997 c.531 §1; 2009 c.595 §386; 2013 c.360 §19; 2015 c.81 §1; 2015 c.461 §3]

**426.074 Investigation; procedure; content; report.** The following is applicable to an investigation initiated by a community mental health program director, or a designee of the director, as part of commitment procedures under ORS 426.070 and 426.228 to 426.235:

(1) If the person alleged to have a mental illness is held in custody before the hearing the investigation shall be completed at least 24 hours before the hearing under ORS 426.095, otherwise the investigation shall comply with the following time schedule:

(a) If the person can be located, the investigator shall contact the person within three judicial days from the date the community mental health program director or a designee receives a notice under ORS 426.070 alleging that the person has a mental illness and is in need of treatment.

(b) Within 15 days from the date the community mental health program director or a designee receives a notice under ORS 426.070, one of the following shall occur:

(A) The investigation shall be completed and submitted to the court.

(B) An application for extension shall be made to the court under paragraph (c) of this subsection.

(c) The community mental health program director, a designee or the investigator may file for an extension of the time under paragraph (b) of this subsection only if one of the following occurs:

(A) A treatment option less restrictive than involuntary in-patient commitment is actively being pursued.

(B) The person alleged to have a mental illness cannot be located.

(d) A court may grant an extension under paragraph (c) of this subsection for a time and upon the terms and conditions the court considers appropriate.

(2) This subsection establishes a nonexclusive list of provisions applicable to the content of the investigation, as follows:

(a) The investigation conducted should, where appropriate, include an interview or examination of the person alleged to have a mental illness in the home of the person or other place familiar to the person.

(b) Whether or not the person consents, the investigation should include interviews with any individuals that the investigator has probable cause to believe have pertinent information regarding the investigation. If the person objects to the contact with any individual, the objection shall be noted in the investigator's report.

(c) The investigator shall be allowed access to licensed independent practitioners, nurses or social workers and to medical records compiled during the current involuntary prehearing period of detention to determine probable cause and to develop alternatives to commitment. If commitment is proposed because the person appears to be a person with mental illness as defined in ORS 426.005 (1)(f)(C), the investigator shall be allowed access to medical records necessary to verify the existence of criteria described in ORS 426.005 (1)(f)(C). The investigator shall include pertinent parts of the medical record in the investigation report. Records and communications described in this paragraph and related communications are not privileged under ORS 40.230, 40.235, 40.240 or 40.250.

(3) A copy of the investigation report shall be provided as soon as possible, but in no event later than 24 hours prior to the hearing, to the person and to the person's counsel. Copies shall likewise be provided

to counsel assisting the court, to the examiners and to the court for use in questioning witnesses. [1987 c.903 §10; 1989 c.993 §5; 1993 c.484 §14; 1997 c.649 §1; 2009 c.595 §387; 2009 c.828 §27; 2013 c.360 §20; 2015 c.461 §4]

**426.075 Notice and records of treatment prior to hearing; procedures.** This section establishes procedures that are required to be followed before the hearing if a court, under ORS 426.070, orders a hearing under ORS 426.095. The following apply as described:

(1) The court shall be fully advised of all drugs and other treatment known to have been administered to the person alleged to have a mental illness that may substantially affect the ability of the person to prepare for or function effectively at the hearing. The following shall advise the court as required by this subsection:

(a) When not otherwise provided by paragraph (b) of this subsection, the community mental health program director or designee.

(b) When the person has been detained by a warrant of detention under ORS 426.070, 426.180, 426.228, 426.232 or 426.233, the treating licensed independent practitioner.

(2) The court shall appoint examiners under ORS 426.110 sufficiently in advance of the hearing so that the examiners may begin their preparation for the hearing. The records established by the Oregon Health Authority by rule and the investigation report shall be made available to the examiners at least 24 hours before the hearing in order that the examiners may review the medical record and have an opportunity to inquire of the medical personnel concerning the treatment of the person alleged to have a mental illness during the detention period prior to the hearing.

(3) The medical record described in subsection (2) of this section shall be made available to counsel for the person alleged to have a mental illness at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.

(4) When requested by a party to the action, the party's attorney shall subpoena licensed independent practitioners who are or have been treating the person. Any treating licensed independent practitioner subpoenaed under this subsection shall be subpoenaed as an expert witness. [1973 c.838 §8; 1975 c.690 §3; 1979 c.408 §2; 1987 c.903 §12; 1989 c.189 §1; 1993 c.484 §15; 2009 c.595 §388; 2013 c.360 §21; 2015 c.461 §5]

**426.080 Execution and return of citation or warrant of detention.** The person serving a warrant of detention or the citation provided for by ORS 426.090 shall, immediately after service thereof, make a return upon the original warrant or citation showing the time, place and manner of such service and file it with the clerk of the court. In executing the warrant of detention or citation, the person has all the powers provided by ORS 133.235, 161.233, 161.242 and 161.245 and may require the assistance of any peace officer or other person. [Amended by 1971 c.743 §366; 1973 c.836 §348; 1973 c.838 §4a; 2020 s.s.2 c.3 §14]

**426.090 Citation; service.** The judge shall issue a citation to the person alleged to have a mental illness stating the nature of the information filed concerning the person and the specific reasons the person is believed to be a person with mental illness. The citation shall further contain a notice of the time and place of the commitment hearing, the right to legal counsel, the right to have legal counsel appointed if the person is unable to afford legal counsel, and, if requested, to have legal counsel immediately appointed, the right to subpoena witnesses in behalf of the person to the hearing and other information as the court may direct. The citation shall be served upon the person by delivering a duly certified copy of the original thereof to the person in person prior to the hearing. The person shall have an opportunity to consult with legal counsel prior to being brought before the court. [Amended by 1957 c.329 §2; 1967 c.459 §1; 1971 c.368 §1; 1973 c.838 §5; 1975 c.690 §4; 2013 c.360 §22]

**426.095 Commitment hearing; postponement; right to cross-examine; admissibility of investigation report.** The following is applicable to a commitment hearing held by a court under ORS 426.070:

(1) The hearing may be held in a hospital, the person's home or in some other place convenient to the court and the person alleged to have a mental illness.

(2) The court shall hold the hearing at the time established according to the following:

(a) Except as provided by paragraph (b) or (c) of this subsection, a hearing shall be held five judicial days from the day a court under ORS 426.070 issues a citation provided under ORS 426.090.

(b) Except as provided by paragraph (c) of this subsection, if a person is detained by a warrant of detention under ORS 426.070, a hearing shall be held within five judicial days of the commencement of detention.

(c) If requested under this paragraph, the court, for good cause, may postpone the hearing for not more than five judicial days in order to allow preparation for the hearing. The court may make orders for the care and custody of the person during a postponement as it deems necessary. If a person is detained before a hearing under ORS 426.070, 426.180, 426.228, 426.232, 426.233 or 426.702 and the hearing is postponed under this paragraph, the court, for good cause, may allow the person to be detained during the postponement if the postponement is requested by the person or the legal counsel of the person. Any of the following may request a postponement under this paragraph:

(A) The person alleged to have a mental illness or the person alleged to be an extremely dangerous person with mental illness.

(B) The legal counsel or guardian of the person.

(C) The individual representing the state's interest.

(3) The person alleged to have a mental illness and the individual representing the state's interest shall have the right to cross-examine all the following:

(a) Witnesses.

(b) The individual conducting the investigation.

(c) The examining physicians or other licensed independent practitioners who have examined the person.

(4) The provisions of ORS 40.230, 40.235, 40.240 and 40.250 shall not apply to and the court may consider as evidence any of the following:

(a) Medical records for the current involuntary prehearing period of detention.

(b) Statements attributed by the maker of the medical records or the investigation report to witnesses concerning their own observations in the absence of objection or if such individuals are produced as witnesses at the hearing available for cross-examination.

(c) The testimony of any treating licensed independent practitioners, nurses or social workers for the prehearing period of detention. Any treating licensed independent practitioner, nurse or social worker who is subpoenaed as a witness for the proceeding shall testify as an expert witness under the provisions of ORS 40.410, 40.415, 40.420 and 40.425 and is subject to treatment as an expert witness in the payment of witness fees and costs.

(d) The investigation report prepared under ORS 426.074. Subject to the following, the investigation report shall be introduced in evidence:

(A) Introduction of the report under this paragraph does not require the consent of the person alleged to have a mental illness.

(B) Upon objection by any party to the action, the court shall exclude any part of the investigation report that may be excluded under the Oregon Evidence Code on grounds other than those set forth in ORS 40.230, 40.235, 40.240 or 40.250.

(C) Neither the investigation report nor any part thereof shall be introduced into evidence under this paragraph unless the investigator is present during the proceeding to be cross-examined or unless the presence of the investigator is waived by the person alleged to have a mental illness or counsel for the

person. [1973 c.838 §9; 1975 c.690 §5; 1987 c.903 §13; 1993 c.484 §16; 1997 c.649 §2; 2009 c.595 §389; 2013 c.715 §§4,15; 2015 c.461 §6]

**426.100 Advice of court; appointment of legal counsel; costs; representation of state's interest.**

(1) At the time the person alleged to have a mental illness is brought before the court, the court shall advise the person of the following:

- (a) The reason for being brought before the court;
- (b) The nature of the proceedings;
- (c) The possible results of the proceedings;
- (d) The right to subpoena witnesses; and
- (e) The person's rights regarding representation by or appointment of counsel.

(2) Subsection (3) of this section establishes the rights of persons alleged to have a mental illness in each of the following circumstances:

- (a) When the person is held by warrant of detention issued under ORS 426.070.
- (b) In commitment hearings under ORS 426.095.
- (c) When the person is detained as provided under ORS 426.228, 426.232 or 426.233.
- (d) In recommitment hearings under ORS 426.307.

(3) When provided under subsection (2) of this section, a person alleged to have a mental illness has the following rights relating to representation by or appointment of counsel:

(a) The right to obtain suitable legal counsel possessing skills and experience commensurate with the nature of the allegations and complexity of the case during the proceedings.

(b) If the person is determined to be financially eligible for appointed counsel at state expense, the court will appoint legal counsel to represent the person. If counsel is appointed at state expense, payment of expenses and compensation relating to legal counsel shall be made as provided under ORS 426.250.

(c) If the person alleged to have a mental illness does not request legal counsel, the legal guardian, relative or friend may request the assistance of suitable legal counsel on behalf of the person.

(d) If no request for legal counsel is made, the court shall appoint suitable legal counsel unless counsel is expressly, knowingly and intelligently refused by the person.

(e) If the person is being involuntarily detained before a hearing on the issue of commitment, the right under paragraph (a) of this subsection to contact an attorney or under paragraph (b) of this subsection to have an attorney appointed may be exercised as soon as reasonably possible.

(f) In all cases suitable legal counsel shall be present at the hearing and may be present at examination and may examine all witnesses offering testimony, and otherwise represent the person.

(4) The responsibility for representing the state's interest in commitment proceedings, including, but not limited to, preparation of the state's case and appearances at commitment hearings is as follows:

(a) The Attorney General's office shall have the responsibility relating to proceedings initiated by state hospital staff that are any of the following:

- (A) Recommitment proceedings under ORS 426.307; or
- (B) Proceedings under ORS 426.228, 426.232 or 426.233.

(b) The district attorney if requested to do so by the governing body of the county.

(c) In lieu of the district attorney under paragraph (b) of this subsection, a counsel designated by the governing body of a county shall take the responsibility. A county governing body may designate counsel to take responsibility under this paragraph either for single proceedings or for all such proceedings the county will be obligated to pay for under ORS 426.250. If a county governing body elects to proceed under this paragraph, the county governing body shall so notify the district attorney. The expenses of an attorney appointed under this paragraph shall be paid as provided under ORS 426.250. [Amended by 1967 c.458 §1; 1971 c.368 §2; 1973 c.838 §6; 1975 c.690 §6; 1977 c.259 §1; 1979 c.574 §§1,2; 1979 c.867 §10; 1981 s.s. c.3 §133; 1987 c.903 §14; 1993 c.484 §17; 2001 c.962 §57; 2013 c.360 §24]

**426.110 Appointment of examiners; qualifications; costs.** The following requirements relating to the appointment of examiners for purposes of a hearing under ORS 426.095 or 426.701 and 426.702 apply as described:

(1) The judge shall appoint one qualified examiner. If requested, the judge shall appoint one additional qualified examiner. A request for an additional examiner under this subsection must be made in writing and must be made by the person alleged to have a mental illness or the attorney for the person.

(2) To be qualified for purposes of this section, an examiner must:

(a) Agree to be an examiner.

(b) Be one of the following:

(A) A physician licensed by the Oregon Medical Board who is competent to practice psychiatry as provided by the Oregon Health Authority or the Psychiatric Security Review Board by rule.

(B) Certified by the authority or the Psychiatric Security Review Board as a mental health examiner qualified to make examinations for involuntary commitment proceedings.

(3) The authority or the Psychiatric Security Review Board may establish, by rule, requirements for certification as a mental health examiner for purposes of subsection (2)(b)(B) of this section.

(4) The cost of examiners under this section shall be paid as provided under ORS 426.250. [Amended by 1973 c.838 §10; 1987 c.158 §77; 1987 c.903 §15; 2009 c.595 §390; 2013 c.715 §§5,16]

**426.120 Examination report; rules.** (1) Examiners appointed under ORS 426.110 shall do all of the following:

(a) Examine the person as to mental condition.

(b) Initiate the examination process prior to the hearing. Any failure to comply with this paragraph shall not, in itself, constitute sufficient grounds to challenge the examination conducted by an examiner.

(c) Make their separate reports in writing, under oath, to the court.

(d) Upon completion of the hearing, file the reports with the clerk of the court.

(2) The following is a nonexclusive list of requirements relating to the content of examination reports prepared under subsection (1) of this section:

(a) If the examiners find, and show by their reports, that the person examined is a person with mental illness, the reports shall include a recommendation as to the type of treatment facility best calculated to help the person recover from mental illness.

(b) Each report shall also advise the court whether in the opinion of the examiner the person with mental illness would cooperate with and benefit from a program of voluntary treatment.

(c) Reports shall contain the information required by the Oregon Health Authority by rule. The authority shall adopt rules necessary to carry out this paragraph.

(3) The examiner shall be allowed access to licensed independent practitioners, nurses or social workers and to medical records compiled during the current involuntary prehearing period of detention and the investigation report. Records and communications described in this subsection and related communications are not privileged under ORS 40.230, 40.235, 40.240 or 40.250. [Amended by 1973 c.838 §11; 1975 c.690 §7; 1987 c.903 §16; 1997 c.649 §3; 2009 c.595 §391; 2013 c.360 §26; 2015 c.461 §7]

**426.123 Observation of person in custody; warning; evidence.** (1) Whenever specifically required under ORS 426.070, 426.072, 426.180 or 426.234, a person shall be given a warning that observations of the person by the staff of the facility where the person is in custody may be used as evidence in subsequent court proceedings to determine whether the person should be or should continue to be committed as a person with mental illness.

(2) The warning described under subsection (1) of this section shall be given both orally and in writing.

(3) Failure to give a warning under this section does not in itself constitute grounds for the exclusion of evidence that would otherwise be admissible in a proceeding. [1987 c.903 §11; 1993 c.484 §18; 2013 c.360 §27]

**426.125 Qualifications and requirements for conditional release.** The following qualifications, requirements and other provisions relating to a conditional release under ORS 426.130 apply as described:

(1) A court may only order conditional release if all of the following occur:

(a) The conditional release is requested by the legal guardian, relative or friend of the person with mental illness.

(b) The legal guardian, relative or friend requesting the conditional release requests to be allowed to care for the person during the period of commitment in a place satisfactory to the judge.

(c) The legal guardian, relative or friend requesting the release establishes all of the following to the satisfaction of the court:

(A) The ability of the legal guardian, relative or friend to care for the person.

(B) That there are adequate financial resources available for the care of the person.

(2) If the court determines to allow conditional release, the court shall order that the person be conditionally released and placed in the care of the requester. The court shall establish any terms and conditions on the conditional release that the court determines appropriate.

(3) Any conditional release ordered under this section is subject to the provisions under ORS 426.275. [1987 c.903 §18; 2013 c.360 §28]

**426.127 Outpatient commitment.** The following provisions are applicable to outpatient commitment under ORS 426.130 as described:

(1) The Oregon Health Authority may only place a person in an outpatient commitment if an adequate treatment facility is available.

(2) At the time of the hearing under ORS 426.095, the community mental health program director, or a designee for the director, for the county in which the hearing takes place shall set the conditions for the outpatient commitment. The conditions shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) Provision for outpatient care.

(b) A designation of a facility, service or other provider to provide care or treatment.

(3) A copy of the conditions shall be given to all of the individuals and entities described in ORS 426.278.

(4) Any outpatient commitment ordered under this section is subject to the provisions under ORS 426.275.

(5) The community mental health program director or designee, for the county where a person is on outpatient commitment, may modify the conditions for outpatient commitment when a modification is in the best interest of the person. The community mental health program director or designee shall send notification of such changes and the reasons for the changes to all those who received a copy of the original conditions under ORS 426.278. [1987 c.903 §19; 1989 c.171 §52; 2003 c.14 §236; 2009 c.595 §392; 2013 c.360 §29]

**426.129 Community liaison.** The Oregon Health Authority shall employ at least one individual to serve as a liaison between the authority and communities in which the authority plans to establish housing for persons conditionally released by the Psychiatric Security Review Board or for persons with mental illness. [2009 c.809 §1; 2011 c.720 §161]

**Note:** 426.129 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 426 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**426.130 Court determination of mental illness; discharge; release for voluntary treatment; conditional release; commitment; assisted outpatient treatment; prohibition relating to firearms; period of commitment.** (1) After hearing all of the evidence, and reviewing the findings of the examiners, the court shall determine whether the person has a mental illness and is in need of treatment. If, in the opinion of the court, the person:

(a) Is a person with mental illness based upon clear and convincing evidence, the court:

(A) Shall order the release of the person and dismiss the case if:

(i) The person is willing and able to participate in treatment on a voluntary basis; and

(ii) The court finds that the person will probably do so.

(B) May order conditional release under this subparagraph subject to the qualifications and requirements under ORS 426.125. If the court orders conditional release under this subparagraph, the court shall establish a period of commitment for the conditional release.

(C) May order commitment of the person with mental illness to the Oregon Health Authority for treatment if, in the opinion of the court, subparagraph (A) or (B) of this paragraph is not in the best interest of the person. If the court orders commitment under this subparagraph:

(i) The court shall establish a period of commitment.

(ii) The authority may place the committed person in outpatient commitment under ORS 426.127.

(D) Shall order that the person be prohibited from purchasing or possessing a firearm if, in the opinion of the court, there is a reasonable likelihood the person would constitute a danger to self or others or to the community at large as a result of the person's mental or psychological state as demonstrated by past behavior or participation in incidents involving unlawful violence or threats of unlawful violence, or by reason of a single incident of extreme, violent, unlawful conduct. When a court makes an order under this subparagraph, the court shall cause a copy of the order to be delivered to the sheriff of the county who will enter the information into the Law Enforcement Data System.

(b) Is not a person with mental illness, the court shall release the person from custody if the person has been detained under ORS 426.070, 426.180, 426.228, 426.232 or 426.233 and:

(A) Dismiss the case; or

(B) Order the person to participate in assisted outpatient treatment in accordance with ORS 426.133.

The court may continue the proceeding for no more than seven days to allow time for the community mental health program director to develop the person's assisted outpatient treatment plan.

(2) A court that orders a conditional release, a commitment or assisted outpatient treatment under this section shall establish a period of commitment or treatment for the person subject to the order. Any period of commitment ordered for commitment or conditional release under this section shall be for a period of time not to exceed 180 days. A period of assisted outpatient treatment shall be for a period of time not to exceed 12 months.

(3) If the commitment proceeding was initiated under ORS 426.070 (1)(a) and if the notice included a request under ORS 426.070 (2)(d)(B), the court shall notify the two persons of the court's determination under subsection (1) of this section.

(4) If the court finds that the person is a person with mental illness and either orders commitment under subsection (1)(a)(B) or (C) of this section or enters an order under subsection (1)(a)(D) of this section, the court shall notify the person that the person is prohibited from purchasing or possessing a firearm under state and federal law unless the person obtains relief from the prohibition from the Psychiatric Security Review Board under ORS 166.273 or under federal law. [Amended by 1973 c.838 §12; 1975 c.690 §8; 1979 c.408 §3; 1987 c.903 §17; 1989 c.839 §36; 1993 c.735 §9; 1995 c.498 §2; 2009 c.595 §393; 2013 c.360 §30; 2013 c.737 §6; 2017 c.233 §2]



**426.133 Assisted outpatient treatment.** (1) As used in ORS 426.005 to 426.390, “assisted outpatient treatment” may not be construed to be a commitment under ORS 426.130 and does not include taking a person into custody or the forced medication of a person.

(2) A court may issue an order requiring a person to participate in assisted outpatient treatment if the court finds that the person:

- (a)(A) Is 18 years of age or older;
- (B) Has a mental disorder;
- (C) Will not obtain treatment in the community voluntarily; and
- (D) Is unable to make an informed decision to seek or to comply with voluntary treatment; and
- (b) As a result of being a person described in paragraph (a) of this subsection:

- (A) Is incapable of surviving safely in the community without treatment; and
- (B) Requires treatment to prevent a deterioration in the person’s condition that will predictably result in the person becoming a person with mental illness.

(3) In determining whether to issue the order under subsection (2) of this section, the court shall consider, but is not limited to considering, the following factors:

- (a) The person’s ability to access finances in order to get food or medicine.
- (b) The person’s ability to obtain treatment for the person’s medical condition.
- (c) The person’s ability to access necessary resources in the community without assistance.
- (d) The degree to which there are risks to the person’s safety.
- (e) The likelihood that the person will decompensate without immediate care or treatment.
- (f) The person’s previous attempts to inflict physical injury on self or others.
- (g) The person’s history of mental health treatment in the community.
- (h) The person’s patterns of decompensation in the past.
- (i) The person’s risk of being victimized or harmed by others.
- (j) The person’s access to the means to inflict harm on self or others.

(4) The community mental health program director may recommend to the court a treatment plan for a person participating in assisted outpatient treatment. The court may adopt the plan as recommended or with modifications.

(5) As part of the order under subsection (2) of this section, the court may prohibit the person from purchasing or possessing a firearm during the period of assisted outpatient treatment if, in the opinion of the court, there is a reasonable likelihood the person would constitute a danger to self or others or to the community at large as a result of the person’s mental or psychological state, as demonstrated by past behavior or participation in incidents involving unlawful violence or threats of unlawful violence, or by reason of a single incident of extreme, violent, unlawful conduct. When a court adds a firearm prohibition to an order under subsection (2) of this section, the court shall cause a copy of the order to be delivered to the sheriff of the county, who shall enter the information into the Law Enforcement Data System.

(6) The court retains jurisdiction over the person until the earlier of the end of the period of the assisted outpatient treatment established under ORS 426.130 (2) or until the court finds that the person no longer meets the criteria in subsection (2) of this section.

(7) This section does not:

- (a) Prevent a court from appointing a guardian ad litem to act for the person; or
- (b) Require a community mental health program to provide treatment or services to, or supervision of, the person:

- (A) If the county lacks sufficient funds for such purposes; or

- (B) In the case of a county that has declined to operate or contract for a community mental health program, if the public agency or private corporation that contracts with the Oregon Health Authority to provide the program, as described in ORS 430.640, lacks sufficient funds for such purposes. [2013 c.737 §2; 2015 c.50 §11; 2015 c.785 §1]

**Note:** 426.133 was added to and made a part of 426.005 to 426.390 by legislative action but was not added to any smaller series therein. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**426.135 Counsel on appeal; costs of appeal.** If a person determined to be a person with mental illness as provided in ORS 426.130, or determined to be an extremely dangerous person with mental illness under ORS 426.701 or 426.702, appeals the determination or the disposition, and is determined to be financially eligible for appointed counsel at state expense, upon request of the person or upon its own motion, the court shall appoint suitable legal counsel to represent the person. The compensation for legal counsel and costs and expenses necessary to the appeal shall be determined and paid by the executive director of the Oregon Public Defense Commission as provided in ORS 135.055 if the circuit court is the appellate court or as provided in ORS 138.500 if the Court of Appeals or Supreme Court is the appellate court. The compensation, costs and expenses shall be paid as provided in ORS 138.500. [1979 c.867 §12; 1981 s.s. c.3 §134; 1985 c.502 §25; 2001 c.962 §58; 2013 c.715 §§6,17; 2023 c.281 §71]

**426.140 Place of confinement; attendant.** (1) A person, other than a person incarcerated upon a criminal charge, who has been adjudged to be a person with mental illness or against whom commitment proceedings have been instituted may not be confined in any prison, jail or other enclosure where those charged with a crime or a violation of a municipal ordinance are incarcerated, unless the person represents an immediate and serious danger to staff or physical facilities of a hospital or other facility approved by the Oregon Health Authority for the care, custody and treatment of the person.

(2) A person alleged to have a mental illness who has been taken into custody may not be confined, either before or after the commitment hearing, without an attendant in direct charge of the person. If the person is not confined in a community hospital, the sheriff or community mental health program director having the person in custody shall select an appropriate individual to act as attendant in quarters that are suitable for the comfortable, safe and humane confinement of the person and approved by the authority. [Amended by 1973 c.838 §23; 1975 c.690 §9; 1977 c.764 §1; 2009 c.595 §394; 2013 c.360 §32]

**426.150 Transportation to treatment facility.** (1) Upon receipt of the order of commitment, the Oregon Health Authority or its designee shall take the person with mental illness into its custody, and ensure the safekeeping and proper care of the person until the person is delivered to an assigned treatment facility or to a representative of the assigned treatment facility. The representative of the assigned treatment facility, accompanied by any assistants the authority or its designee may deem necessary, shall proceed to the place where the person is in custody, and upon demand shall be given custody of the person, together with the certified record required by ORS 426.170. The representative shall issue appropriate receipts and immediately transport the person safely to the assigned treatment facility and deliver the person and the record to the director or a designated employee of the facility. In taking custody of the person, the authority, its designee or the representative of the facility has all the powers provided by ORS 133.225 and 161.255 and may require the assistance of any peace officer or other authorized individual.

(2) The committing judge, upon approval of the examining physicians or other qualified professionals as recommended by the authority and upon request of a legal guardian, friend or relative of the person with mental illness, may authorize the legal guardian, friend or relative to transport the person to the assigned facility when the committing judge determines that means of transportation would not be detrimental to the welfare of the person or to the public. [Amended by 1963 c.325 §1; 1973 c.838 §24; 1975 c.690 §10; 2009 c.595 §395; 2013 c.360 §33]

**426.155 Release of information about person held in custody pending commitment proceeding or while committed or recommitted.** (1) The provisions of this section apply to the release of information about a person who is held in custody either pending a commitment proceeding under ORS 426.070, 426.140, 426.228, 426.232, 426.233 or 426.237 (1)(b) or while committed or recommitted under ORS 426.005 to 426.390.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 179.495, 179.505 or 192.502 (2) and notwithstanding any other provision of ORS 426.005 to 426.390, a facility or nonhospital facility where a person is held shall establish procedures for releasing information as required under subsections (3) and (4) of this section.

(3)(a) If a person described in subsection (1) of this section authorizes disclosure as provided in subsection (5) of this section, upon request of a member of the family of the person, or any other designee of the person, a facility or nonhospital facility where the person is held shall provide the family member or the designee with the following information:

(A) The person's diagnosis;

(B) The person's prognosis;

(C) The medications prescribed for the person and the side effects of medications prescribed, if any;

(D) The person's progress;

(E) Information about any civil commitment process, including the date, time and location of the person's commitment hearing; and

(F) Where and when the person may be visited.

(b) If a request for information is made under this subsection and the person is unable to authorize disclosure as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the requester shall be provided notice of the presence of the person in any facility or nonhospital facility. Information shall not be provided under this paragraph if the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person determines that it would not be in the person's best interest to provide the information or if providing the information is prohibited by federal law.

(4) Upon the admission of any person to a facility or nonhospital facility under ORS 426.005 to 426.390, the facility or nonhospital facility shall make reasonable attempts to notify the person's next of kin, or any other designee of the person, of the person's admission, unless the person requests that this information not be provided. The facility or nonhospital facility shall make reasonable attempts to notify the person's next of kin, or any other designee of the person, of the person's release, transfer, serious illness, injury or death upon request of the family member or designee, unless the person requests that this information not be provided. The person shall be advised by the facility or nonhospital facility that the person has the right to request that this information not be provided.

(5) The person who is held in custody shall be notified by the facility or nonhospital facility that information about the person has been requested. Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, the consent of the person who is held is required for release of information under subsections (3) and (4) of this section. If, when initially informed of the request for information, the person is unable to give voluntary and informed consent to authorize the release of information, notation of the attempt shall be made in the person's treatment record and daily efforts shall be made to secure the person's consent or refusal of authorization.

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an individual eligible to receive information under subsection (3) of this section may not receive information unless the individual first agrees to make no further disclosure of the information. The agreement may be made orally.

(7) A facility or nonhospital facility that releases information under subsection (3) or (4) of this section shall:

(a) Notify the person who is held to whom, when and what information was released; and

(b) Note in the medical record of the person who is held:

(A) The basis for finding that the person gave voluntary and informed consent;

(B) The oral or written consent of the person who is held;

(C) To whom, when and what information was released;

(D) The agreement to the requirements of subsection (6) of this section by the requester; and

(E) Any determination made by the licensed independent practitioner under subsection (3)(b) of this section regarding the provision of notice of the presence of the person in any facility or nonhospital facility.

(8) A facility or nonhospital facility, including the staff of such facilities and nonhospital facilities, that releases information under this section or rules adopted under ORS 426.236 may not be held civilly or criminally liable for damages caused or alleged to be caused by the release of information or the failure to release information as long as the release was done in good faith and in compliance with subsections (3) and (4) of this section or rules adopted under ORS 426.236.

(9) The provisions of subsections (3) and (4) of this section do not limit the ability or obligation of facilities, nonhospital facilities, licensed independent practitioners, mental health care providers or licensed mental health professionals to provide information as otherwise allowed or required by law. [2001 c.481 §2; 2013 c.360 §34; 2015 c.461 §8]

**Note:** 426.155 was added to and made a part of 426.005 to 426.390 by legislative action but was not added to any other series. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**426.160 Disclosure of record of commitment proceeding.** (1) The court having jurisdiction over any proceeding conducted pursuant to ORS 426.005, 426.060 to 426.170, 426.217, 426.228, 426.255 to 426.292, 426.300 to 426.309, 426.385, 426.395, 426.701 and 426.702 may not disclose any part of the record of the proceeding or commitment to any person except:

(a) The court shall, pursuant to rules adopted by the Department of State Police, transmit the minimum information necessary, as defined in ORS 181.740, to the Department of State Police for persons described in ORS 181.740 (1)(a) or (b) to enable the department to access and maintain the information and transmit the information to the federal government as required under federal law;

(b) As provided in ORS 426.070 (5)(c), 426.130 (3) or 426.170;

(c) On request of the person subject to the proceeding;

(d) On request of the person's legal representative or the attorney for the person or the state; or

(e) Pursuant to court order.

(2) In any proceeding described in subsection (1) of this section that is before the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeals, the limitations on disclosure imposed by this section apply to the appellate court record and to the trial court record while it is in the appellate court's custody. The appellate court may disclose information from the trial or appellate court record in a decision, as defined in ORS 19.450, provided that the court uses initials, an alias or some other convention for protecting against public disclosure the identity of the person subject to the proceeding. [Amended by 1965 c.420 §1; 1969 c.148 §1; 1973 c.838 §21; 1993 c.223 §11; 1993 c.484 §19; 1995 c.498 §3; 2009 c.826 §2; 2011 c.332 §§1,6a; 2011 c.547 §45; 2013 c.715 §§7,18]

**426.170 Delivery of certified copy of record.** If any person is adjudged to have a mental illness and is ordered committed to the Oregon Health Authority, a copy of the complete record in the case, certified to by the court clerk or court administrator, shall be given to the local health officer, or to the sheriff, for delivery to the director of the facility to which such person is assigned. The record shall include the name, residence, nativity, sex and age of the person and all other information that may be required by the rules and regulations promulgated by the authority. [Amended by 1973 c.838 §25; 1993 c.223 §12; 2009 c.595 §396; 2013 c.360 §36; 2015 c.736 §67]

(Emergency and Voluntary Admissions)

**426.180 Emergency commitment of individuals in Indian country.** (1) ORS 426.180 to 426.210 apply to the commitment of an individual in Indian country if a federally recognized Indian tribe that has Indian country located within this state chooses to exercise the tribe’s authority over the commitment.

(2) As used in this section and ORS 426.200 and 426.210, “hospital” means a hospital that is licensed under ORS chapter 441, other than an institution listed in ORS 426.010.

(3) If the court of a tribe having jurisdiction over an individual issues an order finding that the individual is dangerous to self or to any other person and is in need of immediate care, custody or treatment for mental illness, a person may request that the individual be taken by a tribal police officer or other peace officer to a hospital or nonhospital facility by submitting to the officer a certified copy of the order and an affidavit that includes:

(a) The name and address of the nearest relative or legal guardian of the individual; and

(b) A medical history completed by one of the following, who may not be related to the individual by blood or marriage:

(A) The tribe’s mental health authority, if the tribe has entered into an agreement with the state pursuant to ORS 430.630 (9)(a)(B);

(B) A qualified mental health professional; or

(C) A licensed independent practitioner.

(4) Upon receipt of the order and affidavit described in subsection (3) of this section, the tribal police officer or other peace officer shall immediately transport the individual to a hospital or a nonhospital facility and present the individual to the hospital or nonhospital facility accompanied by the court order and affidavit.

(5) The director of the hospital or nonhospital facility may refuse to admit the individual if a licensed independent practitioner, after reviewing the documents accompanying the individual, is not satisfied that an emergency exists or that the individual is dangerous to self or others and in need of immediate care, custody or treatment for mental illness.

(6) If the hospital or nonhospital facility admits the individual, the director or a licensed independent practitioner shall notify the community mental health program director for the area and the circuit court with jurisdiction in the area where the facility is located. Upon receipt of the notice, the community mental health program director shall initiate commitment proceedings in accordance with ORS 426.070.

(7) If an individual is admitted to a hospital or nonhospital facility under this section, any licensed independent practitioner who is treating the individual shall give the individual the warning under ORS 426.123.

(8) This section may be applied as provided by agreement with the governing body of the reservation. Payment of costs for a commitment made under this section shall be as provided under ORS 426.250.

(9) The director of the hospital or nonhospital facility or licensed independent practitioner shall notify the appropriate tribe regarding all actions taken under ORS 426.180 to 426.210 no later than 24 hours after the action is taken, except for information protected from disclosure by state or federal law.

[Amended by 1953 c.442 §2; 1975 c.690 §12; 1987 c.903 §21; 2007 c.70 §204; 2009 c.595 §397; 2012 c.25 §1; 2015 c.461 §9; 2019 c.247 §2]

**426.190** [Amended by 1969 c.391 §2; repealed by 2012 c.25 §6]

**426.200 Duties following emergency admission.** Within 72 hours after admission under ORS 426.180, the community mental health program director shall initiate an investigation in accordance with ORS 426.070 (3). [Amended by 1963 c.325 §2; 1975 c.690 §13; 1987 c.903 §22; 2012 c.25 §2]

**426.210 Limit of detention after commitment in emergency proceedings.** An individual admitted to a hospital or nonhospital facility pursuant to the emergency proceedings under ORS 426.180 to 426.200 may not be detained there for more than five judicial days following admission. The court, for good cause, may allow a postponement and detention during a postponement as provided under ORS 426.095. [Amended by 1987 c.903 §23; 2012 c.25 §3]

**426.217 Change of status of committed patient to voluntary patient; effect of change.** At any time after commitment by the court, the person, with the approval of the Oregon Health Authority or its designee, may change the status of the person to that of a voluntary patient. Notwithstanding ORS 426.220, any person who alters status to that of a voluntary patient under this section shall be released from the treating facility within 72 hours of the request of the person for release. [1973 c.838 §14; 1975 c.690 §15; 2009 c.595 §398]

**426.220 Voluntary admission; leave of absence; notice to parent or guardian.** (1) Pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Oregon Health Authority, the superintendent of any state hospital for the treatment and care of persons with mental illness may admit and hospitalize therein as a patient, any person who may have a nervous disorder or a mental illness, and who voluntarily has made written application for such admission. No person under the age of 18 years shall be admitted as a patient to any such state hospital unless an application therefor in behalf of the person has been executed by the parent, adult next of kin or legal guardian of the person. Except when a period of longer hospitalization has been imposed as a condition of admission, pursuant to rules and regulations of the authority, no person voluntarily admitted to any state hospital shall be detained therein more than 72 hours after the person, if at least 18 years of age, has given notice in writing of a desire to be discharged therefrom, or, if the patient is under the age of 18 years, after notice in writing has been given by the parent, adult next of kin or legal guardian of the person that such parent, adult next of kin or legal guardian desires that such person be discharged therefrom.

(2) Any person voluntarily admitted to a state hospital pursuant to this section may upon application and notice to the superintendent of the hospital concerned, be granted a temporary leave of absence from the hospital if such leave, in the opinion of the superintendent, will not interfere with the successful treatment or examination of the applicant for leave.

(3) Upon admission or discharge of a minor to or from a state hospital the superintendent shall immediately notify the parent or guardian. [Amended by 1953 c.127 §2; 1963 c.325 §3; 1967 c.371 §1; 1969 c.273 §1; 2007 c.70 §205; 2009 c.595 §399]

**426.223 Retaking persons in custody of or committed to Oregon Health Authority; assistance of peace officers and others.** In retaking custody of a person with mental illness who has been committed to the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 426.130 and who has, without lawful authority, left the custody of the facility to which the person has been assigned under ORS 426.060, or in the case of a person alleged to have a mental illness who is in custody under ORS 426.070, 426.095, 426.228 to 426.235 or 426.237 at a hospital or nonhospital facility and who has, without lawful authority, left the hospital or nonhospital facility, the facility director or designee has all the powers provided by ORS 133.225 and 161.255 and may require the assistance of any peace officer or other authorized individual. [1975 c.690 §25; 1993 c.484 §20; 2009 c.595 §400; 2013 c.360 §37]

**426.225 Voluntary admission to state hospital of committed person; examination by licensed independent practitioner.** (1) If any person who has been committed to the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 426.127 or 426.130 (1)(a)(B) or (C) requests, during this period of commitment, voluntary

admission to a state hospital, the superintendent shall cause the person to be examined immediately by a licensed independent practitioner. If the licensed independent practitioner finds the person to be in need of immediate care or treatment for mental illness, the person shall be voluntarily admitted.

(2) If any person who has been committed to the authority under ORS 426.127 or 426.130 (1)(a)(B) or (C) requests, during this period of commitment, voluntary admission to a facility approved by the authority, the administrator of the facility shall cause the person to be examined immediately by a licensed independent practitioner. If the licensed independent practitioner finds the person to be in need of immediate care or treatment for mental illness, and the authority grants approval, the person shall be voluntarily admitted. [1989 c.993 §2; 2009 c.595 §401; 2015 c.461 §10]

(Emergency Care and Treatment)

**426.228 Custody; authority of peace officers and other persons; transporting to facility; reports; examination of person.** (1) A peace officer may take into custody a person who the officer has probable cause to believe is dangerous to self or to any other person and is in need of immediate care, custody or treatment for mental illness. As directed by the community mental health program director, a peace officer shall remove a person taken into custody under this section to the nearest hospital or nonhospital facility approved by the Oregon Health Authority. The officer shall prepare a written report and deliver it to the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person. The report shall state:

- (a) The reason for custody;
- (b) The date, time and place the person was taken into custody; and
- (c) The name of the community mental health program director and a telephone number where the director may be reached at all times.

(2) A peace officer shall take a person into custody when the community mental health program director, pursuant to ORS 426.233, notifies the peace officer that the director has probable cause to believe that the person is imminently dangerous to self or to any other person. As directed by the community mental health program director, the peace officer shall remove the person to a hospital or nonhospital facility approved by the authority. The community mental health program director shall prepare a written report that the peace officer shall deliver to the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person. The report shall state:

- (a) The reason for custody;
- (b) The date, time and place the person was taken into custody; and
- (c) The name of the community mental health program director and a telephone number where the director may be reached at all times.

(3) If more than one hour will be required to transport the person to the hospital or nonhospital facility from the location where the person was taken into custody, the peace officer shall obtain, if possible, a certificate from a licensed independent practitioner stating that the travel will not be detrimental to the person's physical health and that the person is dangerous to self or to any other person and is in need of immediate care or treatment for mental illness. The licensed independent practitioner shall have personally examined the person within 24 hours prior to signing the certificate.

(4) When a peace officer or other authorized individual, acting under this section, delivers a person to a hospital or nonhospital facility, a licensed independent practitioner shall examine the person immediately. If the licensed independent practitioner finds the person to be in need of emergency care or treatment for mental illness, the licensed independent practitioner shall proceed under ORS 426.232, otherwise the person may not be retained in custody. If the person is to be released from custody, the peace officer or the community mental health program director shall return the person to the place where the person was taken into custody unless the person declines that service.

(5) A peace officer may transfer a person in custody under this section to the custody of an individual authorized by the community mental health program director under ORS 426.233 (3). The peace officer

may meet the authorized individual at any location that is in accordance with ORS 426.140 to effect the transfer. When transferring a person in custody to an authorized individual, the peace officer shall deliver the report required under subsections (1) and (2) of this section to the authorized individual.

(6) An individual authorized under ORS 426.233 (3) shall take a person into custody when directed to do so by a peace officer or by a community mental health program director under ORS 426.233.

(7) An individual authorized under ORS 426.233 (3) shall perform the duties of the peace officer or the community mental health program director required by this section and ORS 426.233 if the peace officer or the director has not already done so.

(8) An individual authorized under ORS 426.233 (3) may transfer a person in custody under this section to the custody of another individual authorized under ORS 426.233 (3) or a peace officer. The individual transferring custody may meet another authorized individual or a peace officer at any location that is in accordance with ORS 426.140 to effect the transfer.

(9)(a) When a peace officer takes a person into custody under this section, and the peace officer reasonably suspects that the person is a foreign national, the peace officer shall inform the person of the person's right to communicate with an official from the consulate of the person's country.

(b) A peace officer is not civilly or criminally liable for failure to provide the information required by this subsection. Failure to provide the information required by this subsection does not in itself constitute grounds for the exclusion of evidence that would otherwise be admissible in a proceeding. [1993 c.484 §2; 1997 c.531 §2; 2003 c.109 §2; 2009 c.595 §402; 2013 c.360 §38; 2015 c.461 §11; 2015 c.785 §2]

**Note:** 426.228 to 426.238 were added to and made a part of 426.005 to 426.390 by legislative action but were not added to any other series. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**426.231 Hold by licensed independent practitioner; when authorized; statement required. (1)**

A licensed independent practitioner may hold a person for transportation to a treatment facility for up to 12 hours in a health care facility licensed under ORS chapter 441 and approved by the Oregon Health Authority if:

(a) The licensed independent practitioner believes the person is dangerous to self or to any other person and is in need of emergency care or treatment for mental illness;

(b) The licensed independent practitioner is not related to the person by blood or marriage; and

(c) A licensed independent practitioner with admitting privileges at the receiving facility consents to the transporting.

(2) Before transporting the person, the licensed independent practitioner shall prepare a written statement that:

(a) The licensed independent practitioner has examined the person within the preceding 12 hours;

(b) A licensed independent practitioner with admitting privileges at the receiving facility has consented to the transporting of the person for examination and admission if appropriate; and

(c) The licensed independent practitioner believes the person is dangerous to self or to any other person and is in need of emergency care or treatment for mental illness.

(3) The written statement required by subsection (2) of this section authorizes a peace officer, an individual authorized under ORS 426.233 or the designee of a community mental health program director to transport a person to the treatment facility indicated on the statement. [1993 c.484 §3; 1997 c.531 §3; 2009 c.595 §403; 2013 c.360 §39; 2015 c.461 §12]

**Note:** See note under 426.228.

**426.232 Emergency admission; notice; limit of hold. (1)** If a licensed independent practitioner believes a person who is brought to a hospital or nonhospital facility by a peace officer under ORS 426.228 or by an individual authorized under ORS 426.233, or believes a person who is at a hospital or



nonhospital facility, is dangerous to self or to any other person and is in need of emergency care or treatment for mental illness, and the licensed independent practitioner is not related to the person by blood or marriage, the licensed independent practitioner may do one of the following:

(a) Detain the person and cause the person to be admitted or, if the person is already admitted, cause the person to be retained in a hospital where the licensed independent practitioner has admitting privileges or is on staff.

(b) Approve the person for emergency care or treatment at a nonhospital facility approved by the authority.

(2) When approving a person for emergency care or treatment at a nonhospital facility under this section, the licensed independent practitioner shall notify immediately the community mental health program director in the county where the person was taken into custody and maintain the person, if the person is being held at a hospital, for as long as is feasible given the needs of the person for mental or physical health or safety. However, under no circumstances may the person be held for longer than five judicial days. [1993 c.484 §4; 1995 c.201 §3; 1997 c.531 §4; 2009 c.595 §404; 2013 c.360 §40; 2015 c.461 §13]

**Note:** See note under 426.228.

**426.233 Authority of community mental health program director and of other individuals; costs of transportation.** (1)(a) A community mental health program director operating under ORS 430.610 to 430.695 or a designee of the director may take one of the actions listed in paragraph (b) of this subsection when the community mental health program director or designee has probable cause to believe a person:

(A) Is dangerous to self or to any other person and is in need of immediate care, custody or treatment for mental illness; or

(B)(i) Is a person with mental illness placed on conditional release under ORS 426.125, outpatient commitment under ORS 426.127 or trial visit under ORS 426.273; and

(ii) Is dangerous to self or to any other person or is unable to provide for basic personal needs and is not receiving the care that is necessary for health and safety and is in need of immediate care, custody or treatment for mental illness.

(b) The community mental health program director or designee under the circumstances set out in paragraph (a) of this subsection may:

(A) Notify a peace officer to take the person into custody and direct the officer to remove the person to a hospital or nonhospital facility approved by the Oregon Health Authority;

(B) Authorize involuntary admission of, or, if already admitted, cause to be involuntarily retained in a nonhospital facility approved by the authority, a person approved for care or treatment at a nonhospital facility by a licensed independent practitioner under ORS 426.232;

(C) Notify an individual authorized under subsection (3) of this section to take the person into custody and direct the authorized individual to remove the person in custody to a hospital or nonhospital facility approved by the authority;

(D) Direct an individual authorized under subsection (3) of this section to transport a person in custody from a hospital or a nonhospital facility approved by the authority to another hospital or nonhospital facility approved by the authority as provided under ORS 426.235; or

(E) Direct an individual authorized under subsection (3) of this section to transport a person in custody from a facility approved by the authority to another facility approved by the authority as provided under ORS 426.060.

(2) A designee under subsection (1) of this section must meet the standards established by rule of the authority and be approved by the community mental health program director before assuming the authority permitted under subsection (1) of this section.

(3) The community mental health program director may authorize any individual to provide custody and secure transportation services for a person in custody under ORS 426.228. In authorizing an individual under this subsection, the community mental health program director shall grant the individual the authority to do the following:

- (a) Accept custody from a peace officer of a person in custody under ORS 426.228;
- (b) Take custody of a person upon notification by the community mental health program director under the provisions of this section;
- (c) Remove a person in custody to an approved hospital or nonhospital facility as directed by the community mental health program director;
- (d) Transfer a person in custody to another individual authorized under this subsection or a peace officer;
- (e) Transfer a person in custody from a hospital or nonhospital facility to another hospital facility or nonhospital facility when directed to do so by the community mental health program director; and
- (f) Retain a person in custody at the approved hospital or nonhospital facility until a licensed independent practitioner makes a determination under ORS 426.232.

(4) An individual authorized under subsection (3) of this section must meet the standards established by rule of the authority and be approved by the community mental health program director before assuming the authority granted under this section.

(5) The costs of transporting a person under ORS 426.060, 426.228 or 426.235 by an individual authorized under subsection (3) of this section shall be the responsibility of the community mental health program in the county in which the authorized individual is directed by a peace officer or a community mental health program director to take custody of a person and to transport the person to a facility approved by the authority, but the community mental health program shall not be responsible for costs that exceed the amount provided by the state for that transportation. An individual authorized to act under subsection (3) of this section shall charge the cost of emergency medical transportation to, and collect that cost from, the person, third party payers or other legally or financially responsible individuals or entities in the same manner that costs for the transportation of other persons are charged and collected. [1993 c.484 §5; 1997 c.531 §5; 2009 c.595 §405; 2013 c.360 §41; 2015 c.461 §14; 2015 c.785 §3]

**Note:** See note under 426.228.

#### **426.234 Duties of professionals at facility where person admitted; notification; duties of court.**

(1) At the time a person alleged to have a mental illness is admitted to or retained in a hospital or nonhospital facility under ORS 426.232 or 426.233, a licensed independent practitioner, nurse or qualified mental health professional at the hospital or nonhospital facility shall:

- (a) Inform the person of the person's right to representation by or appointment of counsel as described in ORS 426.100;
- (b) Give the person the warning under ORS 426.123;
- (c) Immediately examine the person;
- (d) Set forth, in writing, the condition of the person and the need for emergency care or treatment; and
- (e) If the licensed independent practitioner, nurse or qualified mental health professional reasonably suspects that the person is a foreign national, inform the person of the person's right to communicate with an official from the consulate of the person's country. A licensed independent practitioner, nurse or qualified mental health professional is not civilly or criminally liable for failure to provide the information required by this paragraph. Failure to provide the information required by this paragraph does not in itself constitute grounds for the exclusion of evidence that would otherwise be admissible in a proceeding.

(2)(a) At the time the person is admitted to or retained in a hospital under ORS 426.232, the licensed independent practitioner shall contact the community mental health program director of the county in which the person resides, if the county of residence is different from the county in which the hospital is

located. The community mental health program director may request that the licensed independent practitioner notify the circuit court in the county in which the person resides. If the community mental health program director does not make the request, the licensed independent practitioner shall notify, immediately and in writing, the circuit court in the county in which the person is hospitalized.

(b) At the time the person is admitted to a hospital under ORS 426.232 after being brought to the hospital by a peace officer under ORS 426.228, the licensed independent practitioner shall contact the community mental health program director of the county in which the person is hospitalized. The community mental health program director of the county in which the person is hospitalized may request that the licensed independent practitioner notify the circuit court in the county in which the person is hospitalized. If the community mental health program director does not make the request, the licensed independent practitioner shall notify, immediately and in writing, the circuit court in the county in which the person was taken into custody.

(c) If, at any time prior to the hearing under ORS 426.070 to 426.130, the licensed independent practitioner responsible for a person admitted or retained under ORS 426.232 determines that the person is not dangerous to self or to any other person and is not in need of emergency care or treatment for mental illness, the licensed independent practitioner may release the person from the detention authorized by ORS 426.232. The licensed independent practitioner shall immediately notify the circuit court notified under this subsection and the community mental health program director of the person's release from detention.

(3)(a) At the time the person is admitted to or retained in a nonhospital facility under ORS 426.233, the community mental health program director in the county where the person was taken into custody shall contact the community mental health program director of the county in which the person resides, if the county of residence is different from the county in which the person was taken into custody. The community mental health program director of the county in which the person resides may request that the community mental health program director of the county in which the person was taken into custody notify the circuit court in the county where the person resides. Otherwise, the community mental health program director of the county in which the person was taken into custody shall notify, immediately and in writing, the circuit court in the county in which the person was taken into custody.

(b) If, at any time prior to the hearing under ORS 426.070 to 426.130, a community mental health program director, after consultation with a licensed independent practitioner, determines that a person admitted or retained under ORS 426.233 is not dangerous to self or to any other person and is not in need of immediate care, custody or treatment for mental illness, the community mental health program director may release the person from detention. The community mental health program director shall immediately notify the circuit court originally notified under paragraph (a) of this subsection of the person's release from detention.

(4) When the judge of the circuit court receives notice under subsection (2) or (3) of this section, the judge immediately shall commence proceedings under ORS 426.070 to 426.130. In a county having a population of 100,000 or more, and when feasible in a county with a lesser population, the community mental health program director or designee who directs the peace officer or other authorized individual to take a person into custody under ORS 426.233 shall not also conduct the investigation as provided for under ORS 426.074. Except when a person is being held under ORS 426.237 (1)(b), a person shall not be held under ORS 426.232 or 426.233 for more than five judicial days without a hearing being held under ORS 426.070 to 426.130.

(5) When the judge of the circuit court receives notice under subsection (2)(c) or (3)(b) of this section that a person has been released, and unless the court receives the recommendation required by ORS 426.070 (4), the judge shall dismiss the case no later than 14 days after the date the person was initially detained. [1993 c.484 §6; 1995 c.201 §1; 1997 c.531 §6; 2001 c.481 §3; 2003 c.109 §4; 2009 c.595 §406; 2013 c.360 §42; 2015 c.461 §15]

**Note:** See note under 426.228.

**426.235 Transfer between hospital and nonhospital facilities.** (1) The community mental health program director may transfer a person in custody under ORS 426.232, 426.233 or 426.237 (1)(b) to a hospital or nonhospital facility approved by the Oregon Health Authority at any time during the period of detention.

(2) A person in custody at a hospital may be transferred from the hospital only with the consent of the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person and when the director of a nonhospital facility approved by the authority agrees to admit the person.

(3) A person in custody at a nonhospital facility approved by the authority may be transferred to a hospital approved by the authority only when a licensed independent practitioner with admitting privileges agrees to admit the person.

(4) In transporting a person between a hospital and nonhospital facility under this section, the community mental health program director has all the powers provided in ORS 133.225 and 161.255 and may compel the assistance of any peace officer or other authorized individual.

(5) When a person is transferred under this section, the community mental health program director shall notify immediately the court notified under ORS 426.234 (2) or (3) of the fact of the transfer and of the location of the person. [1993 c.484 §7; 2009 c.595 §407; 2013 c.360 §43; 2015 c.461 §16]

**Note:** See note under 426.228.

**426.236 Rules.** The Oregon Health Authority shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the provisions of ORS 426.155 and 426.228 to 426.238. [1993 c.484 §8; 2001 c.481 §4; 2009 c.595 §408]

**Note:** See note under 426.228.

**426.237 Prehearing detention; duties of community mental health program director; certification for treatment; court proceedings.** (1) During a prehearing period of detention as provided in ORS 426.070, 426.140, 426.232 or 426.233, the community mental health program director shall do one of the following:

(a) Recommend, in an investigation report as provided in ORS 426.074, that the circuit court not proceed further in the matter if the community mental health program director does not believe the person is a person with mental illness or that the person is in need of assisted outpatient treatment.

(b) No later than three judicial days after initiation of a prehearing period of detention as provided in ORS 426.070, 426.140, 426.232 or 426.233, certify the detained person for a 14-day period of intensive treatment if:

(A) The community mental health program director and a licensed independent practitioner have probable cause to believe the person is a person with mental illness;

(B) The community mental health program director in the county where the person resides verbally approves the arrangements for payment for the services at the hospital or nonhospital facility; and

(C) The community mental health program director locates a hospital or nonhospital facility that:

(i) Is approved by the authority and the community mental health program director in the county where the person resides; and

(ii) Can, in the opinion of the community mental health program director and the licensed independent practitioner, provide intensive care or treatment for mental illness necessary and sufficient to meet the emergency psychiatric needs of the person.

(c) Recommend, in an investigation report as provided in ORS 426.074, that the circuit court hold a hearing under ORS 426.070 to 426.130 if the community mental health program director has probable

cause to believe the person is a person with mental illness or that the person is in need of assisted outpatient treatment.

(2)(a) If the circuit court adopts the recommendation of the community mental health program director under subsection (1)(a) of this section, the circuit court shall enter an order releasing the person and dismissing the case. Unless the person agrees to voluntary treatment, if the person is being detained in a:

(A) Nonhospital facility, the community mental health program director shall make discharge plans and ensure the discharge of the person.

(B) Hospital, the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person shall make discharge plans and discharge the person.

(b) Upon release of the person, the community mental health program director shall attempt to notify the person's next of kin if the person consents to the notification.

(3)(a) If the detained person is certified for treatment under subsection (1)(b) of this section, the community mental health program director shall:

(A) Deliver immediately a certificate to the court having jurisdiction under ORS 426.060; and

(B) Orally inform the person of the certification and deliver a copy of the certificate to the person.

(b) The certificate required by paragraph (a) of this subsection shall include:

(A) A written statement under oath by the community mental health program director and the licensed independent practitioner that they have probable cause to believe the person is a person with mental illness in need of care or treatment for mental illness;

(B) A treatment plan that describes, in general terms, the types of treatment and medication to be provided to the person during the 14-day period of intensive treatment;

(C) A notice of the person's right to an attorney and that an attorney will be appointed by the court or as otherwise obtained under ORS 426.100 (3);

(D) A notice that the person has a right to request and be provided a hearing under ORS 426.070 to 426.130 at any time during the 14-day period; and

(E) The date and time the copy of the certificate was delivered to the person.

(c) Immediately upon receipt of a certificate under paragraph (a) of this subsection, the court shall notify the person's attorney or appoint an attorney for the person if the person cannot afford one. Within 24 hours of the time the certificate is delivered to the court, the person's attorney shall review the certificate with the person. If the person and the person's attorney consent to the certification within one judicial day of the time the certificate is delivered to the circuit court and, except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, the court shall postpone the hearing required by ORS 426.070 to 426.130 for 14 days.

(d) When a person is certified for treatment under subsection (1)(b) of this section and accepts the certification:

(A) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, all methods of treatment, including the prescription and administration of drugs, shall be the sole responsibility of the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person. However, the person shall not be subject to electroshock therapy or unduly hazardous treatment and shall receive usual and customary treatment in accordance with medical standards in the community.

(B) Except when the person expressly refuses treatment, the treating licensed independent practitioner shall treat the person within the scope of the treatment plan provided the person under paragraph (b) of this subsection. The person's refusal of treatment constitutes sufficient grounds for the community mental health program director to request a hearing as provided in subsection (4)(a) of this section.

(C) If the person is in a hospital and the community mental health program director locates a nonhospital facility, approved by the authority, that, in the opinion of the community mental health program director and the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person, can provide care or treatment for mental illness necessary and sufficient to meet the emergency psychiatric needs of the person, the treating licensed independent practitioner shall discharge the person from the hospital and the

community mental health program director shall remove the person to the nonhospital facility for the remainder of the 14-day intensive treatment period. If, however, in the opinion of the treating licensed independent practitioner, the person's condition requires the person to receive medical care or treatment, the licensed independent practitioner shall retain the person in the hospital.

(D) If the person is in a nonhospital facility, the community mental health program director shall transfer the person to a hospital approved by the authority under the following conditions:

(i) If, in the opinion of a licensed independent practitioner, the person's condition requires the person to receive medical care or treatment in a hospital; and

(ii) The licensed independent practitioner agrees to admit the person to a hospital, approved by the authority, where the licensed independent practitioner has admitting privileges.

(E) If the person is transferred as provided in subparagraph (C) or (D) of this paragraph, the community mental health program director shall notify the circuit court, in the county where the certificate was filed, of the location of the person. The person may appeal the transfer as provided by rules of the authority.

(e) If the person is in a hospital, the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person may discharge the person at any time during the 14-day period. The treating licensed independent practitioner shall confer with the community mental health program director and the person's next of kin, if the person consents to the consultation, prior to discharging the person. Immediately upon discharge of the person, the treating licensed independent practitioner shall notify the court in the county in which the certificate was filed initially.

(f) If the person is in a nonhospital facility, the community mental health program director may discharge the person at any time during the 14-day period. The community mental health program director shall consult with the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person and the person's next of kin, if the person consents to the consultation, prior to discharging the person. Immediately upon discharge of the person, the community mental health program director shall notify the court in the county in which the certificate was filed initially.

(g) The person may agree to voluntary treatment at any time during the 14-day period. When a person agrees to voluntary treatment under this paragraph, the community mental health program director immediately shall notify the court in the county in which the certificate was filed initially.

(h) A person consenting to 14 days of treatment under subsection (3)(c) of this section shall not be held longer than 14 days from the time of consenting without a hearing as provided in ORS 426.070 to 426.130.

(i) When the court receives notification under paragraph (e), (f) or (g) of this subsection, the court shall dismiss the case.

(4) The judge of the circuit court shall immediately commence proceedings under ORS 426.070 to 426.130 when:

(a) The person consenting to 14 days of treatment or the community mental health program director requests a hearing. The hearing shall be held without unreasonable delay. In no case shall the person be held in a hospital or nonhospital facility longer than five judicial days after the request for a hearing is made without a hearing being held under ORS 426.070 to 426.130.

(b) The community mental health program director acts under subsection (1)(c) of this section. In no case shall the person be held longer than five judicial days without a hearing under this subsection. [1993 c.484 §9; 2003 c.14 §237; 2009 c.595 §409; 2013 c.360 §44; 2013 c.737 §5; 2015 c.461 §17]

**Note:** See note under 426.228.

**426.238 Classifying facilities.** The Oregon Health Authority may assign classifications, as defined by rule of the authority, to facilities that provide care and treatment for persons committed to the authority under ORS 426.130 or provide emergency care or treatment for persons pursuant to ORS 426.070,

426.228 to 426.235 or 426.237. The authority may authorize a facility to retake custody of a person who unlawfully leaves a facility as provided in ORS 426.223. [1993 c.484 §10; 2009 c.595 §410]

**Note:** See note under 426.228.

(Costs)

**426.241 Payment of care, custody and treatment costs; denial of payment; rules.** (1) The cost of emergency psychiatric care, custody and treatment related to or resulting from such psychiatric condition, provided by a hospital or other facility approved by the Oregon Health Authority and the community mental health program director of the county in which the facility is located, except a state hospital, for a person alleged to have a mental illness who is admitted or detained under ORS 426.070, 426.140, 426.228, 426.232 or 426.233, or for a person with mental illness who is admitted or detained under ORS 426.150, 426.223, 426.273, 426.275 or 426.292, shall be paid by the community mental health program in the county of which the person is a resident from state funds provided to the community mental health program for this purpose. The community mental health program is responsible for the cost when state funds provided to the community mental health program are exhausted. The hospital or other facility shall charge to and collect from the person, third party payers or other legally or financially responsible individuals or entities the costs of the emergency care, custody and treatment, as it would for any other patient, and any funds received shall be applied as an offset to the cost of the services provided under this section.

(2) If any person is admitted to or detained in a state hospital under ORS 426.070, 426.140, 426.180 to 426.210, 426.228, 426.232 or 426.233 for emergency care, custody or treatment, the authority shall charge to and collect from the person, third party payers or other legally or financially responsible individuals or entities the costs as it would for other patients of the state hospitals under the provisions of ORS 179.610 to 179.770.

(3) If any person is adjudged to have a mental illness under the provisions of ORS 426.130, or determined to be an extremely dangerous person with mental illness under ORS 426.701 or 426.702, and the person receives care and treatment in a state hospital, the person, third party payers or other legally or financially responsible individuals or entities shall be required to pay for the costs of the hospitalization at the state hospital, as provided by ORS 179.610 to 179.770, if financially able to do so.

(4) For purposes of this section and ORS 426.310, “resident” means resident of the county in which the person maintains a current mailing address or, if the person does not maintain a current mailing address within the state, the county in which the person is found, or the county in which a court-committed person has been conditionally released.

(5)(a) The authority may deny payment for part or all of the emergency psychiatric services provided by a hospital or nonhospital facility under ORS 426.232, 426.233 or 426.237 when the authority finds, upon review, that the condition of the person alleged to have a mental illness did not meet the admission criteria in ORS 426.232 (1), 426.233 (1) or 426.237 (1)(b)(A). The payer responsible under this section shall make a request for denial of payment for emergency psychiatric services provided under ORS 426.232, 426.233 or 426.237 in writing to the authority.

(b) The authority may require the following to provide the authority with any information that the authority determines is necessary to review a request for denial of payment made under this subsection or to conduct a review of emergency psychiatric services for the purpose of planning or defining authority rules:

(A) A hospital or nonhospital facility approved under ORS 426.228 to 426.235 or 426.237.

(B) A physician or a person providing emergency psychiatric services under ORS 426.228 to 426.235 or 426.237.

(c) The authority shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection. [1977 c.764 §5 (enacted in lieu of 426.240); 1979 c.392 §1; 1981 c.750 §16; 1987 c.527 §1; 1993 c.484 §21; 2009 c.595 §411; 2013 c.715 §§8,19; 2015 c.785 §4]

**426.250 Payment of costs related to commitment proceedings.** The following is a nonexclusive list of responsibilities for payment of various costs related to commitment proceedings under this chapter as described:

(1) Any physician or qualified professional recommended by the Oregon Health Authority who is employed under ORS 426.110 to make an examination as to the mental condition of a person alleged to have a mental illness shall be allowed a fee as the court in its discretion determines reasonable for the examination.

(2) Witnesses subpoenaed to give testimony shall receive the same fees as are paid in criminal cases, and are subject to compulsory attendance in the same manner as provided in ORS 136.567 to 136.603. The attendance of out-of-state witnesses may be secured in the same manner as provided in ORS 136.623 to 136.637. The party who subpoenas the witness or requests the court to subpoena the witness is responsible for payment of the cost of the subpoena and payment for the attendance of the witness at a hearing. When the witness has been subpoenaed on behalf of a person alleged to have a mental illness who is represented by appointed counsel, the fees and costs allowed for that witness shall be paid pursuant to ORS 135.055. If the costs of witnesses subpoenaed by the person are paid as provided under this subsection, the procedure for subpoenaing witnesses shall comply with ORS 136.570.

(3) If a person with a right to a counsel under ORS 426.100, 426.701 or 426.702 is determined to be financially eligible for appointed counsel at state expense, the executive director of the Oregon Public Defense Commission shall determine and pay, as provided in ORS 135.055, the reasonable expenses related to the representation of the person and compensation for legal counsel. The expenses and compensation so allowed shall be paid by the executive director from funds available for the purpose.

(4) The authority shall pay the costs of expenses incurred under ORS 426.100 by the Attorney General's office. Any costs for district attorneys or other counsel appointed to assume responsibility for presenting the state's case shall be paid by the county where the commitment hearing is held, subject to reimbursement under ORS 426.310.

(5) All costs incurred in connection with a proceeding under ORS 426.180, 426.701 or 426.702, including the costs of transportation, commitment and delivery of the person, shall be paid by the community mental health program in the county of which the person is a resident. If the person is not a resident of this state, then the costs incurred in connection with the proceeding shall be paid by the community mental health program in the county from which the emergency admission was made.

(6) All costs incurred in connection with a proceeding under ORS 426.180 for the commitment of a person from a reservation, including the cost of transportation, commitment and delivery of the person, shall be paid by the governing body of the reservation of which the person is a resident. [Amended by 1965 c.420 §2; 1975 c.690 §17; 1977 c.764 §6; 1987 c.606 §9; 1987 c.903 §§26,26a; 2001 c.962 §59; 2009 c.595 §412; 2011 c.720 §162; 2012 c.25 §4; 2013 c.360 §46; 2013 c.715 §9; 2015 c.785 §5; 2023 c.281 §72]

**426.255 County to pay costs.** Costs of hearings conducted pursuant to ORS 426.307, and the fees for physicians and other examiners shall be charged to the county of the person's residence in the same manner provided by ORS 426.310, whether the hearing is held in the county of residence or county of the treating facility. [1973 c.838 §19; 1987 c.803 §23; 1987 c.903 §27; 2013 c.360 §47]



(Trial Visits; Conditional Release; Outpatient Commitment; Early Release)

**426.273 Trial visits.** (1) During a period of commitment of a patient under ORS 426.130, the Oregon Health Authority may grant a trial visit to the patient for a period of time and under any conditions the authority shall establish. The authority shall only grant a trial visit under this section if the trial visit is agreed to by the community mental health program director, or the designee of the director, for the county in which the person would reside.

(2) When in the opinion of the authority, the committed person can be appropriately served by outpatient care during the period of commitment, the outpatient care may be required as a condition for trial visit for a period which, when added to the inpatient treatment period, shall not exceed the period of commitment. If outpatient care is required as a condition for a trial visit, the conditions shall include a designation of a facility, service or other provider to provide care or treatment.

(3) A copy of the conditions for trial visit shall be given to all of the individuals or entities listed in ORS 426.278.

(4) Any trial visit granted under this section is subject to the provisions under ORS 426.275.

(5) The director of the community mental health program, or designee, of the county in which a person who is on trial visit lives while on trial visit may modify the conditions for continued trial visit when such modification is in the best interest of the person. The director shall send notification of such changes and the reasons for the changes to all those who received a copy of the original conditions under ORS 426.278. [1985 c.242 §2 (enacted in lieu of 426.290); 1987 c.903 §28; 2009 c.595 §413; 2013 c.360 §48]

**426.275 Effect of failure to adhere to condition of placement.** The following are applicable to placements of persons with mental illness that are made as conditional release under ORS 426.125, outpatient commitments under ORS 426.127 or trial visits under ORS 426.273 as described:

(1) If the individual responsible under this subsection determines that a person with mental illness is failing to adhere to the terms and conditions of the placement, the responsible individual shall notify the court having jurisdiction that the person with mental illness is not adhering to the terms and conditions of the placement. If the placement is an outpatient commitment under ORS 426.127 or a trial visit under ORS 426.273, the notifications shall include a copy of the conditions for the placement. The individual responsible for notifying the court under this subsection is as follows:

(a) For conditional releases under ORS 426.125, the guardian, relative or friend in whose care the person with mental illness is conditionally released.

(b) For outpatient commitments under ORS 426.127, the community mental health program director, or designee of the director, of the county in which the person on outpatient commitment lives.

(c) For trial visits under ORS 426.273, the community mental health program director, or designee of the director, of the county in which the person on trial visit is to receive outpatient treatment.

(2) On its own motion, the court with jurisdiction of a person with mental illness on placement may cause the person to be brought before it for a hearing to determine whether the person is or is not adhering to the terms and conditions of the placement. The person shall have the same rights with respect to notice, detention stay, hearing and counsel as for a hearing held under ORS 426.095. The court shall hold the hearing within five judicial days of the date the person with mental illness receives notice under this section. The court may allow postponement and detention during postponement as provided under ORS 426.095.

(3) Pursuant to the determination of the court upon hearing under this section, a person on placement shall either continue the placement on the same or modified conditions or shall be returned to the Oregon Health Authority for involuntary care and treatment on an inpatient basis subject to discharge at the end of the commitment period or as otherwise provided under this chapter.

(4) If the person on placement is living in a county other than the county of the court that established the current period of commitment under ORS 426.130 during which the trial visit, conditional release or outpatient commitment takes place, the court establishing the current period of commitment shall transfer jurisdiction to the appropriate court of the county in which the person is living while on the placement and the court receiving the transfer shall accept jurisdiction.

(5) The court may proceed as provided in ORS 426.307 or this section when the court:

(a) Receives notice under ORS 426.070 or 426.228 to 426.235; and

(b) Determines that the person is a person with mental illness on conditional release under ORS 426.125, outpatient commitment under ORS 426.127 or trial visit under ORS 426.273. [1985 c.242 §3 (enacted in lieu of 426.290); 1987 c.903 §29; 1993 c.484 §22; 2009 c.595 §414; 2011 c.720 §163; 2013 c.360 §49]

**426.278 Distribution of copies of conditions for outpatient commitment or trial visit.** The Oregon Health Authority shall provide to each of the following individuals or entities a copy of the conditions of an outpatient commitment under ORS 426.127 or a trial visit under ORS 426.273:

(1) The committed person;

(2) The community mental health program director, or designee of the director, of the county in which the committed person is to receive outpatient treatment;

(3) The director of any facility, service or other provider designated to provide care or treatment;

(4) The court of current commitment; and

(5) The appropriate court of the county in which the committed person lives during the commitment period if the person is living in a different county than the county of the court that made the current commitment. [1987 c.903 §30; 2009 c.595 §415; 2013 c.360 §50]

**426.292 Release prior to expiration of term of commitment.** Nothing in this chapter and ORS 430.397 to 430.401 prohibits the Oregon Health Authority from releasing a person from a hospital or other facility in which the person is being treated prior to the expiration of the period of commitment under ORS 426.130 when, in the opinion of the director of the facility or the licensed independent practitioner who is treating the person, the person is no longer a person with mental illness. [1985 c.242 §4 (enacted in lieu of 426.290); 2009 c.595 §416; 2013 c.360 §51; 2015 c.461 §18]

(Competency and Discharge)

**426.295 Judicial determination of competency; restoration of competency.** (1) No person admitted to a state hospital for the treatment of mental illness shall be considered by virtue of the admission to be incompetent.

(2) Upon petition of a person committed to a state hospital, or the guardian, relative or creditor of the person or other interested person, the court of competent jurisdiction in the county in which the state hospital is located or, if the petitioner requests a hearing in the county where the commitment originated, then the court in such county shall hold a hearing to determine whether or not the person in the state hospital is competent. A guardian who is not the petitioner shall be notified of the hearing at least three days before the date set for hearing. After the hearing the court shall enter an order pursuant to its finding and serve a copy of the order on the petitioner and forward a copy of the order to the committing court.

(3) When a person committed to a state hospital has been declared incompetent pursuant to subsection (2) of this section and is discharged from the hospital, the superintendent of the hospital shall advise the court which entered the order of incompetency whether or not, in the opinion of the chief medical officer of the hospital on the basis of medical evidence, the person is competent. The superintendent shall make a reasonable effort to notify the discharged person of the advice to the court. If the court is advised that the

person is competent, the court shall enter an order to that effect. If the court is advised that the person is not competent, upon petition of the person, the guardian, relative or creditor of the person or other interested person, the court shall hold a hearing to determine whether or not the discharged person is competent. The court shall serve a copy of any order entered pursuant to this subsection on the person and forward a copy of such order to the committing court. [1965 c.628 §2; 1967 c.460 §1; 1969 c.391 §7]

**426.297 Payment of expenses for proceeding under ORS 426.295.** (1) The expenses of a proceeding under ORS 426.295 (2) shall be paid by the person with mental illness, unless it appears from the affidavit of the person or other evidence that the person is unable to pay the expenses. If the person is unable to pay, the expenses of the proceedings shall be paid by the community mental health program in the county of which the person was a resident at the time of admission. If the county of residence cannot be established, the community mental health program in the county from which the person was admitted shall pay the expenses.

(2) The expenses of the proceeding under ORS 426.295 (3) shall be paid by the petitioner.

(3) Any physician employed by the court to make an examination as to the mental condition of a person subject to a competency proceeding under ORS 426.295 or 426.380 to 426.390 shall be allowed a reasonable professional fee by order of the court. Witnesses summoned and giving testimony shall receive the same fees as are paid in ORS 44.415 (2). [1967 c.460 §2; 1989 c.980 §14; 2013 c.360 §52; 2015 c.785 §6]

**426.300 Discharge of committed persons; application for assistance on behalf of committed person.** (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall, by filing a written certificate with the last committing court and the court of residence, discharge an individual from court commitment, except one held upon an order of a court or judge having criminal jurisdiction in an action or proceeding arising out of criminal offense, if the authority finds that the individual is no longer a person with mental illness or that the transfer of the individual to a voluntary status is in the individual's best interest.

(2) The authority may sign applications for public assistance, as defined in ORS 411.010, medical assistance, as defined in ORS 414.025, or any other state or federal benefits on behalf of those individuals who may be eligible for public assistance, medical assistance or any other state or federal benefits upon discharge. [Amended by 1963 c.325 §4; 1967 c.549 §8; 1973 c.838 §22; 1997 c.249 §137; 2009 c.595 §417; 2013 c.360 §53; 2013 c.688 §90; 2017 c.65 §1]

**426.301 Release of committed person; certification of continued mental illness; service of certificate; content; period of further commitment; effect of failure to protest further commitment.**

(1) At the end of the 180-day period of commitment, any person whose status has not been changed to voluntary shall be released unless the Oregon Health Authority certifies to the court in the county where the treating facility is located that the person is still a person with mental illness and is in need of further treatment. The authority, pursuant to its rules, may delegate to the director of the treating facility the responsibility for making the certification. The director of the treating facility shall consult with the community mental health program director of the county of residence prior to making the certification. If the certification is made, the person will not be released, but the director of the treating facility shall immediately issue a copy of the certification to the person and to the community mental health program director of the county of residence.

(2) The certification shall be served upon the person by the director of the facility where the person is confined or by the designee of the director. The director of the facility shall inform the court in writing that service has been made and the date thereof.

(3) The certification shall advise the person of all the following:

(a) That the authority or facility has requested that commitment be continued for an additional period of time.

(b) That the person may consult with legal counsel and that legal counsel will be provided for the person without cost if the person is unable to afford legal counsel.

(c) That the person may protest this further period of commitment within 14 days, and if the person does not protest the further commitment, commitment will be continued for an indefinite period of time up to 180 days.

(d) That if the person does protest a further period of commitment, the person is entitled to a hearing before the court on whether commitment should be continued.

(e) That the person may protest either orally or in writing by signing the form accompanying the certification.

(f) That the person is entitled to have a physician or other qualified professional as recommended by the authority, other than a member of the staff at the facility where the person is confined, examine the person and report to the court the results of the examination.

(g) That the person may subpoena witnesses and offer evidence on behalf of the person at the hearing.

(h) That if the person is without funds to retain legal counsel or an examining physician or qualified professional as recommended by the authority, the court will appoint legal counsel, a physician or other qualified professional.

(4) Nothing in subsection (3) of this section requires the giving of the warning under ORS 426.123.

(5) When serving the certification upon the person, the authority shall read and deliver the certification to the person and ask whether the person protests a further period of commitment. The person may protest further commitment either orally or by signing a simple protest form to be given to the person with the certification. If the person does not protest a further period of commitment within 14 days of service of the certification, the authority or facility shall so notify the court and the court shall, without further hearing, order the commitment of the person for an additional indefinite period of time up to 180 days. [1973 c.838 §15; 1975 c.690 §19; 1987 c.903 §32; 2001 c.962 §60; 2009 c.595 §418; 2013 c.360 §54]

**426.303 Effect of protest of further commitment; advice of court.** When the person protests a further period of commitment the Oregon Health Authority or facility designated in accordance with ORS 426.301 shall immediately notify the court and the court shall have the person brought before it and shall again advise the person that the authority or facility has requested that commitment be continued for an additional period of time and that if the person does not protest this commitment the commitment will be continued for an indefinite period of time up to 180 days. The person shall also be informed of the rights set forth in ORS 426.301. [1973 c.838 §16; 1975 c.690 §20; 2009 c.595 §419]

**426.307 Court hearing; continuance; attorney; examination; determination of mental illness; order of further commitment; period of commitment.** If a person with mental illness requests a hearing under ORS 426.301 or if the court proceeds under ORS 426.275 (5), the following provisions apply:

(1) The hearing shall be conducted as promptly as possible and at a time and place as the court may direct.

(2) If the person requests a continuance in order to prepare for the hearing or to obtain legal counsel to represent the person, the court may grant postponement and detention during postponement as provided under ORS 426.095.

(3) The person has the right to representation by or appointment of counsel as provided under ORS 426.100 subject to ORS 135.055, 151.216 and 151.219.

(4) If the person requests an examination by a physician or other qualified professional as recommended by the Oregon Health Authority and is without funds to retain a physician or other

qualified professional for purposes of the examination, the court shall appoint a physician or other qualified professional, other than a member of the staff from the facility where the person is confined, to examine the person at no expense to the person and to report to the court the results of the examination.

(5) The provisions of ORS 40.230, 40.235, 40.240 and 40.250 do not apply to the use of medical records from the current period of commitment or to testimony related to such records or period of commitment in connection with hearings under this section. The court may consider as evidence such reports and testimony.

(6) The court shall then conduct a hearing and after hearing the evidence and reviewing the recommendations of the treating and examining physicians or other qualified professionals, the court shall determine whether the person is still a person with mental illness and is in need of further treatment. If in the opinion of the court the individual is still a person with mental illness by clear and convincing evidence and is in need of further treatment, the court may order commitment to the authority for an additional indefinite period of time up to 180 days.

(7) At the end of the 180-day period, the person shall be released unless the authority or facility again certifies to the committing court that the person is still a person with mental illness and is in need of further treatment, in which event the procedures set forth in ORS 426.301 to 426.307 shall be followed. [1973 c.838 §17; 1975 c.690 §21; 1979 c.408 §5; 1987 c.803 §24; 1987 c.903 §§33,33a; 1989 c.171 §53; 1993 c.484 §24; 1997 c.649 §4; 2001 c.962 §61; 2009 c.595 §420; 2013 c.360 §1]

**426.309 Effect of ORS 426.217 and 426.301 to 426.307 on other discharge procedure.** ORS 426.217 and 426.301 to 426.307 do not restrict or limit the discharge procedures set forth in ORS 426.300. [1973 c.838 §20]

(Miscellaneous)

**426.310 Reimbursement of county expenses for commitment proceedings involving nonresidents.** (1) If a person with mental illness is a resident of some other county in this state, the county making the commitment shall be reimbursed by the county of which the person is a resident. All reasonable and actual expenses incurred and paid by the county by reason of the care, custody, treatment, investigation, examination and commitment hearing shall, upon presentation of a copy of the order of the judge making the examination and commitment, together with a properly itemized and certified claim covering the expense, be promptly paid to the county by the county of which the person was a resident. The expenses reimbursed under this subsection shall include any expenses incurred to pay for representation of the state's interest under ORS 426.100 and 426.250.

(2) If a person alleged to have a mental illness is a resident of some other county in this state, a county attempting a commitment shall be reimbursed by the county of which the person is a resident, as defined in ORS 426.241, for all actual, reasonable expenses incurred and paid by the county attempting commitment by reason of the care, custody, treatment, investigation, examination and commitment hearing. The expenses reimbursed under this subsection shall include any expenses incurred to pay for representation of the state's interest under ORS 426.100 and 426.250.

(3) In the case of a county that declines to operate or contract for a community mental health program, the public agency or private corporation that contracts with the Oregon Health Authority to provide the program, as described in ORS 430.640, is responsible for reimbursing a county for the costs incurred by the county in the care, custody, treatment, investigation and examination of the person. [Amended by 1975 c.690 §22; 1977 c.764 §7; 1979 c.392 §2; 1987 c.903 §34; 2013 c.360 §55; 2015 c.785 §7]

**426.320 Payment of certain expenses by the state.** When a person with mental illness is assigned to or transferred to a state hospital, all of the actual and necessary expenses of transporting the person to

the hospital that are incurred by the agent or attendant from the state hospital, the assistants of the agent or attendant and the person, shall be paid by the state in the manner provided in ORS 426.330. [Amended by 1975 c.690 §23; 2013 c.360 §56]

**426.330 Presentation and payment of claims.** (1) The special funds authorized for the use of the superintendent of the Oregon State Hospital to better enable the superintendent promptly to meet the advances and expenses necessary in the matter of transferring patients to the Oregon State Hospital are continued in existence. The superintendent shall present the superintendent's claims monthly, with vouchers that show the expenditures from the special funds during the preceding month, to the Oregon Health Authority for the transfer of patients to the Oregon State Hospital.

(2) Against the funds appropriated to cover the cost of transporting patients, the State Treasurer shall pay the claims of the superintendent that have been approved by the Oregon Health Authority. [Amended by 1975 c.614 §14; 1985 c.565 §67; 2007 c.14 §2; 2007 c.70 §206; 2009 c.595 §421; 2011 c.9 §59; 2013 c.36 §68; 2015 c.318 §15]

**426.335 Limitations on liability.** The following limitations on liability are applicable to actions and proceedings within this chapter and ORS 430.397 to 430.401:

(1) The following individuals may not in any way be held criminally or civilly liable for the initiation of commitment procedures under ORS 426.070, provided the individual acts in good faith, on probable cause and without malice:

- (a) The community mental health program director or designee of the director.
- (b) The two petitioning persons.
- (c) The local health officer.
- (d) Any magistrate.
- (e) Any peace officer or parole and probation officer.
- (f) Any licensed independent practitioner attending the person alleged to have a mental illness.
- (g) Any licensed independent practitioner associated with the hospital or institution where the person alleged to have a mental illness is a patient.

(2) The community mental health program director or the designee of the director conducting the investigation under ORS 426.070 and 426.074 shall not be held criminally or civilly liable for conducting the investigation, provided the investigator acts in good faith, on probable cause and without malice.

(3) The individual representing the state's interest under ORS 426.100 shall not be held criminally or civilly liable for performing responsibilities under ORS 426.100 as long as the individual acts in good faith and without malice.

(4) An examiner appointed under ORS 426.110 may not be held criminally or civilly liable for actions pursuant to ORS 426.120 if the examiner acts in good faith and without malice.

(5) A licensed independent practitioner, hospital or judge may not be held criminally or civilly liable for actions pursuant to ORS 426.228, 426.231, 426.232, 426.234 or 426.235 if the licensed independent practitioner, hospital or judge acts in good faith, on probable cause and without malice.

(6) A peace officer, individual authorized under ORS 426.233, community mental health director or designee, hospital or other facility, licensed independent practitioner or judge may not in any way be held criminally or civilly liable for actions pursuant to ORS 426.228 to 426.235 if the individual or facility acts in good faith, on probable cause and without malice.

(7) Any legal guardian, relative or friend of a person with mental illness who assumes responsibility for the person under a conditional release under ORS 426.125 shall not be liable for any damages that result from the misconduct of the person while on conditional release if the legal guardian, relative or friend acts in good faith and without malice.

(8) The individuals designated in this subsection may not be liable for personal injuries or other damages that result from the misconduct of a person with mental illness while the person is on outpatient commitment under ORS 426.127 if the designated individual acts without willful and wanton neglect of duty. This subsection is applicable to all of the following:

(a) The community mental health program director and the designee of the director for the county in which the committed person resides.

(b) The superintendent or director of any staff of any facility where the person with mental illness receives treatment during the outpatient commitment.

(c) The Director of the Oregon Health Authority.

(d) The licensed independent practitioner and the facility providing care or treatment to a person on outpatient commitment.

(9) For trial visits granted under ORS 426.273 and 426.275:

(a) The following individuals and entities may not be liable for a person's expenses while on trial visit:

(A) The licensed independent practitioner and the facility providing care or treatment to a person on a trial visit;

(B) The superintendent or director of the facility providing care or treatment to a person on a trial visit;

(C) The Director of the Oregon Health Authority; and

(D) The chief medical officer of the facility.

(b) The individuals designated in this paragraph may not be liable for damages that result from the misconduct of a person with mental illness while on trial visit if the designated individual acts without willful and wanton neglect of duty:

(A) The community mental health program director for the county in which the person resides;

(B) The superintendent, director or chief medical officer of any facility providing care or treatment to a patient on a trial visit;

(C) The licensed independent practitioner responsible for the patient's care or treatment during a trial visit;

(D) The Director of the Oregon Health Authority; or

(E) The employees and agents of individuals or facilities under this paragraph. [Formerly 426.280; 2005 c.264 §21; 2009 c.595 §422; 2013 c.360 §57; 2015 c.461 §19; 2015 c.736 §68]

#### **426.370 Withholding information obtained in certain commitment or admission investigations.**

A community mental health program director or designee may withhold information obtained during an investigation under ORS 426.070, 426.228, 426.232, 426.233 or 426.234 if the community mental health program director determines:

(1) That information was not included in its investigation report or otherwise used in a material way to support a determination by the community mental health program director that there was probable cause to believe a person was a person with mental illness; and

(2) Release of the information would constitute a clear and immediate danger to any person. [1989 c.993 §6; 1993 c.484 §25; 2009 c.595 §423; 2013 c.360 §58]

**Note:** 426.370 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 426 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**426.380 Availability of writ of habeas corpus.** Any individual committed pursuant to ORS 426.005 to 426.223 and 426.241 to 426.380 shall be entitled to the writ of habeas corpus upon proper

petition by the individual or a friend to any court generally empowered to issue the writ of habeas corpus in the county in which the state hospital in which the person is detained is located. [1967 c.460 §6]

**426.385 Rights of committed persons.** (1) Every person with mental illness committed to the Oregon Health Authority shall have the right to:

- (a) Communicate freely in person and by reasonable access to telephones;
  - (b) Send and receive sealed mail, except that this right may be limited for security reasons in state institutions as described in ORS 426.010;
  - (c) Wear the clothing of the person;
  - (d) Keep personal possessions, including toilet articles;
  - (e) Religious freedom;
  - (f) A private storage area with free access thereto;
  - (g) Be furnished with a reasonable supply of writing materials and stamps;
  - (h) A written treatment plan, kept current with the progress of the person;
  - (i) Be represented by counsel whenever the substantial rights of the person may be affected;
  - (j) Petition for a writ of habeas corpus;
  - (k) Not be required to perform routine labor tasks of the facility except those essential for treatment;
  - (L) Be given reasonable compensation for all work performed other than personal housekeeping duties;
  - (m) Daily access to fresh air and the outdoors, except that this right may be limited when it would create significant risk of harm to the person or others;
  - (n) Reasonable privacy and security in resting, sleeping, dressing, bathing, personal hygiene and toileting, except that this right may be limited when it would create significant risk of harm to the person or others;
  - (o) Such other rights as may be specified by rule; and
  - (p) Exercise all civil rights in the same manner and with the same effect as one not admitted to the facility, including, but not limited to, the right to dispose of real property, execute instruments, make purchases, enter contractual relationships, and vote, unless the person has been adjudicated incompetent and has not been restored to legal capacity. Disposal of personal property in possession of the person in a state institution described in ORS 426.010 is subject to limitation for security reasons.
- (2)(a) A person must be immediately informed, orally and in writing, of any limitation:
- (A) Of the right to send or receive sealed mail under subsection (1)(b) of this section;
  - (B) Regarding the disposal of personal property under subsection (1)(p) of this section;
  - (C) Of the right to reasonable privacy and security in resting, sleeping, dressing, bathing, personal hygiene and toileting under subsection (1)(n) of this section; and
  - (D) Of the right to daily access to fresh air and the outdoors under subsection (1)(m) of this section.
- (b) Any limitation under this subsection and the reasons for the limitation must be stated in the person's written treatment plan.
- (c) The person has the right to challenge any limitation under this subsection pursuant to rules adopted by the authority. The person must be informed, orally and in writing, of this right.
- (3) A person with mental illness committed to the authority shall have the right to be free from potentially unusual or hazardous treatment procedures, including convulsive therapy, unless the person has given express and informed consent or authorized the treatment pursuant to ORS 127.700 to 127.737. This right may be denied to a person for good cause as defined in administrative rule only by the director of the facility in which the person is confined, but only after consultation with and approval of an independent examining physician. Any denial shall be entered into the person's treatment record and shall include the reasons for the denial. A person with mental illness may not be subjected to psychosurgery, as defined in ORS 677.190 (21)(b).



(4) Mechanical restraints shall not be applied to a person admitted to a facility unless it is determined by the chief medical officer of the facility or designee to be required by the medical needs of the person. Every use of a mechanical restraint and the reasons for using a mechanical restraint shall be made a part of the clinical record of the person over the signature of the chief medical officer of the facility or designee.

(5) Nothing in this section prevents the authority from acting to exclude contraband from its facilities and to prevent possession or use of contraband in its facilities.

(6) As used in this section:

(a) “Contraband” has the meaning given that term in ORS 162.135.

(b) “Security reasons” means the protection of the person with mental illness from serious and immediate harm and the protection of others from threats or harassment as defined by rule of the authority. [1967 c.460 §4; 1973 c.838 §28; 1981 c.372 §3; 1983 c.486 §1; 1993 c.442 §16; 1995 c.141 §1; 2001 c.104 §152; 2007 c.56 §1; 2009 c.595 §424; 2009 c.756 §20; 2013 c.360 §59; 2019 c.19 §1]

**426.390 Construction.** Nothing in ORS 426.295, 426.297 and 426.380 to 426.390 is intended to detract from the powers of a court under ORS chapter 125 or ORS 179.640. [1967 c.460 §7; 1973 c.823 §137; 1995 c.664 §96]

**426.395 Posting of statement of rights of committed persons.** A simple and clear statement of rights guaranteed to patients committed to the Oregon Health Authority shall be prominently posted in each room frequented by patients in all facilities housing such patients. A copy of the statement shall be given to each patient upon admission and sent, upon request, to the legal counsel, guardian, relative or friend of the patient. The statement shall include the name, address and telephone number of the system described in ORS 192.517 (1). [1973 c.838 §31; 2003 c.14 §238; 2007 c.57 §1; 2009 c.595 §425]

(Licensing of Persons Who May Order Restraint or Seclusion)

**426.415 Licensing of persons who may order and oversee use of restraint and seclusion in facilities providing mental health treatment to individuals under 21 years of age; rules.** (1) The Director of the Oregon Health Authority may adopt rules establishing requirements and procedures for licensing persons who may order, monitor and evaluate the use of restraint and seclusion in facilities providing intensive mental health treatment services to individuals under 21 years of age.

(2) A license may not be issued or renewed under rules adopted under this section unless the person applying for the license or renewal:

(a) Is employed by or providing services under contract with a provider that is certified by the Oregon Health Authority to provide intensive mental health treatment services for individuals under 21 years of age;

(b) Has successfully completed an emergency safety intervention training program approved by the director;

(c) Provides documented evidence of the person’s ability to assess the psychological and physical well-being of individuals under 21 years of age;

(d) Meets other qualifications established by the director by rule for qualified mental health professionals; and

(e) Demonstrates knowledge of federal and state rules governing the use of restraint and seclusion in intensive mental health treatment programs for individuals under 21 years of age.

(3) The rules described in subsection (1) of this section shall:

(a) Specify procedures for issuing and renewing licenses;

(b) Establish a term of licensure;

- (c) Require a person issued a license to satisfy annual training requirements relating to emergency safety intervention procedures;
- (d) Specify grounds for denial, suspension or revocation of a license;
- (e) Set any license or renewal fees the director determines are necessary; and
- (f) Specify any other licensing provisions the director determines are necessary to comply with federal law or regulations or to operate a licensing system described in this section. [2001 c.807 §1; 2009 c.595 §426]

**Note:** 426.415 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 426 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

## **COMMUNITY INTEGRATION OF PERSONS WITH CHRONIC MENTAL ILLNESS**

**426.490 Policy.** It is declared to be the policy and intent of the Legislative Assembly that the State of Oregon shall assist in improving the quality of life of persons with chronic mental illness within this state by ensuring the availability of an appropriate range of residential opportunities and related support services. [1979 c.784 §1; 2007 c.70 §207]

**Note:** 426.490 to 426.500 were enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but were not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 426 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**426.495 Definitions for ORS 426.490 to 426.500; rules.** (1) As used in ORS 426.490 to 426.500, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (a) “Case manager” means a person who works on a continuing basis with a person with a chronic mental illness and is responsible for assuring the continuity of the various services called for in the discharge plan of the person with a chronic mental illness including services for basic personal maintenance, mental and personal treatment, and appropriate education and employment.
- (b) “Discharge plan” means a written plan prepared jointly with the person with a chronic mental illness, mental health staff and case manager prior to discharge, prescribing for the basic and special needs of the person upon release from the hospital.
- (c) “Person with a chronic mental illness” means an individual who is:
  - (A) Eighteen years of age or older; and
  - (B) Diagnosed by a psychiatrist, a licensed clinical psychologist, a licensed independent practitioner as defined in ORS 426.005 or a nonmedical examiner certified by the Oregon Health Authority or the Department of Human Services as having chronic schizophrenia, a chronic major affective disorder, a chronic paranoid disorder or another chronic psychotic mental disorder other than those caused by substance abuse.

(2) For purposes of providing services in the community, the authority may adopt rules consistent with accepted professional practices in the fields of psychology and psychiatry to specify other criteria for determining who is a person with a chronic mental illness. [1979 c.784 §2; 1987 c.903 §35; 2007 c.70 §208; 2009 c.595 §427; 2011 c.720 §164; 2015 c.461 §20]

**Note:** See note under 426.490.

**426.500 Powers and duties of Oregon Health Authority; rules.** For the purpose of carrying out the policy and intent of ORS 426.490 to 426.500, the Oregon Health Authority shall:

- (1) Adopt rules for the administration of ORS 426.490 to 426.500;
- (2) Prepare a written discharge plan for each person with a chronic mental illness who is a patient at a state hospital or who is committed to the authority pursuant to ORS 426.005 to 426.223 and 426.241 to 426.380;
- (3) Ensure that case managers are provided for each person with a chronic mental illness described in subsection (2) of this section; and
- (4) Disburse from any available funds:
  - (a) Funds for one LINC model in the area served by F. H. Dammasch State Hospital and one LINC model in the area served by the Oregon State Hospital licensed under ORS 443.415;
  - (b) Discretionary funds for services necessary to implement a discharge plan, including but not limited to transportation, medication, recreation and socialization; and
  - (c) Funds to provide day treatment services, community psychiatric inpatient services, and work activity services for persons with chronic mental illness when needed. [1979 c.784 §3; 1999 c.59 §121; 2007 c.70 §209; 2009 c.595 §428; 2013 c.360 §67]

**Note:** See note under 426.490.

**426.502 Definitions for ORS 426.502 to 426.508.** As used in ORS 426.502 to 426.508:

- (1) “Authority” means the Oregon Health Authority.
- (2) “Community housing” means property and related equipment that are used or could be used to house persons with chronic mental illness and their care providers. “Community housing” includes single-family housing and multiple-unit residential housing.
- (3) “Construct” means to build, install, assemble, expand, alter, convert, replace or relocate. “Construct” includes to install equipment and to prepare a site.
- (4) “Equipment” means furnishings, fixtures or appliances that are used or could be used to provide care in community housing.
- (5) “Multiple-unit residential housing” means housing that provides two or more living units and spaces for common use by the occupants in social and recreational activities. “Multiple-unit residential housing” may include nonhousing facilities incidental or appurtenant to the housing that, in the determination of the authority, improve the quality of the housing.
- (6) “Person with a chronic mental illness” has the meaning given that term in ORS 426.495.
- (7) “Single-family housing” means a detached living unit with common living room and dining facilities for at least three occupants with chronic mental illness. “Single-family housing” may include nonhousing facilities incidental or appurtenant to the housing that, in the determination of the authority, improve the quality of the housing. [1999 c.983 §2; 2005 c.11 §1; 2007 c.70 §210; 2009 c.595 §429]

**426.504 Power of Oregon Health Authority to develop community housing for persons with chronic mental illness; sale of community housing; conditions.** (1) The Oregon Health Authority may, through contract or otherwise, acquire, purchase, receive, hold, exchange, demolish, construct, lease, maintain, repair, replace, improve and equip community housing for the purpose of housing persons with chronic mental illness.

(2) The authority may dispose of community housing acquired under subsection (1) of this section in a public or private sale, upon such terms and conditions as the authority considers advisable to increase the quality and quantity of community housing available for persons with chronic mental illness. Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, in any instrument conveying fee title to community housing, the

authority shall include language that restricts the use of the community housing to housing for persons with chronic mental illness. Such restriction is not a violation of ORS 93.270.

(3) If the authority determines that community housing acquired under subsection (1) of this section is no longer suitable for use as community housing, the authority may sell or otherwise dispose of the community housing without including in any instrument conveying fee title to the community housing any language that restricts the use of the community housing. Proceeds from the sale or disposition of community housing under this subsection are considered proceeds described in ORS 426.506 (4)(c).

(4) When exercising the power granted to the authority under this section, the authority is not subject to ORS chapter 273 or ORS 270.100 to 270.190, 276.900 to 276.915 or 279A.250 to 279A.290. [1999 c.983 §3; 2003 c.794 §281; 2005 c.11 §2; 2007 c.70 §211; 2009 c.595 §430]

**426.506 Community Mental Health Housing Fund; Community Housing Trust Account; report.** (1) There is created in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund, the Community Mental Health Housing Fund. All earnings on investments of moneys in the Community Mental Health Housing Fund shall accrue to the fund. Interest earned on moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund. All moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority to carry out the provisions of ORS 426.504.

(2) The Community Mental Health Housing Fund shall be administered by the authority to provide housing for persons with chronic mental illness. As used in this subsection, “housing” may include acquisition, maintenance, repair, furnishings and equipment.

(3)(a) There is established within the Community Mental Health Housing Fund a Community Housing Trust Account. With approval of the State Treasurer and upon request of the Director of the Oregon Health Authority, moneys in the account may be invested as provided in ORS 293.701 to 293.857.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 270.150, the authority shall deposit into the Community Housing Trust Account the proceeds, less costs to the state, received by the authority from the sale of F. H. Dammasch State Hospital property under ORS 426.508. The authority may expend, for the purposes set forth in ORS 426.504, any earnings credited to the account, including any interest earned on moneys deposited in the account, and up to five percent of the sale proceeds initially credited to the account by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services. At least 95 percent of the sale proceeds shall remain in the account in perpetuity. Proceeds deposited in the account may not be commingled with proceeds from the sale of any surplus real property owned, operated or controlled by the authority and used as a state training center.

(c) Interest earned on moneys in the Community Housing Trust Account may be expended in the following manner:

(A) Seventy percent of interest earned on deposits in the account shall be expended for community housing purposes; and

(B) Thirty percent of interest earned on deposits in the account shall be expended for institutional housing purposes.

(d) Interest earned on deposits in the Community Housing Trust Account shall not be used to support operating expenses of the authority.

(4) The Community Mental Health Housing Fund shall consist of:

(a) Moneys appropriated to the fund by the Legislative Assembly;

(b) Sale proceeds and earnings from the account under subsection (3) of this section;

(c) Proceeds from the sale, transfer or lease of any surplus real property owned, operated or controlled by the authority and used as community housing;

(d) Moneys reallocated from other areas of the authority’s budget;

(e) Interest and earnings credited to the fund; and

(f) Gifts of money or other property from any source, to be used for the purposes of developing housing for persons with chronic mental illness.

(5) The authority shall adopt policies:

(a) To establish priorities for the use of moneys in the Community Mental Health Housing Fund for the sole purpose of developing housing for persons with chronic mental illness;

(b) To match public and private moneys available from other sources for developing housing for persons with chronic mental illness; and

(c) To administer the fund in a manner that will not exceed the State Treasury's maximum cost per transaction.

(6) The authority shall collaborate with the Housing and Community Services Department to ensure the highest return and best value for community housing from the Community Mental Health Housing Fund.

(7) The authority shall provide a report of revenues to and expenditures from the Community Mental Health Housing Fund as part of its budget submission to the Governor and Legislative Assembly under ORS chapter 291. [1999 c.983 §4; 2001 c.954 §31; 2007 c.70 §212; 2007 c.217 §7; 2009 c.595 §431]

**426.508 Sale of F. H. Dammasch State Hospital; fair market value; redevelopment of property; property reserved for community housing.** (1) Notwithstanding ORS 421.611 to 421.630 or any actions taken under ORS 421.611 to 421.630, the Department of Corrections shall transfer the real property known as the F. H. Dammasch State Hospital and all improvements to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to be sold for the benefit of the Oregon Health Authority.

(2)(a) Notwithstanding ORS 270.100 to 270.190, and except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall sell or otherwise convey the real property known as the F. H. Dammasch State Hospital in a manner consistent with the provisions of this section. Conveyance shall not include transfer to a state agency. The sale price of the real property shall equal or exceed the fair market value of the real property. The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall engage the services of a licensed real estate broker or principal real estate broker to facilitate the sale of the real property.

(b) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall retain from the sale or other conveyance of the real property those costs incurred by the state in selling or conveying the real property, including costs incurred by the Department of Corrections in transferring the real property to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services. The remaining proceeds from the sale or other conveyance shall be transferred to the Community Housing Trust Account created under ORS 426.506 (3).

(3) Redevelopment of the real property formerly occupied by the F. H. Dammasch State Hospital shall be consistent with the Dammasch Area Transportation Efficient Land Use Plan developed by Clackamas County, the City of Wilsonville, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, the Department of Land Conservation and Development, the Department of Transportation, the Oregon Housing Stability Council, the Oregon Health Authority and the Department of State Lands.

(4) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall reserve from the sale of the real property under subsection (2) of this section not more than 10 acres. The real property reserved from sale shall be transferred to the Oregon Health Authority for use by the authority to develop community housing for persons with chronic mental illness. The department and the authority shall jointly coordinate with the City of Wilsonville to identify the real property reserved from sale under this subsection. [1999 c.983 §5; 2001 c.300 §76; 2001 c.900 §253; 2007 c.70 §213; 2009 c.595 §432; 2015 c.180 §47]

## SEXUALLY DANGEROUS PERSONS

**426.510 “Sexually dangerous person” defined.** As used in ORS 426.510 to 426.680, unless the context otherwise requires, “sexually dangerous person” means a person who because of repeated or compulsive acts of misconduct in sexual matters, or because of a qualifying mental disorder, is deemed

likely to continue to perform such acts and be a danger to other persons. [1963 c.467 §1; 1977 c.377 §1; 2017 c.634 §28]

**426.650 Voluntary admission to state institution; rules.** (1) Pursuant to rules promulgated by the Oregon Health Authority, the superintendent of any state hospital for the treatment and care of persons with mental illness may admit and hospitalize therein as a patient any person in need of medical or mental therapeutic treatment as a sexually dangerous person who voluntarily has made written application for such admission. No person under the age of 18 years shall be admitted as a patient to any such state hospital unless an application therefor in behalf of the person has been executed by the parent, adult next of kin or legal guardian of the person. Pursuant to rules and regulations of the authority, no person voluntarily admitted to any state hospital shall be detained therein more than 72 hours after the person, if at least 18 years of age, has given notice in writing of desire to be discharged therefrom, or, if the patient is under the age of 18 years, after notice in writing has been given by the parent, adult next of kin or legal guardian of the person that such parent, adult next of kin or legal guardian desires that such person be discharged therefrom.

(2) Any person voluntarily admitted to a state facility pursuant to this section may upon application and notice to the superintendent of the institution concerned, be granted a temporary leave of absence from the institution if such leave, in the opinion of the chief medical officer, will not interfere with the successful treatment or examination of the applicant. [1963 c.467 §15; 1969 c.391 §8; 1973 c.443 §4; 1973 c.827 §43; 1974 c.36 §11; 2007 c.70 §214; 2009 c.595 §433]

**426.670 Treatment programs for sexually dangerous persons.** The Oregon Health Authority hereby is directed and authorized to establish and operate treatment programs, either separately within an existing state Department of Corrections institution, as part of an existing program within an Oregon Health Authority institution, or in specified and approved sites in the community to receive, treat, study and retain in custody, as required, such sexually dangerous persons as are committed under ORS 426.510 to 426.670. [1963 c.467 §17; 1965 c.481 §1; 1979 c.606 §1; 1987 c.320 §230; 2009 c.595 §434]

**426.675 Determination of sexually dangerous persons; custody pending sentencing; hearing; sentencing; rules.** (1) When a defendant has been convicted of a sexual offense under ORS 163.305 to 163.467 or 163.525 and there is probable cause to believe the defendant is a sexually dangerous person, the court prior to imposing sentence may continue the time for sentencing and commit the defendant to a facility designated under ORS 426.670 for a period not to exceed 30 days for evaluation and report.

(2) If the facility reports to the court that the defendant is a sexually dangerous person and that treatment available may reduce the risk of future sexual offenses, the court shall hold a hearing to determine by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant is a sexually dangerous person. The state and the defendant shall have the right to call and cross-examine witnesses at such hearing. The defendant may waive the hearing required by this subsection.

(3) If the court finds that the defendant is a sexually dangerous person and that treatment is available which will reduce the risk of future sexual offenses, it may, in its discretion at the time of sentencing:

(a) Sentence the defendant to probation on the condition that the person participate in and successfully complete a treatment program for sexually dangerous persons pursuant to ORS 426.670;

(b) Impose a sentence of imprisonment with the order that the defendant be assigned by the Director of the Department of Corrections to participate in a treatment program for sexually dangerous persons pursuant to ORS 426.670. The Department of Corrections and the Oregon Health Authority shall jointly adopt administrative rules to coordinate assignment and treatment of prisoners under this subsection; or

(c) Impose any other sentence authorized by law. [1977 c.377 §3; 1979 c.606 §2; 1987 c.320 §231; 1993 c.14 §24; 2009 c.595 §435]

**426.680 Trial visits for probationer.** (1) The superintendent of the facility designated under ORS 426.670 to receive commitments for medical or mental therapeutic treatment of sexually dangerous persons may grant a trial visit to a defendant committed as a condition of probation where:

- (a) The trial visit is not inconsistent with the terms and conditions of probation; and
- (b) The trial visit is agreed to by the community mental health program director for the county in which the person would reside.

(2) Trial visit here shall correspond to trial visit as described in ORS 426.273 to 426.292 and 426.335, except that the length of a trial visit may be for the duration of the period of probation, subject to the consent of the sentencing court. [1973 c.443 §7; 1977 c.377 §4; 1985 c.242 §7; 2009 c.595 §436]

## **EXTREMELY DANGEROUS PERSONS WITH QUALIFYING MENTAL DISORDER**

**426.701 Commitment of “extremely dangerous” person with qualifying mental disorder; requirements for conditional release; rules.** (1) For the purposes of this section and ORS 426.702:

- (a) A person is “extremely dangerous” if the person:
  - (A) Is at least 18 years of age;
  - (B) Is exhibiting symptoms or behaviors of a qualifying mental disorder substantially similar to those that preceded the act described in subsection (3)(a)(C) of this section; and
  - (C) Because of a qualifying mental disorder:
    - (i) Presents a serious danger to the safety of other persons by reason of an extreme risk that the person will inflict grave or potentially lethal physical injury on other persons; and
    - (ii) Unless committed, will continue to represent an extreme risk to the safety of other persons in the foreseeable future.
- (b) “Qualifying mental disorder” does not include:
  - (A) A disorder manifested solely by repeated criminal or otherwise antisocial conduct; or
  - (B) A disorder constituting solely a personality disorder.
- (c) A qualifying mental disorder is “resistant to treatment” if, after receiving care from a licensed psychiatrist and exhausting all reasonable psychiatric treatment, or after refusing psychiatric treatment, the person continues to be significantly impaired in the person’s ability to make competent decisions and to be aware of and control extremely dangerous behavior.

(2)(a) A district attorney may petition the court to initiate commitment proceedings described in this section if there is reason to believe a person is an extremely dangerous person with mental illness. Venue is proper in the county in which the person is alleged to have committed the qualifying act or the county in which the person lives. The petition shall immediately be served upon the person.

(b) If a person is committed to a state hospital under ORS 161.365 or 161.370 and the state hospital intends to discharge the person, the district attorney may provide notice to the superintendent of the state hospital indicating an intent to file a petition under this section. Upon receipt of the notice, the superintendent may delay discharge of the person for up to seven judicial days to allow for the petition to be filed and for the court to make findings under paragraph (f) of this subsection.

- (c) The person shall be advised in writing of:
  - (A) The allegation that the person is an extremely dangerous person with mental illness and may be committed to the jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board for a maximum period of 24 months; and
  - (B) The right to a hearing to determine whether the person is an extremely dangerous person with mental illness, unless the person consents to the commitment by waiving the right to a hearing in writing after consultation with legal counsel.

(d) A person against whom a petition described in this subsection is filed shall have the following:

- (A) The right to obtain suitable legal counsel possessing skills and experience commensurate with the nature of the allegations and complexity of the case and, if the person is without funds to retain legal counsel, the right to have the court appoint legal counsel;
- (B) The right to subpoena witnesses and to offer evidence on behalf of the person at the hearing;
- (C) The right to cross-examine any witnesses who appear at the hearing; and
- (D) The right to examine all reports, documents and information that the court considers, including the right to examine the reports, documents and information prior to the hearing, if available.

(e) Upon receipt of the petition, the court shall schedule a hearing and shall appoint an examiner as described in ORS 426.110 to evaluate the person. If the person is in custody or committed while the hearing is pending, the hearing must commence within 30 days of filing the petition unless good cause is found by the court. If the court finds good cause, the hearing must commence no later than 60 days after the filing of the petition or, if the district attorney provided notice under paragraph (b) of this subsection, the date of the notice, whichever occurs first. As used in this paragraph, “good cause” means:

(A) The person who would be considered the victim of the act described in subsection (3)(a)(C) of this section if the act were criminally prosecuted, or an essential witness for either the state or the person, is unable to testify within the 30-day period.

(B) The attorney for the person cannot reasonably be expected to participate in the hearing within the 30-day period, cannot be adequately prepared to represent the person at the hearing within the 30-day period, or has a schedule conflict that cannot be resolved in a manner that allows the attorney to represent the person at a hearing within the 30-day period.

(C) An examiner cannot be appointed to conduct the examination, or conduct the examination and prepare a report, within the 30-day period.

(D) If a guardian ad litem is appointed on the case, the guardian ad litem cannot be prepared for a hearing within the 30-day period.

(f)(A) The court may order that the person be committed to the custody of the superintendent of a state hospital or the director of a secure mental health facility while the petition is pending if the court finds probable cause that:

- (i) The person is at least 18 years of age;
- (ii) The person has a qualifying mental disorder that is resistant to treatment;
- (iii) The person committed an act described in subsection (3)(a)(C) of this section; and
- (iv) Failure to commit the person while the hearing is pending would pose serious harm or danger to the person or others.

(B) If a person committed under this paragraph is held in a secure facility other than a state hospital or secure mental health facility, including but not limited to a jail or prison, at the time the petition is filed, the court may further order that the person remain at that placement for sufficient time to allow the superintendent or director to safely admit the person. Any order of the court concerning the placement of a person under this subparagraph must be in accordance with the person’s constitutional right to due process. If the person remains in a secure facility under this subparagraph, the superintendent, director or designee may consult with the facility to ensure continuity of care for the person.

(C) Commitment to the custody of the superintendent of a state hospital or the director of a secure mental health facility under this paragraph may not exceed 60 days. If the hearing does not occur within 60 days, if the district attorney dismisses the petition, or if the court holds the hearing but does not commit the person, the person shall be returned to the county in which the petition was filed and the court shall hold a disposition hearing within five judicial days to determine how to proceed on the petition and any outstanding criminal charges. A person who is returned to a secure facility other than a state hospital or secure mental health facility, including but not limited to a jail or prison, under this paragraph may remain at the placement until the disposition hearing.



(g) If the hearing is not commenced within the time period required by paragraph (e) of this subsection, the court shall either dismiss the petition or release the person on personal recognizance, to the custody of a third party or upon any additional reasonable terms and conditions the court deems appropriate.

(3)(a) At the hearing on the petition, the court shall order the person committed as an extremely dangerous person with mental illness under the jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board for a maximum of 24 months if the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that:

(A) The person is extremely dangerous;

(B) The person suffers from a qualifying mental disorder that is resistant to treatment; and

(C) Because of the qualifying mental disorder that is resistant to treatment, the person committed one of the following acts:

(i) Caused the death of another person;

(ii) Caused serious physical injury to another person by means of a dangerous weapon;

(iii) Caused physical injury to another person by means of a firearm as defined in ORS 166.210 or an explosive as defined in ORS 164.055;

(iv) Engaged in oral-genital contact with a child under 14 years of age;

(v) Forcibly compelled sexual intercourse, oral-genital contact or the penetration of another person's anus or vagina; or

(vi) Caused a fire or explosion that damaged the protected property of another, as those terms are defined in ORS 164.305, or placed another person in danger of physical injury, and the fire or explosion was not the incidental result of normal and usual daily activities.

(b) The court shall further commit the person to a state hospital for custody, care and treatment if the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that the person cannot be controlled in the community with proper care, medication, supervision and treatment on conditional release.

(c) The court shall specify in the order whether any person who would be considered a victim as defined in ORS 131.007 of the act described in paragraph (a)(C) of this subsection, if the act had been criminally prosecuted, requests notification of any order or hearing, conditional release, discharge or escape of the person committed under this section.

(d) The court shall be fully advised of all drugs and other treatment known to have been administered to the alleged extremely dangerous person with mental illness that may substantially affect the ability of the person to prepare for, or to function effectively at, the hearing.

(e) The provisions of ORS 40.230, 40.235, 40.240, 40.250 and 179.505 do not apply to the use of the examiner's report and the court may consider the report as evidence.

(4) The findings of the court that a person committed an act described in subsection (3)(a)(C) of this section may not be admitted in a criminal prosecution.

(5)(a) If the court commits a person under this section and the person has pending criminal charges at the time of the hearing, the court shall dismiss the criminal charges without prejudice, and if the person is further committed to a state hospital under this section, the dismissal shall not take effect until the person's transportation to the state hospital.

(b) If the court commits a person to the state hospital under this section and:

(A) The person is in a setting other than a state hospital, the court may additionally order that the person remain in that placement until the person can be safely transported to a state hospital pursuant to the order. Any order of the court concerning the placement of the person under this subparagraph must be in accordance with the person's constitutional right to due process.

(B) The person is at a state hospital at the time of the hearing, the person may remain at the state hospital under the commitment.

(c) A person committed under this section shall remain under the jurisdiction of the board for a maximum of 24 months unless the board conducts a hearing and makes the findings described in subsection (6)(d) of this section.

(6)(a) The board shall hold a hearing six months after the initial commitment described in subsection (3) of this section, and thereafter six months after a further commitment described in ORS 426.702, to determine the placement of the person and whether the person is eligible for conditional release or early discharge. The board shall provide written notice of the hearing to the person, the person's legal counsel and the office of the district attorney who filed the initial petition under subsection (2) of this section within a reasonable time prior to the hearing. The board shall further notify the person of the following:

- (A) The nature of the hearing and possible outcomes;
- (B) The right to appear at the hearing and present evidence;
- (C) The right to be represented by legal counsel and, if the person is without funds to retain legal counsel, the right to have the court appoint legal counsel;
- (D) The right to subpoena witnesses;
- (E) The right to cross-examine witnesses who appear at the hearing; and
- (F) The right to examine all reports, documents and information that the board considers, including the right to examine the reports, documents and information prior to the hearing if available.

(b) If the board determines at the hearing that the person still suffers from a qualifying mental disorder that is resistant to treatment and continues to be extremely dangerous, and that the person cannot be controlled in the community with proper care, medication, supervision and treatment if conditionally released, the person shall remain committed to a state hospital.

(c) If the board determines at the hearing that the person still suffers from a qualifying mental disorder that is resistant to treatment and continues to be extremely dangerous, but finds that the person can be controlled in the community with proper care, medication, supervision and treatment if conditionally released, the board shall conditionally release the person.

(d) If the board determines at the hearing that the person no longer suffers from a qualifying mental disorder that is resistant to treatment or is no longer extremely dangerous, the board shall discharge the person. The discharge of a person committed under this section does not preclude commitment of the person pursuant to ORS 426.005 to 426.390.

(7)(a) At any time during the commitment to a state hospital, the superintendent of the state hospital may request a hearing to determine the status of the person's commitment under the jurisdiction of the board. The request shall be accompanied by a report setting forth the facts supporting the request. If the request is for conditional release, the request shall be accompanied by a verified conditional release plan. The hearing shall be conducted as described in subsection (6) of this section.

(b) The board may make the findings described in subsection (6)(c) of this section and conditionally release the person without a hearing if the office of the district attorney who filed the initial petition under subsection (2) of this section does not object to the conditional release.

(c) At any time during conditional release, a state or local mental health facility providing treatment to the person may request a hearing to determine the status of the person's commitment under the jurisdiction of the board. The hearing shall be conducted as described in subsection (6) of this section.

(8)(a) If the board orders the conditional release of a person under subsection (6)(c) of this section, the board shall order conditions of release that may include a requirement to report to any state or local mental health facility for evaluation. The board may further require cooperation with, and acceptance of, psychiatric or psychological treatment from the facility. Conditions of release may be modified by the board from time to time.

(b) When a person is referred to a state or local mental health facility for an evaluation under this subsection, the facility shall perform the evaluation and submit a written report of its findings to the board. If the facility finds that treatment of the person is appropriate, the facility shall include its recommendations for treatment in the report to the board.

(c) Whenever treatment is provided to the person by a state or local mental health facility under this subsection, the facility shall furnish reports to the board on a regular basis concerning the progress of the person.

(d) Copies of all reports submitted to the board pursuant to this subsection shall be furnished to the person and to the person's legal counsel, if applicable. The confidentiality of these reports is determined pursuant to ORS 192.338, 192.345 and 192.355.

(e) The state or local mental health facility providing treatment to the person under this subsection shall comply with the conditional release order and any modifications of the conditions ordered by the board.

(9)(a) If at any time while the person is conditionally released it appears that the person has violated the terms of the conditional release, the board may order the person returned to a state hospital for evaluation or treatment. A written order of the board is sufficient warrant for any law enforcement officer to take the person into custody. A sheriff, municipal police officer, parole or probation officer or other peace officer shall execute the order, and the person shall be returned to the state hospital as soon as practicable.

(b) The director of a state or local mental health facility providing treatment to a person under subsection (8) of this section may request that the board issue a written order for a person on conditional release to be taken into custody if there is reason to believe that the person can no longer be controlled in the community with proper care, medication, supervision and treatment.

(c) Within 30 days following the return of the person to a state hospital, the board shall conduct a hearing to determine if, by a preponderance of the evidence, the person is no longer fit for conditional release. The board shall provide written notice of the hearing to the person, the person's legal counsel and the office of the district attorney who filed the initial petition under subsection (2) of this section within a reasonable time prior to the hearing. The notice shall advise the person of the nature of the hearing, the right to have the court appoint legal counsel and the right to subpoena witnesses, examine documents considered by the board and cross-examine all witnesses who appear at the hearing.

(10)(a) If the person had unadjudicated criminal charges at the time of the filing of the petition for the person's initial commitment under this section and the state hospital or the state or local mental health facility providing treatment to the person intends to recommend discharge of the person at an upcoming hearing, the superintendent of the state hospital or the director of the facility shall provide written notice to the board and the district attorney of the county where the criminal charges were initiated of the discharge recommendation at least 45 days before the hearing. The notice shall be accompanied by a report describing the person's diagnosis and the treatment the person has received.

(b) Upon receiving the notice described in this subsection, the district attorney may request an order from the court in the county where the criminal charges were initiated for an evaluation to determine if the person is fit to proceed in the criminal proceeding. The court may order the state hospital or the state or local mental health facility providing treatment to the person to perform the evaluation. The hospital or facility shall provide copies of the evaluation to the district attorney, the person and the person's legal counsel, if applicable.

(c) The person committed under this section may not waive an evaluation ordered by the court to determine if the person is fit to proceed with the criminal proceeding as described in this subsection.

(11) The board shall make reasonable efforts to notify any person described in subsection (3)(c) of this section of any order or hearing, conditional release, discharge or escape of the person committed under this section.

(12) Unless the court orders otherwise or either party objects, any party or witness may attend a hearing held under this section via simultaneous electronic transmission.

(13) The board shall adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this section and ORS 426.702.

(14) Any time limitation described in ORS 131.125 to 131.155 does not run during a commitment described in this section or a further commitment described in ORS 426.702. [2013 c.715 §2; 2013 c.715 §13; 2021 c.482 §1]

**426.702 Discharge from commitment of extremely dangerous person with qualifying mental disorder; requirements for further commitment; protest and hearing.** (1)(a) At the end of the 24-month period of commitment described in ORS 426.701, any person who remains committed under the jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board shall be discharged, unless the board certifies to the court in the county in which the person was originally committed that the person is still extremely dangerous and suffers from a qualifying mental disorder that is resistant to treatment. The board, pursuant to its rules, may delegate to the superintendent of the state hospital or the director of the state or local mental health facility providing treatment to the person the responsibility for making the certification. If the certification is made, the person will not be released.

(b) The board may additionally certify that the person cannot be controlled in the community with proper care, medication, supervision and treatment on conditional release and must be committed to a state hospital. The board, pursuant to its rules, may delegate to the superintendent of the state hospital or the director of the state or local mental health facility providing treatment to the person the responsibility for making the additional certification.

(2) The certification shall immediately be served upon the person by the superintendent of the state hospital or the director of the state or local mental health facility providing treatment to the person. The superintendent or director shall inform the court in writing that service has been made and the date thereof.

(3) The certification shall advise the person of all the following:

(a) That the board, hospital or facility has requested that commitment be continued for an additional 24 months.

(b) That the person may protest this further commitment within 14 days, and that, if the person does not protest, the commitment will be continued for a maximum of 24 months.

(c) That the person may consult with legal counsel when deciding whether to protest the further commitment and that legal counsel will be provided for the person without cost if the person is without funds to retain legal counsel.

(d) That the person may protest a further period of commitment either orally or in writing by signing the form accompanying the certification.

(e) That if the person does protest a further period of commitment, the person is entitled to a hearing before the court to determine whether commitment should be continued.

(f) That the person is entitled to have a psychologist or psychiatrist, other than a member of the staff at the facility where the person is being treated, examine the person and report to the court the results of the examination at the hearing.

(g) That the person may subpoena witnesses and offer evidence on behalf of the person at the hearing.

(h) That if the person is without funds to retain legal counsel or an examining psychologist or psychiatrist for the hearing, the court will appoint legal counsel or an examining psychologist or psychiatrist.

(4) The person serving the certification shall read and deliver the certification to the person and ask whether the person protests a further period of commitment. The person may protest a further period of commitment and request a hearing either orally or by signing a simple protest form to be given to the person with the certification. If the person does not protest a further period of commitment within 14 days of service of the certification, the board, hospital or facility shall so notify the court, and the court shall, without further hearing, order the commitment of the person to the jurisdiction of the board for a maximum of 24 months. The court shall further order that the person be committed to a state hospital if a certification under subsection (1)(b) of this section has been made.

(5) When the person protests a further period of commitment and requests a hearing, the board, hospital or facility shall immediately notify the court, and the court shall have the person brought before it and shall again advise the person that the board, hospital or facility has requested that commitment be continued for an additional period of time and that if the person does not protest this commitment the

commitment will be continued for a maximum of 24 months. The person shall also be informed of the rights set forth in subsection (3) of this section.

(6) If the person requests a hearing under subsections (4) and (5) of this section, the following provisions apply as described:

(a) The hearing shall be conducted as promptly as possible, but no more than 60 days from the date of the protest and request for a hearing, and at a time and place as the court may direct. Venue for the hearing is proper in the county in which the person was originally committed.

(b) While the hearing is pending, the person remains under the jurisdiction of the board and the person's placement may continue.

(c) If the person requests a continuance in order to prepare for the hearing or to obtain legal counsel to represent the person, the court may grant postponement and order the continued detention of the person during postponement for an additional 30 days.

(d) The person has the right to representation by or appointment of legal counsel subject to ORS 135.055, 151.216 and 151.219.

(e) If the person requests an examination by a psychologist or psychiatrist and is without funds to retain a psychologist or psychiatrist for purposes of the examination, the court shall appoint a psychologist or psychiatrist, other than a member of the staff from the facility where the person is being treated, to examine the person at no expense to the person and to report to the court the results of the examination.

(f) The provisions of ORS 40.230, 40.235, 40.240, 40.250 and 179.505 do not apply to the use of medical records from the current period of commitment or to testimony related to such records or period of commitment in connection with hearings under this section. The court may consider as evidence such reports and testimony.

(g) Unless the court orders otherwise or either party objects, any party or witness may attend the hearing via simultaneous electronic transmission.

(h) The court shall then conduct a hearing. The court may take judicial notice of the findings regarding the act described in ORS 426.701 (3)(a)(C) made by the court at the initial commitment. If, after hearing the evidence and reviewing the recommendations of the board and the state hospital or the state or local mental health facility providing treatment to the person, in the opinion of the court the person is still extremely dangerous and suffering from a qualifying mental disorder that is resistant to treatment by clear and convincing evidence, the court may order commitment to the jurisdiction of the board for an additional maximum of 24 months. The court shall further commit the person to a state hospital for custody, care and treatment if the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that the person cannot be controlled in the community with proper care, medication, supervision and treatment on conditional release.

(i) At the end of the 24-month period, the person shall be discharged unless the board, hospital or facility again certifies to the committing court that the person is still an extremely dangerous person with mental illness and in need of further treatment, in which event the procedures set forth in this section shall be followed. [2013 c.715 §3; 2013 c.715 §14; 2021 c.482 §2]

## **ABUSE REPORTING FOR ADULTS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS OR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, ORS 430.731 – 430.768**

**430.731 Uniform investigation procedures; rules.** (1) The Department of Human Services or a designee of the department shall conduct the investigations and make the findings required by ORS 430.735 to 430.765.

(2) The department shall prescribe by rule policies and procedures for the investigations of allegations of abuse of a person with a developmental disability as described in ORS 430.735 (2)(a) to ensure that the investigations are conducted in a uniform, objective and thorough manner in every county of the state including, but not limited to, policies and procedures that:

- (a) Limit the duties of investigators solely to conducting and reporting investigations of abuse;
- (b) Establish investigator caseloads based upon the most appropriate investigator-to-complaint ratios;
- (c) Establish minimum qualifications for investigators that include the successful completion of training in identified competencies; and
- (d) Establish procedures for the screening and investigation of abuse complaints and establish uniform standards for reporting the results of the investigation.

(3) A person employed by or under contract with the department, the designee of the department or a community developmental disabilities program to provide case management services may not serve as the lead investigator of an allegation of abuse of a person with a developmental disability.

(4) The department shall monitor investigations conducted by a designee of the department. [2009 c.837 §7; 2009 c.828 §82]

**Note:** 430.731 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 430 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

### **430.735 Definitions for ORS 430.735 to 430.765.** As used in ORS 430.735 to 430.765:

- (1) “Abuse” means one or more of the following:
  - (a) Abandonment, including desertion or willful forsaking of an adult or the withdrawal or neglect of duties and obligations owed an adult by a caregiver or other person.
  - (b) Any physical injury to an adult caused by other than accidental means, or that appears to be at variance with the explanation given of the injury.
  - (c) Willful infliction of physical pain or injury upon an adult.
  - (d) Sexual abuse.
  - (e) Neglect.
  - (f) Verbal abuse of an adult.
  - (g) Financial exploitation of an adult.
  - (h) Involuntary seclusion of an adult for the convenience of the caregiver or to discipline the adult.
  - (i) A wrongful use of a physical or chemical restraint upon an adult, excluding an act of restraint prescribed by a physician licensed under ORS chapter 677, physician assistant licensed under ORS 677.505 to 677.525, naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685 or nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390 and any treatment activities that are consistent with an approved treatment plan or in connection with a court order.
  - (j) An act that constitutes a crime under ORS 163.375, 163.405, 163.411, 163.415, 163.425, 163.427, 163.465 or 163.467.
  - (k) Any death of an adult caused by other than accidental or natural means.
  - (L) The restraint or seclusion of an adult with a developmental disability in violation of ORS 339.288, 339.291 or 339.308.

(m) The infliction of corporal punishment on an adult with a developmental disability in violation of ORS 339.250 (9).

(2) “Adult” means a person 18 years of age or older:

(a) With a developmental disability who is currently receiving services from a community program or facility or who was previously determined eligible for services as an adult by a community program or facility;

(b) With a severe and persistent mental illness who is receiving mental health treatment from a community program; or

(c) Who is receiving services for a substance use disorder or a mental illness in a facility or a state hospital.

(3) “Adult protective services” means the necessary actions taken to prevent abuse or exploitation of an adult, to prevent self-destructive acts and to safeguard the adult’s person, property and funds, including petitioning for a protective order as defined in ORS 125.005. Any actions taken to protect an adult shall be undertaken in a manner that is least intrusive to the adult and provides for the greatest degree of independence.

(4) “Caregiver” means an individual, whether paid or unpaid, or a facility that has assumed responsibility for all or a portion of the care of an adult as a result of a contract or agreement.

(5) “Community program” includes:

(a) A community mental health program or a community developmental disabilities program as established in ORS 430.610 to 430.695; or

(b) A provider that is paid directly or indirectly by the Oregon Health Authority to provide mental health treatment in the community.

(6) “Facility” means a residential treatment home or facility, residential care facility, adult foster home, residential training home or facility or crisis respite facility.

(7) “Financial exploitation” means:

(a) Wrongfully taking the assets, funds or property belonging to or intended for the use of an adult.

(b) Alarming an adult by conveying a threat to wrongfully take or appropriate money or property of the adult if the adult would reasonably believe that the threat conveyed would be carried out.

(c) Misappropriating, misusing or transferring without authorization any money from any account held jointly or singly by an adult.

(d) Failing to use the income or assets of an adult effectively for the support and maintenance of the adult.

(8) “Intimidation” means compelling or deterring conduct by threat.

(9) “Law enforcement agency” means:

(a) Any city or municipal police department;

(b) A police department established by a university under ORS 352.121 or 353.125;

(c) Any county sheriff’s office;

(d) The Oregon State Police; or

(e) Any district attorney.

(10) “Neglect” means:

(a) Failure to provide the care, supervision or services necessary to maintain the physical and mental health of an adult that may result in physical harm or significant emotional harm to the adult;

(b) Failure of a caregiver to make a reasonable effort to protect an adult from abuse; or

(c) Withholding of services necessary to maintain the health and well-being of an adult that leads to physical harm of the adult.

(11) “Public or private official” means:

(a) Physician licensed under ORS chapter 677, physician assistant licensed under ORS 677.505 to 677.525, naturopathic physician, psychologist or chiropractor, including any intern or resident;

- (b) Licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse's aide, home health aide or employee of an in-home health service;
- (c) Employee of the Department of Human Services or Oregon Health Authority, local health department, community mental health program or community developmental disabilities program or private agency contracting with a public body to provide any community mental health service;
- (d) Peace officer;
- (e) Member of the clergy;
- (f) Regulated social worker;
- (g) Physical, speech or occupational therapist;
- (h) Information and referral, outreach or crisis worker;
- (i) Attorney;
- (j) Licensed professional counselor or licensed marriage and family therapist;
- (k) Any public official;
- (L) Firefighter or emergency medical services provider;
- (m) Elected official of a branch of government of this state or a state agency, board, commission or department of a branch of government of this state or of a city, county or other political subdivision in this state;
- (n) Personal support worker, as defined in ORS 410.600;
- (o) Home care worker, as defined in ORS 410.600; or
- (p) Individual paid by the Department of Human Services to provide a service identified in an individualized service plan of an adult with a developmental disability.

(12) "Services" includes but is not limited to the provision of food, clothing, medicine, housing, medical services, assistance with bathing or personal hygiene or any other service essential to the well-being of an adult.

(13)(a) "Sexual abuse" means:

- (A) Sexual contact with a nonconsenting adult or with an adult considered incapable of consenting to a sexual act under ORS 163.315;
- (B) Sexual harassment, sexual exploitation or inappropriate exposure to sexually explicit material or language;
- (C) Any sexual contact between an employee of a facility or paid caregiver and an adult served by the facility or caregiver;
- (D) Any sexual contact between an adult and a relative of the adult other than a spouse;
- (E) Any sexual contact that is achieved through force, trickery, threat or coercion; or
- (F) Any sexual contact between an individual receiving mental health or substance abuse treatment and the individual providing the mental health or substance abuse treatment.

(b) "Sexual abuse" does not mean consensual sexual contact between an adult and a paid caregiver who is the spouse of the adult.

(14) "Sexual contact" has the meaning given that term in ORS 163.305.

(15) "Verbal abuse" means to threaten significant physical or emotional harm to an adult through the use of:

- (a) Derogatory or inappropriate names, insults, verbal assaults, profanity or ridicule; or
- (b) Harassment, coercion, threats, intimidation, humiliation, mental cruelty or inappropriate sexual comments. [1991 c.744 §2; 1999 c.463 §7; 2003 c.443 §4; 2007 c.21 §2; 2007 c.70 §236; 2007 c.492 §2; 2009 c.442 §39; 2009 c.595 §524; 2009 c.837 §15; 2011 c.506 §41; 2011 c.703 §35; 2013 c.129 §27; 2013 c.180 §45; 2014 c.45 §48; 2015 c.179 §3; 2015 c.736 §69; 2017 c.17 §38; 2017 c.356 §58; 2018 c.75 §22; 2018 c.77 §2; 2019 c.455 §§5,6; 2021 c.97 §49; 2021 c.251 §3; 2023 c.169 §1]



**Note:** 430.735 to 430.765 were enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but were not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 430 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**430.737 Mandatory reports and investigations.** The Legislative Assembly finds that for the purpose of preventing abuse and safeguarding and enhancing the welfare of adults with mental illness or developmental disabilities, it is necessary and in the public interest to require mandatory reports and thorough and unbiased investigations of adults with mental illness or developmental disabilities who are allegedly abused. [1991 c.744 §1; 2003 c.443 §1; 2007 c.70 §237]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.738 Privileges not applicable to abuse proceedings.** (1) In the case of abuse of an adult, the privileges created in ORS 40.230 to 40.255, including the psychotherapist-patient privilege, the physician-patient privilege, the privileges extended to nurses, to staff members of schools and to regulated social workers and the spousal privilege, shall not be a ground for excluding evidence regarding an adult's abuse, or the cause thereof, in any judicial proceeding resulting from a report made pursuant to ORS 430.735 to 430.765.

(2) In any judicial proceedings resulting from a report made pursuant to ORS 430.735 to 430.765, either spouse shall be a competent and compellable witness against the other.

(3) As used in this section, "abuse" and "adult" have the meanings given those terms in ORS 430.735. [2021 c.323 §2]

**430.739 County multidisciplinary teams; protocols; reports.** (1) The district attorney in each county shall be responsible for developing county multidisciplinary teams to consist of but not be limited to personnel from the community mental health program, the community developmental disabilities program, the Department of Human Services or a designee of the department, the Oregon Health Authority or a designee of the authority, the local area agency on aging, the district attorney's office, law enforcement and an agency that advocates on behalf of individuals with disabilities, as well as others specially trained in the abuse of adults. A district attorney may delegate the responsibility to develop a county multidisciplinary team under this subsection to a designee or administrator who is or will be a member of the team pursuant to a written agreement.

(2) The teams shall develop a written protocol for immediate investigation of and notification procedures for cases of abuse of adults and for interviewing the victims. Each team also shall develop written agreements signed by member agencies that are represented on the team that specify:

- (a) The role of each member agency;
- (b) Procedures to be followed to assess risks to the adult;
- (c) Guidelines for timely communication between member agencies; and
- (d) Guidelines for completion of responsibilities by member agencies.

(3) Each team member shall have access to training in risk assessment, dynamics of abuse of adults and legally sound interview and investigatory techniques.

(4) All investigations of abuse of adults by the department or its designee or the authority or its designee and by law enforcement shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the protocols and procedures called for in this section.

(5) All information obtained by the team members in the exercise of their duties is confidential.

(6) Each team shall develop and implement procedures for evaluating and reporting compliance of member agencies with the protocols and procedures required under this section.

(7) Each team shall report to the Department of Justice and the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, no later than July 1 of each year, the number of:

- (a) Substantiated allegations of abuse of adults in the county for the preceding calendar year.
- (b) Substantiated allegations of abuse referred to law enforcement because there was reasonable cause found that a crime had been committed.
- (c) Allegations of abuse that were not investigated by law enforcement.
- (d) Allegations of abuse that led to criminal charges.
- (e) Allegations of abuse that led to prosecution.
- (f) Allegations of abuse that led to conviction. [2009 c.837 §8; 2009 c.828 §83; 2013 c.352 §10]

**Note:** 430.739 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 430 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**430.743 Abuse report; content; action on report; notice to law enforcement agency and Department of Human Services.** (1) When a report is required under ORS 430.765, an oral report shall be made immediately by telephone or otherwise to the Department of Human Services, the designee of the department or a law enforcement agency within the county where the person making the report is at the time of contact. If known, the report shall include:

- (a) The name, age and present location of the allegedly abused adult;
- (b) The names and addresses of persons responsible for the adult's care;
- (c) The nature and extent of the alleged abuse, including any evidence of previous abuse;
- (d) Any information that led the person making the report to suspect that abuse has occurred plus any other information that the person believes might be helpful in establishing the cause of the abuse and the identity of the perpetrator; and
- (e) The date of the incident.

(2) When a report is received by the department's designee under this section, the designee shall immediately determine whether abuse occurred and if the reported victim has sustained any serious injury. If so, the designee shall immediately notify the department. If there is reason to believe a crime has been committed, the designee shall immediately notify the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction within the county where the report was made. If the designee is unable to gain access to the allegedly abused adult, the designee may contact the law enforcement agency for assistance and the agency shall provide assistance. When a report is received by a law enforcement agency, the agency shall immediately notify the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction if the receiving agency does not. The receiving agency shall also immediately notify the department in cases of serious injury or death.

(3) Upon receipt of a report of abuse under this section, the department or its designee shall notify:

- (a) The agency providing primary case management services to the adult; and
- (b) The guardian or case manager of the adult, unless the notification would undermine the integrity of the investigation because the guardian or case manager is suspected of committing abuse. [1991 c.744 §4; 2001 c.900 §141; 2009 c.837 §16; 2021 c.97 §50]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.745 Investigation of abuse; notice to medical examiners; findings; recommendations.** (1) Upon receipt of any report of alleged abuse of an adult, or upon receipt of a report of a death of an adult that may have been caused by other than accidental or natural means, the Department of Human Services or its designee shall investigate promptly to determine if abuse occurred or whether a death was caused by

abuse. If the department or its designee determines that a law enforcement agency is conducting an investigation of the same incident, the department or its designee need not conduct its own investigation.

(2) The department or its designee may enter a facility and inspect and copy records of a facility or community program if necessary for the completion of the investigation.

(3) In cases in which the department, its designee or the law enforcement agency conducting the investigation finds reasonable cause to believe that an adult has died as a result of abuse, it shall report that information to the appropriate medical examiner. The medical examiner shall complete an investigation as required under ORS chapter 146 and report the findings to the department, its designee or the law enforcement agency.

(4) Upon completion of an investigation conducted by a law enforcement agency, that agency shall provide the department or its designee with a report of its findings and supporting evidence.

(5) If the department or its designee determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that abuse occurred at a facility or that abuse was caused or aided by a person licensed by a licensing agency to provide care or services, the department or its designee shall immediately notify each appropriate licensing agency and provide each licensing agency with a copy of its investigative findings.

(6) Upon completion of the investigation, the department or its designee shall prepare written findings that include recommended actions and a determination of whether protective services are needed. The department or its designee shall provide appropriate protective services as necessary to prevent further abuse of the adult. Any protective services provided shall be undertaken in a manner that is least intrusive to the adult and provides for the greatest degree of independence that is available within existing resources.

(7) If the department or its designee determines that there is reason to believe a crime has occurred, the department or its designee shall report the findings to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The law enforcement agency must confirm its receipt of the report to the department or its designee. The agency shall notify the department or its designee of its determination:

(a) That there will be no criminal investigation, including an explanation of why there will be no criminal investigation;

(b) That the findings have been given to the district attorney for review; or

(c) That there will be a criminal investigation.

(8) If a law enforcement agency gives the findings of the department or its designee to the district attorney for review, the district attorney shall notify the department or its designee that the district attorney has received the findings and shall inform the department or its designee whether the findings have been received for review or for filing charges. A district attorney shall make the determination of whether to file charges within six months of receiving the findings of the department or its designee.

(9) If a district attorney files charges stemming from a report from the department or its designee and the district attorney makes a determination not to proceed to trial, the district attorney shall notify the department or its designee of the determination and shall include information explaining the basis for the determination. [1991 c.744 §5; 2009 c.837 §§17,18]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.746 Training requirements for persons investigating reports of alleged abuse.** Any designee of the Department of Human Services who makes a determination or conducts an investigation under ORS 430.743 or 430.745 shall receive training and consultation that is necessary to allow the designee to make the determination or conduct a thorough and unbiased investigation. The training required under this section shall address the cultural and social diversity of the people of this state. [2003 c.443 §3]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.747 Photographs of victim during investigation; exception; photographs as records.** (1) In carrying out its duties under ORS 430.735 to 430.765, a law enforcement agency or the Department of Human Services' designee may photograph or cause to have photographed any victim who is the subject of the investigation for purposes of preserving evidence of the condition of the victim at the time of investigation unless the victim knowingly refuses to be photographed.

(2) For purposes of ORS 430.763, photographs taken under authority of subsection (1) of this section shall be considered case records. [1991 c.744 §6]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.753 Immunity of persons making reports in good faith; confidentiality.** (1) Anyone participating in good faith in making a report of abuse pursuant to ORS 430.743 and 430.765 and who has reasonable grounds for making the report, shall have immunity from any criminal or civil liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the making or content of the report. The participant shall have the same immunity with respect to participating in any judicial proceeding resulting from the report.

(2) The identity of the person making the report shall be treated as confidential information and shall be disclosed only with the consent of that person, by judicial order or as otherwise permitted by ORS 430.763. [1991 c.744 §7; 2015 c.179 §6; 2021 c.97 §51]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.755 Retaliation prohibited; liability for retaliation.** (1) A facility, community program or person shall not retaliate against any person who reports in good faith suspected abuse or against the allegedly abused adult with respect to any report.

(2) Any facility, community program or person that retaliates against any person because of a report of suspected abuse shall be liable in a private action to that person for actual damages and, in addition, a penalty up to \$1,000, notwithstanding any other remedy provided by law.

(3)(a) Any adverse action is evidence of retaliation if taken within 90 days of a report.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, "adverse action" means any action taken by a facility, community program or person involved in a report against the person making the report or against the adult with respect to whom the report was made because of the report, and includes but is not limited to:

(A) Discharge or transfer from the facility, except for clinical reasons;

(B) Discharge from or termination of employment;

(C) Demotion or reduction in remuneration for services; or

(D) Restriction or prohibition of access to the facility or its residents. [1991 c.744 §8; 2003 c.443 §5]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.756 Immunity of employer reporting abuse by employee.** A person who has personal knowledge that an employee or former employee of the person was found by the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency to have committed abuse under ORS 430.735 to 430.765, is immune from civil liability for the disclosure to a prospective employer of the employee or former employee of known facts concerning the abuse. [2009 c.837 §19]

**Note:** 430.756 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 430 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

**430.757 Reports of abuse to be maintained by Department of Human Services.** A proper record of all reports of abuse made under ORS 430.743 and 430.765 (1) and (2) shall be maintained by the Department of Human Services. [1991 c.744 §9] A proper record of all reports of abuse made under ORS 430.743 and 430.765 shall be maintained by the Department of Human Services. [1991 c.744 §9; 2021 c.97 §52]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.763 Confidentiality of records; when record may be made available to agency.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 192.410 to 192.505, the names of persons who made reports of abuse, witnesses of alleged abuse and the affected adults and materials under ORS 430.747 maintained under the provisions of ORS 430.757 are confidential and are not accessible for public inspection. However, the Department of Human Services shall make this information and any investigative report available to any law enforcement agency, to any public agency that licenses or certifies facilities or licenses or certifies the persons practicing therein and to any public agency providing protective services for the adult, if appropriate. The department shall also make this information and any investigative report available to any private agency providing protective services for the adult and to the system described in ORS 192.517 (1). When this information and any investigative report is made available to a private agency, the confidentiality requirements of this section apply to the private agency. [1991 c.744 §10; 2003 c.14 §240; 2005 c.498 §9]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.765 Duty of officials to report abuse; exceptions for privileged communications; exception for religious practice.** (1) Any public or private official who has reasonable cause to believe that any adult with whom the official comes in contact has suffered abuse, or that any person with whom the official comes in contact has abused an adult, shall report or cause a report to be made in the manner required in ORS 430.743.

(2) Nothing contained in ORS 40.225 to 40.295 affects the duty to report imposed by subsection (1) of this section, except that a psychiatrist, psychologist, member of the clergy or attorney may not be required to report such information communicated by a person if the communication is privileged under ORS 40.225 to 40.295.

(3) An adult who in good faith is voluntarily under treatment solely by spiritual means through prayer in accordance with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination by a duly accredited practitioner thereof shall for this reason alone not be considered subjected to abuse under ORS 430.735 to 430.765. [1991 c.744 §§3,11; 2017 c.346 §2; 2021 c.97 §53]

**Note:** See note under 430.735.

**430.768 Claims of self-defense addressed in certain reports of abuse; review teams; rules.** (1)

When the Department of Human Services investigates a report of abuse under ORS 430.735 to 430.765 at a residential training home as defined in ORS 443.400 that is operated by the department or a report of abuse at a state hospital described in ORS 426.010, the department shall address in the written report of its findings whether the person alleged to be responsible for the abuse was acting in self-defense.

(2) The department shall make a finding that the allegation of abuse is unsubstantiated if the department finds that:

(a) The person was acting in self-defense in response to the use or imminent use of physical force;

(b) The amount of force used was reasonably necessary to protect the person from violence or assault; and

(c) The person used the least restrictive procedures necessary under the circumstances in accordance with an approved behavior management plan or other method of response approved by the department by rule.

(3) Notwithstanding ORS 179.505, the department shall disclose to the person alleged to be responsible for the abuse a copy of its findings under subsection (1) of this section if the allegation of abuse is substantiated.

(4) If a person makes a claim of self-defense during an investigation of a report of abuse and the allegation is found to be substantiated, the person may ask the Director of Human Services to review the finding. The director shall appoint a review team to conduct the review and make a recommendation to the director under procedures adopted by the director by rule.

(5) As used in this section, “self-defense” means the use of physical force upon another person in self-defense or to defend a third person. [2005 c.660 §1]

**Note:** 430.768 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 430 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

## **REPORTING OF ANIMAL ABUSE, ORS 609.650 – 609.654**

**609.650 Legislative findings.** The Legislative Assembly finds that:

- (1) There is a clear link between animal cruelty and crimes of domestic violence, including child abuse; and
- (2) It is in the public interest to enact legislation to encourage the permissive reporting of animal cruelty. [2007 c.731 §1]

**609.652 Definitions for ORS 609.654.** As used in ORS 609.654:

- (1)(a) “Aggravated animal abuse” means any animal abuse as described in ORS 167.322.
- (b) “Aggravated animal abuse” does not include:
  - (A) Good animal husbandry, as defined in ORS 167.310; or
  - (B) Any exemption listed in ORS 167.335.
- (2) “Law enforcement agency” means:
  - (a) Any city or municipal police department.
  - (b) A police department established by a university under ORS 352.121 or 353.125.
  - (c) Any county sheriff’s office.
  - (d) The Oregon State Police.
  - (e) A law enforcement division of a county or municipal animal control agency that employs sworn officers.
  - (f) A humane investigation agency as defined in ORS 181A.340 that employs humane special agents commissioned under ORS 181A.340.
- (3) “Public or private official” means:
  - (a) A physician, including any intern or resident.
  - (b) A dentist.
  - (c) A school employee.
  - (d) A licensed practical nurse or registered nurse.
  - (e) An employee of the Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Early Learning and Care, Youth Development Division, the Oregon Youth Authority, a local health department, a community mental health program, a community developmental disabilities program, a county juvenile department, a child-caring agency as defined in ORS 418.205 or an alcohol and drug treatment program.
  - (f) A peace officer.
  - (g) A psychologist.
  - (h) A member of the clergy.
  - (i) A regulated social worker.
  - (j) An optometrist.
  - (k) A chiropractor.
  - (L) A certified provider of foster care, or an employee thereof.
  - (m) An attorney.
  - (n) A naturopathic physician.
  - (o) A licensed professional counselor.
  - (p) A licensed marriage and family therapist.
  - (q) A firefighter or emergency medical services provider.
  - (r) A court appointed special advocate, as defined in ORS 419A.004.
  - (s) A child care provider registered or certified under ORS 329A.250 to 329A.450.

(t) A member of the Legislative Assembly. [2007 c.731 §2; 2009 c.442 §42; 2009 c.595 §990; 2011 c.506 §44; 2011 c.703 §43; 2012 c.37 §66; 2012 c.67 §15; 2013 c.180 §48; 2013 c.623 §20; 2013 c.624 §35; 2015 c.736 §105; 2016 c.106 §54; 2021 c.631 §60; 2022 c.27 §18; 2023 c.554 §55]

**609.654 Public or private official reporting of aggravated animal abuse; immunity. (1)**

Notwithstanding ORS 40.225 to 40.295, a public or private official who has reasonable cause to believe that an animal with which the official has come in contact has suffered aggravated animal abuse, or that any person with whom the official has come in contact has committed aggravated animal abuse, may immediately report the suspected aggravated animal abuse in the manner prescribed in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) A report of suspected aggravated animal abuse authorized under subsection (1) of this section may be made to a law enforcement agency, either orally or in writing, and may include, if known:

- (a) The name and description of each animal involved;
  - (b) The address and telephone number of the owner or other person responsible for the care of the animal;
  - (c) The nature and extent of the suspected abuse;
  - (d) Any evidence of previous aggravated animal abuse;
  - (e) Any explanation given for the suspected abuse; and
  - (f) Any other information that the person making the report believes may be helpful in establishing the cause of the suspected abuse or the identity of the person causing the abuse.
- (3) A public or private official who acts in good faith and has reasonable grounds for making a report of suspected aggravated animal abuse under this section is not liable in any civil or criminal proceeding brought as a result of making the report. [2007 c.731 §3]



## **LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS, ORS 675.825**

(Enforcement)

**675.825 Prohibited practices; exceptions; civil penalty.** (1) A person may not:

- (a) Attempt to obtain or obtain a license or license renewal by bribery or fraudulent representation.
  - (b) Engage in or purport to the public to be engaged in the practice of professional counseling under the title “licensed professional counselor” unless the person is a licensee.
  - (c) Engage in or purport to the public to be engaged in the practice of marriage and family therapy under the title of “licensed marriage and family therapist” unless the person is a licensee.
  - (d) Engage in the practice of professional counseling or marriage and family therapy unless:
    - (A) The person is a licensee, registered associate or graduate student pursuing a graduate degree in counseling or marriage and family therapy; or
    - (B) The person is exempted from the licensing requirements of ORS 675.715 to 675.835 by subsection (3) of this section.
  - (e) Provide counseling or therapy services of a psychotherapeutic nature if the person’s license to practice as a professional counselor or as a marriage and family therapist has been revoked by the Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists because the person engaged in sexual activity with a client.
- (2) A licensed psychologist whose license, or a regulated social worker whose authorization to practice regulated social work, was issued prior to October 1, 1991, may use the title “marriage and family therapist.”
- (3) The licensing requirements of ORS 675.715 to 675.835 do not apply to a person who is:
- (a) Licensed, certified, registered or similarly regulated under the laws of this state and who is performing duties within the authorized scope of practice of the license, certification, registration or regulation.
  - (b) A recognized member of the clergy, provided that the person is acting in the person’s ministerial capacity.
  - (c) Employed by a local, state or federal agency, a public university listed in ORS 352.002 or any agency licensed or certified by the state to provide mental health or health services, if the person’s activities constituting professional counseling or marriage and family therapy are performed within the scope of the person’s employment.
  - (d) Authorized to provide addiction treatment services under rules of the Department of Human Services.
- (4) Nothing in ORS 675.715 to 675.835 limits or prevents the practice of a person’s profession or restricts a person from providing counseling services or services related to marriage and family if the person:

(a) Does not meet the requirements of ORS 675.715 (1)(b); or

(b) Does not practice:

- (A) Marriage and family therapy as defined in ORS 675.705 (6)(a); or
- (B) Professional counseling as defined in ORS 675.705 (7)(a).

(5) Each violation of this section is a separate violation.

(6) The board may levy a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,500 for each separate violation of this section.

[1989 c.721 §18; 1993 c.546 §113; 2009 c.442 §24; 2009 c.549 §9; 2013 c.211 §4; 2019 c.384 §3; 2021 c.677 §12]

## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE, ORS 675.661**

**675.661 Employer to pay supervision costs for certain behavioral health care providers.** A public or private entity that employs mental health care providers who supervise associates, interns or other individuals who must have supervised clinical experience as a condition of licensure as a mental health care provider shall pay all costs incurred by the supervisor in providing supervision and the costs of the individual receiving supervision if the supervisor is:

- (1) A licensed psychologist, as defined in ORS 675.010;
- (2) A clinical social worker licensed under ORS 675.530;
- (3) A master's social worker licensed under ORS 675.533;
- (4) A licensed marriage and family therapist, as defined in ORS 675.705; or
- (5) A licensed professional counselor, as defined in ORS 675.705. [2021 c.677 §6]

## **CONVERSION THERAPY, ORS 675.850**

**675.850 Prohibition on practice of conversion therapy; definitions; discipline.** (1) A mental health care or social health professional may not practice conversion therapy if the recipient of the conversion therapy is under 18 years of age.

(2) As used in this section:

(a)(A) “Conversion therapy” means providing professional services for the purpose of attempting to change a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity, including attempting to change behaviors or expressions of self or to reduce sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same gender.

(B) “Conversion therapy” does not mean:

(i) Counseling that assists a client who is seeking to undergo a gender transition or who is in the process of undergoing a gender transition; or

(ii) Counseling that provides a client with acceptance, support and understanding, or counseling that facilitates a client’s coping, social support and identity exploration or development, including counseling in the form of sexual orientation-neutral or gender identity-neutral interventions provided for the purpose of preventing or addressing unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual practices, as long as the counseling is not provided for the purpose of attempting to change the client’s sexual orientation or gender identity.

(b)(A) “Mental health care or social health professional” means:

(i) A licensed psychologist as defined in ORS 675.010;

(ii) A psychologist associate licensed by the Oregon Board of Psychology before January 1, 2022;

(iii) An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant both as defined in ORS 675.210;

(iv) A regulated social worker as defined in ORS 675.510;

(v) A licensed marriage and family therapist or licensed professional counselor both as defined in ORS 675.705;

(vi) An individual who provides counseling as part of an educational or training program necessary to practice any of the professions described in sub-subparagraphs (i) to (v) of this subparagraph; and

(vii) A behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst licensed under ORS 676.810 or a behavior analysis interventionist registered under ORS 676.815.

(B) “Mental health care or social health professional” includes any individual not described in this paragraph who is licensed in this state and whose license authorizes the individual to provide mental health care or social health counseling services.

(3) Any state board that regulates licensees described in subsection (2)(b)(B) of this section may impose any form of discipline that the board may impose on a licensee under the laws of this state for violating a law of this state or a rule adopted by the board. [2015 c.79 §1; 2021 c.211 §3; 2023 c.500 §10]

**Note:** 675.850 was enacted into law by the Legislative Assembly but was not added to or made a part of ORS chapter 675 or any series therein by legislative action. See Preface to Oregon Revised Statutes for further explanation.

## **HEALTH PROFESSIONS GENERALLY, ORS 676.108 - 676.990**

### USE OF TITLES IMPORTING HEALTH CARE PROFESSION

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#### CULTURAL COMPETENCY CONTINUING EDUCATION

- 676.850 Authority of regulatory boards to require cultural competency continuing education; documentation of participation; rules
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- 676.990 Criminal penalties
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## USE OF TITLES IMPORTING HEALTH CARE PROFESSION

**676.108 Definition of “health professional regulatory board.”** For purposes of ORS 676.110, 676.115, 676.120 and 676.130, “health professional regulatory board” means a health professional regulatory board, as defined in ORS 676.160, the Long Term Care Administrators Board, the Board of Licensed Dietitians and the Behavior Analysis Regulatory Board. [2017 c.101 §15; 2018 c.61 §18]

**676.110 Use of title “doctor.”** (1) An individual practicing a health care profession may not use the title “doctor” in connection with the profession, unless the individual:

(a) Has earned a doctoral degree in the individual’s field of practice; and

(b)(A) Is licensed by a health professional regulatory board to practice the particular health care profession in which the individual’s doctoral degree was earned; or

(B) Is working under a board-approved residency contract and is practicing under the license of a supervisor who is licensed by a health professional regulatory board to practice the particular health care profession in which the individual’s doctoral degree was earned.

(2) If an individual uses the title “doctor” in connection with a health care profession at any time, the individual must designate the health care profession in which the individual’s doctoral degree was earned on all written or printed matter, advertising, billboards, signs or professional notices used in connection with the health care profession, regardless of whether the individual’s name or the title “doctor” appears on the written or printed matter, advertising, billboard, sign or professional notice. The designation must be in letters or print at least one-fourth the size of the largest letters used on the written or printed matter, advertising, billboard, sign or professional notice, and in material, color, type or illumination to give display and legibility of at least one-fourth that of the largest letters used on the written or printed matter, advertising, billboard, sign or professional notice.

(3) Subsection (1) of this section does not prohibit:

(a) A chiropractic physician licensed under ORS chapter 684 from using the title “chiropractic physician”;

(b) A naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685 from using the title “naturopathic physician”;

(c) A person licensed to practice optometry under ORS chapter 683 from using the title “doctor of optometry” or “optometric physician”; or

(d) A physician licensed under ORS 677.805 to 677.840 from using the title “podiatric physician.” [Amended by 1967 c.470 §66; 1983 c.169 §29; 1983 c.486 §1a; 1983 c.769 §1; 1991 c.314 §4; 1995 c.765 §1; 2007 c.418 §1; 2009 c.142 §1; 2011 c.108 §1; 2013 c.129 §35; 2017 c.101 §16]

**676.115 Use of title “nurse.”** An individual may not use the title “nurse” unless the individual:

(1) Has earned a nursing degree or a nursing certificate from a nursing education program that is:

(a) Approved by the Oregon State Board of Nursing; or

(b) Accredited or approved by another state or United States territory as described under ORS 678.040 and approved by the board; and

(2) Is licensed by a health professional regulatory board to practice the particular health care profession in which the individual’s nursing degree or nursing certificate was earned. [2015 c.345 §2; 2017 c.101 §17; 2019 c.358 §19]

**676.120 Use of deceased licensee’s name.** Notwithstanding ORS 676.110 or 676.115, upon the death of any person duly licensed by a health professional regulatory board, the executors of the estate or the heirs, assigns, associates or partners may retain the use of the decedent’s name, where it appears other than as a part of an assumed name, for no more than one year after the death of such person or until the

estate is settled, whichever is sooner. [Amended by 1953 c.137 §2; 1983 c.769 §2; 1991 c.314 §5; 2009 c.142 §2; 2015 c.345 §3; 2017 c.101 §18]

**676.130 Enforcement of ORS 676.110, 676.115 and 676.120.** Each health professional regulatory board shall notify the appropriate district attorney of any violation of ORS 676.110, 676.115 and 676.120 that may be brought to the attention of the board. The district attorney of the county in which a violation of ORS 676.110, 676.115 or 676.120 takes place shall prosecute the violation upon being informed of the violation by a person or by one of the boards. [Amended by 1983 c.769 §3; 2009 c.142 §3; 2015 c.345 §4; 2017 c.101 §19]

## REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

**676.150 Duty to report prohibited or unprofessional conduct, arrests and convictions; investigation; confidentiality; immunity from liability.** (1) As used in this section:

- (a) “Board” means the:
  - (A) State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology;
  - (B) State Board of Chiropractic Examiners;
  - (C) State Board of Licensed Social Workers;
  - (D) Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists;
  - (E) Oregon Board of Dentistry;
  - (F) Board of Licensed Dietitians;
  - (G) State Board of Massage Therapists;
  - (H) Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine;
  - (I) Oregon State Board of Nursing;
  - (J) Long Term Care Administrators Board;
  - (K) Oregon Board of Optometry;
  - (L) State Board of Pharmacy;
  - (M) Oregon Medical Board;
  - (N) Occupational Therapy Licensing Board;
  - (O) Oregon Board of Physical Therapy;
  - (P) Oregon Board of Psychology;
  - (Q) Board of Medical Imaging;
  - (R) State Board of Direct Entry Midwifery;
  - (S) State Board of Denture Technology;
  - (T) Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board;
  - (U) Oregon Health Authority, to the extent that the authority licenses emergency medical services providers;
  - (V) Oregon State Veterinary Medical Examining Board;
  - (W) State Mortuary and Cemetery Board; or
  - (X) Behavior Analysis Regulatory Board.
- (b) “Licensee” means a health professional licensed or certified by or registered with a board.
- (c) “Prohibited conduct” means conduct by a licensee that:
  - (A) Constitutes a criminal act against a patient or client; or
  - (B) Constitutes a criminal act that creates a risk of harm to a patient or client.
- (d) “Unprofessional conduct” means conduct unbecoming a licensee or detrimental to the best interests of the public, including conduct contrary to recognized standards of ethics of the licensee’s profession or conduct that endangers the health, safety or welfare of a patient or client.

(2) Unless state or federal laws relating to confidentiality or the protection of health information prohibit disclosure, a licensee who has reasonable cause to believe that another licensee has engaged in prohibited or unprofessional conduct shall report the conduct to the board responsible for the licensee who is believed to have engaged in the conduct. The reporting licensee shall report the conduct without undue delay, but in no event later than 10 working days after the reporting licensee learns of the conduct.

(3) A licensee who is convicted of a misdemeanor or felony or who is arrested for a felony crime shall report the conviction or arrest to the licensee's board within 10 days after the conviction or arrest.

(4) The board responsible for a licensee who is reported to have engaged in prohibited or unprofessional conduct shall investigate in accordance with the board's rules. If the board has reasonable cause to believe that the licensee has engaged in prohibited conduct, the board shall present the facts to an appropriate law enforcement agency without undue delay, but in no event later than 10 working days after the board finds reasonable cause to believe that the licensee engaged in prohibited conduct.

(5) A licensee who fails to report prohibited or unprofessional conduct as required by subsection (2) of this section or the licensee's conviction or arrest as required by subsection (3) of this section is subject to discipline by the board responsible for the licensee.

(6) A licensee who fails to report prohibited conduct as required by subsection (2) of this section commits a Class A violation.

(7)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a report under subsection (2) or (3) of this section is confidential under ORS 676.175.

(b) A board may disclose a report as provided in ORS 676.177.

(c) If the Health Licensing Office receives a report described in this subsection, the report is confidential and the office may only disclose the report pursuant to ORS 676.595 and 676.599.

(8) Except as part of an application for a license or for renewal of a license and except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a board may not require a licensee to report the licensee's criminal conduct.

(9) The obligations imposed by this section are in addition to and not in lieu of other obligations to report unprofessional conduct as provided by statute.

(10) A licensee who reports to a board in good faith as required by subsection (2) of this section is immune from civil liability for making the report.

(11) A board and the members, employees and contractors of the board are immune from civil liability for actions taken in good faith as a result of a report received under subsection (2) or (3) of this section. [2009 c.536 §1; 2011 c.630 §21; 2011 c.703 §44; 2011 c.715 §19; 2011 c.720 §213; 2017 c.6 §22; 2018 c.61 §19; 2019 c.43 §5; 2019 c.456 §13; 2023 c.500 §11]

## **PROCESSING OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**

**676.160 Definitions for ORS 676.165 to 676.180.** As used in ORS 676.165 to 676.180, "health professional regulatory board" means the:

- (1) State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology;
- (2) State Board of Chiropractic Examiners;
- (3) State Board of Licensed Social Workers;
- (4) Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists;
- (5) Oregon Board of Dentistry;
- (6) State Board of Massage Therapists;
- (7) State Mortuary and Cemetery Board;
- (8) Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine;
- (9) Oregon State Board of Nursing;
- (10) Oregon Board of Optometry;
- (11) State Board of Pharmacy;



- (12) Oregon Medical Board;
- (13) Occupational Therapy Licensing Board;
- (14) Oregon Board of Physical Therapy;
- (15) Oregon Board of Psychology;
- (16) Board of Medical Imaging;
- (17) Oregon State Veterinary Medical Examining Board; and
- (18) Oregon Health Authority, to the extent that the authority licenses emergency medical services providers. [1997 c.791 §1; 1999 c.537 §4; 2001 c.274 §4; 2009 c.43 §9; 2009 c.442 §44; 2009 c.595 §1051; 2009 c.768 §33; 2009 c.833 §25; 2011 c.630 §22; 2011 c.703 §45; 2015 c.674 §7; 2017 c.6 §23; 2017 c.101 §8; 2019 c.43 §6]

**676.165 Complaint investigation.** (1) When a health professional regulatory board receives a complaint by any person against a licensee, applicant or other person alleged to be practicing in violation of law, the board shall assign one or more persons to act as investigator of the complaint.

(2) The investigator shall collect evidence and interview witnesses and shall make a report to the board. The investigator shall have all investigatory powers possessed by the board.

(3) The report to the board shall describe the evidence gathered, the results of witness interviews and any other information considered in preparing the report of the investigator. The investigator shall consider, and include in the report, any disciplinary history with the board of the licensee, applicant or other person alleged to be practicing in violation of law.

(4) The investigator shall make the report to the board not later than 120 days after the board receives the complaint. However, the board may extend the time for making the report by up to 30 days for just cause. The board may grant more than one extension of time.

(5) Investigatory information obtained by an investigator and the report issued by the investigator shall be exempt from public disclosure.

(6) When a health professional regulatory board reviews the investigatory information and report, the public members of the board must be actively involved. [1997 c.791 §5; 2009 c.756 §5; 2013 c.568 §18; 2017 c.101 §9]

**676.170 Immunity of information providers.** A person who reports or supplies information in good faith to a health professional regulatory board or to a committee reporting to a health professional regulatory board shall be immune from an action for civil damages as a result thereof. [1997 c.791 §4]

**676.175 Complaints and investigations confidential; exceptions; fees.** (1) A health professional regulatory board shall keep confidential and not disclose to the public any information obtained by the board as part of an investigation of a licensee or applicant, including complaints concerning licensee or applicant conduct and information permitting the identification of complainants, licensees or applicants. However, the board may disclose information obtained in the course of an investigation of a licensee or applicant to the extent necessary to conduct a full and proper investigation.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, if a health professional regulatory board votes not to issue a notice of intent to impose a disciplinary sanction:

(a) The board shall disclose information obtained as part of an investigation of an applicant or licensee if the person requesting the information demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that the public interest in disclosure outweighs other interests in nondisclosure, including but not limited to the public interest in nondisclosure.

(b) The board may disclose to a complainant a written summary of information obtained as part of an investigation of an applicant or licensee resulting from the complaint to the extent the board determines necessary to explain the reasons for the board's decision. An applicant or licensee may review and obtain

a copy of any written summary of information disclosed to a complainant by the board after the board has deleted any information that could reasonably be used to identify the complainant.

(3) If a health professional regulatory board votes to issue a notice of intent to impose a disciplinary sanction, upon written request by the licensee or applicant, the board shall disclose to the licensee or applicant all information obtained by the board in the investigation of the allegations in the notice except:

(a) Information that is privileged or confidential under a law other than this section.

(b) Information that would permit the identification of any person who provided information that led to the filing of the notice and who will not provide testimony at a hearing arising out of the investigation.

(c) Information that would permit the identification of any person as a person who made a complaint to the board about a licensee or applicant.

(d) Reports of expert witnesses.

(4) Information disclosed to a licensee or applicant under subsection (3) of this section may be further disclosed by the licensee or applicant only to the extent necessary to prepare for a hearing on the notice of intent to impose a disciplinary sanction.

(5)(a) A health professional regulatory board shall disclose:

(A) A notice of intent to impose a disciplinary sanction against a licensee or applicant that has been issued by vote of the board;

(B) A final order that results from the board's notice of intent to impose a disciplinary sanction;

(C) An emergency suspension order;

(D) A consent order or stipulated agreement that involves licensee or applicant conduct; and

(E) Information to further an investigation into board conduct under ORS 192.685.

(b) A health professional regulatory board may make the information required to be disclosed under paragraph (a)(A) to (D) of this subsection available in electronic form, accessible by use of a personal computer or similar technology that provides direct electronic access to the information.

(6) If a notice of intent to impose a disciplinary sanction has been issued by vote of a health professional regulatory board, a final order that results from the board's notice of intent to impose a disciplinary sanction, an emergency suspension order or a consent order or stipulated agreement that involves licensee or applicant conduct shall summarize the factual basis for the board's disposition of the matter.

(7) A health professional regulatory board record or order, or any part thereof, obtained as part of or resulting from an investigation, contested case proceeding, consent order or stipulated agreement, is not admissible as evidence and may not preclude an issue or claim in any civil proceeding except in a proceeding between the board and the licensee or applicant as otherwise allowed by law.

(8)(a) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, it is not disclosure to the public for a board to permit other public officials and members of the press to attend executive sessions where information obtained as part of an investigation is discussed. Public officials and members of the press attending such executive sessions shall not disclose information obtained as part of an investigation to any other member of the public.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, "public official" means a member or member-elect, or any member of the staff or an employee, of a public entity as defined by ORS 676.177.

(9) A health professional regulatory board may establish fees reasonably calculated to reimburse the actual cost of disclosing information to licensees or applicants as required by subsection (3) of this section. [1997 c.791 §2; 1999 c.751 §3; 2005 c.801 §1]

**676.177 Disclosure of confidential information to another public entity; criteria. (1)**

Notwithstanding any other provision of ORS 676.165 to 676.180 and except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, a health professional regulatory board, upon a determination by the board that it possesses otherwise confidential information that reasonably relates to the regulatory or enforcement function of another public entity, may disclose that information to the other public entity.

(2) Any public entity that receives information pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall agree to take all reasonable steps to maintain the confidentiality of the information, except that the public entity may use or disclose the information to the extent necessary to carry out the regulatory or enforcement functions of the public entity.

(3) For purposes of this section, “public entity” means:

(a) A board or agency of this state, or a board or agency of another state with regulatory or enforcement functions similar to the functions of a health professional regulatory board of this state;

(b) A district attorney;

(c) The Department of Justice;

(d) A state or local public body of this state that licenses, franchises or provides emergency medical services; or

(e) A law enforcement agency of this state, another state or the federal government.

(4) Notwithstanding subsections (1) to (3) of this section, the Oregon Board of Physical Therapy may disclose information described in subsection (1) of this section to the Physical Therapy Compact Commission established in ORS 688.240.

(5) A health professional regulatory board may not disclose the information described in subsection (1) of this section to another public entity if the information relates to the provision of or referral for reproductive or gender-affirming health care services. [1999 c.751 §2; 2016 c.13 §3; 2019 c.43 §7; 2023 c.228 §44]

**676.180 Notice prior to disclosure.** If a health professional regulatory board intends to disclose a record pursuant to ORS 676.175 (2), the board shall provide the licensee or applicant seven days’ prior written notice by first class mail. The notice shall describe the record that the board intends to disclose in sufficient detail to permit the licensee or applicant to know the contents of the record. In any subsequent action for injunctive or declaratory relief, the burden shall be on the person seeking disclosure to demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that the public interest in disclosure outweighs other interests in nondisclosure, including but not limited to the public interest in nondisclosure. [1997 c.791 §3]

## **EFFECT OF EXPIRATION, LAPSE, SURRENDER, SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE**

**676.205 Continuing jurisdiction of boards; effect of expiration, lapse, surrender, suspension or revocation of license.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Health professional regulatory board” means the agencies listed in ORS 676.160 and the Health Licensing Office created in ORS 676.575.

(b) “License” means a license, registration, certification or other authorization to engage in a profession.

(2) A health professional regulatory board continues to have jurisdiction for licensing, regulatory and disciplinary purposes related to acts and omissions that occur while a person is licensed or required to be licensed, regardless of any changes in the licensing status of the person.

(3) A person who obtains, but is not required to obtain, a license to engage in a profession regulated by a health professional regulatory board, and whose license expires, lapses or is voluntarily surrendered while the person is under investigation by the board, or whose license is suspended or revoked, may not engage in that profession unless the person again obtains a license from the relevant health professional regulatory board to engage in the profession.

(4) Nothing in this section limits the jurisdictional, investigatory or other authority otherwise provided by law to a health professional regulatory board. [2009 c.756 §2; 2013 c.568 §20]

**676.210 Practice of health care profession after suspension or revocation of license prohibited.**

No person whose license has been revoked or suspended by any board authorized by the statutes of the State of Oregon to issue licenses to practice a health care profession shall continue the practice of this profession after the order or decision of the board suspending or revoking the license of the person has been made. The license shall remain suspended or revoked until a final determination of an appeal from the decision or order of the board has been made by the court. [1953 c.592 §1; 1983 c.769 §4]

**676.220 Enjoining health care professional from practicing after suspension or revocation of license.** (1) If at any time the board suspending or revoking the license of any licensee of a health care profession determines that the licensee is continuing to practice the health care profession notwithstanding, the board shall in its own name bring an action to enjoin the licensee.

(2) If the court finds that the licensee has been or is continuing the practice of the health care profession for which the license has been revoked or suspended, the court shall issue an injunction restraining the licensee. The commission of a single act constituting the practice of the respective health care profession shall be prima facie evidence warranting the issuance of an injunction. [1953 c.592 §2; 1979 c.284 §191; 1983 c.769 §5; 2019 c.13 §64]

**676.230 Injunction as cumulative remedy.** The remedy herein provided is cumulative and shall be without prejudice to any other civil or criminal remedy. [1953 c.592 §3]

## **HEALTH CARE PROVIDER REPORTING OF BLOOD ALCOHOL LEVEL**

**676.260 Health care facility notification of blood alcohol level or presence of controlled substance in blood; content of notice.** (1) A health care facility that provides medical care immediately after a motor vehicle accident to a person reasonably believed to be the operator of a motor vehicle involved in the accident shall notify any law enforcement officer who is at the health care facility and is acting in an official capacity in relation to the motor vehicle accident if the health care facility becomes aware, as a result of any blood test performed in the course of that treatment, that:

- (a) The person's blood alcohol level meets or exceeds the percent specified in ORS 813.010;
- (b) The person's blood contains cannabis; or
- (c) The person's blood contains a controlled substance, as defined in ORS 475.005.

(2) If a health care facility is required to notify a law enforcement officer of test results under subsection (1) of this section and no law enforcement officer is present in an official capacity at the health care facility, the health care facility shall notify a law enforcement agency in the county in which the accident occurred, or an Oregon State Police dispatch center, as soon as possible but no more than 72 hours after becoming aware of the results of the blood test.

(3) A notice required under this section must consist of:

- (a) The name of the person being treated;
- (b) The blood alcohol level, the blood cannabis level and name and level of any controlled substance disclosed by the test; and
- (c) The date and time of the administration of the test.

(4) ORS 40.225 to 40.295 do not affect the requirement to provide notice imposed by this section, and the health care facility shall not be considered to have breached any duty under ORS 40.225 to 40.295 owed to the person about whom the notice is made. [1995 c.546 §1; 2003 c.89 §2; 2007 c.662 §1; 2011 c.672 §1; 2017 c.21 §67]

**676.280 Immunity of person participating in report pursuant to ORS 676.260.** No action or administrative proceeding shall be brought against anyone participating in good faith in providing notice pursuant to ORS 676.260 and any person participating in providing notice shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, and from any professional disciplinary action, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the notification or the content of the notice. Any such participant shall have the same immunity with respect to participating in any judicial proceeding resulting from the notice. [1995 c.546 §2; 2003 c.89 §3]

**676.300 Authority of health care provider to notify law enforcement agency that patient who is under influence of intoxicants is about to drive vehicle; immunity.** (1) If a health care provider who is providing emergency medical care in a health care facility to a person has reason to believe that the person is under the influence of intoxicants and is about to drive a motor vehicle on a highway as defined in ORS 801.305 or a premises open to the public as defined in ORS 801.400 and is a clear and present danger to society, the health care provider may notify as soon as reasonably possible the law enforcement agency which has jurisdiction over the health care facility site.

(2) The notice shall consist of the name and physical description of the person being treated and the fact that the health care provider believes the person is intoxicated and is about to drive a motor vehicle as described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) The health care provider may inform the person if the health care provider intends to notify the law enforcement agency described in subsection (1) of this section. The person's consent is not required.

(4) Anyone participating in good faith in the making of a report or not making a report pursuant to subsections (1) to (3) of this section shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the making or the content of such report. Any such participant shall have the same immunity with respect to participating in any judicial proceeding resulting from such report. [Formerly 441.827]

## MISCELLANEOUS

**676.303 Purposes of health professional regulatory boards; authority of boards to require fingerprints.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Health professional regulatory board" means the agencies listed in ORS 676.160 and the Health Licensing Office created in ORS 676.575.

(b) "Impairment" means an inability to practice with reasonable competence and safety due to the habitual or excessive use of drugs or alcohol, other chemical dependency or a mental health condition.

(c) "License" means a license, registration, certification or other authorization to engage in a profession.

(d) "Licensee" means a person licensed, registered, certified or otherwise authorized by a health professional regulatory board to engage in a profession.

(2) All health professional regulatory boards shall operate with the primary purposes of promoting the quality of health services provided, protecting the public health, safety and welfare by ensuring that licensees practice with professional skill and safety and addressing impairment among licensees.

(3) For the purpose of requesting a state or nationwide criminal records check under ORS 181A.195, a health professional regulatory board may require the fingerprints of a licensee seeking renewal of a license, an applicant for a license, a board employee or volunteer or an applicant for employment with the board. [2009 c.756 §1; 2013 c.568 §21]

**676.306 Executive directors; reports; rules.** (1) As used in this section, "health professional regulatory board" means a health professional regulatory board described in ORS 676.160 other than the

Oregon Health Authority with regard to the licensure of emergency medical services providers.

(2) Subject to applicable provisions of the State Personnel Relations Law and the approval of the Governor, notwithstanding ORS 182.468, each health professional regulatory board shall appoint an executive director and prescribe the duties and fix the compensation of the executive director. The executive director shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor under the direct supervision of the appointing board. The board may request that the Governor remove the executive director.

(3) In addition to any other duties imposed by law or otherwise required of state agencies, the executive director shall keep all records of the board and discharge all duties prescribed by the board.

(4) The executive director shall prepare periodic reports regarding the licensing, monitoring and investigative activities of the board. The executive director shall submit the reports to the board and the Governor. The Oregon Department of Administrative Services, in consultation with the board, shall adopt rules specifying requirements for the report content and processes for preparing and submitting the reports. The rules may be consistent with performance management measures and processes initiated by the department. The rules shall require each board to undergo a peer review of board activities by a team of executive directors of other health professional regulatory boards and at least one public member. The department may assess the board for the cost of the peer review. [2009 c.756 §4; 2011 c.703 §46; 2011 c.720 §214]

**676.308 Authorization to practice health profession by military spouse or domestic partner; rules.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Authorization” means a license, registration, certificate or other authorization to engage in a profession.

(b) “Board” means a health professional regulatory board, as defined in ORS 676.160, or a board, council or program listed in ORS 676.565.

(c) “Military spouse or domestic partner” means a spouse or domestic partner of an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is the subject of a military transfer to Oregon.

(2) A board shall issue an authorization to a military spouse or domestic partner if the military spouse or domestic partner provides the board with:

(a) Evidence that the applicant is married to, or in a domestic partnership with, an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is assigned to a duty station located in Oregon by official active duty military order;

(b) Evidence that the military spouse or domestic partner is authorized by another state or territory of the United States to provide services regulated by the board; and

(c) Evidence that the military spouse or domestic partner:

(A) Has provided services or taught the subject matter regulated by the board for at least one year during the three years immediately preceding the date on which the military spouse or domestic partner submits an application for an authorization; and

(B) Has demonstrated competency, as determined by the board by rule, over services regulated by the board.

(3) A board may issue a temporary authorization to an applicant who applies for an authorization under subsection (2) of this section before the board receives the evidence required by subsection (2) of this section if the military spouse or domestic partner affirms on the application that the military spouse or domestic partner:

(a) Has requested evidence of authorization from the state or territory in which the military spouse or domestic partner is authorized; and

(b) Is not subject to disciplinary action in that state or territory for a matter related to services regulated by the board. [2013 c.351 §1; 2017 c.499 §9]

**676.310 Fees for laboratory testing; itemized billing; failure to comply considered unprofessional conduct.** (1) Any person authorized by law to order laboratory testing may charge a reasonable fee for all laboratory and other specialized testing performed by the practitioner or by a person in the practitioner's employ. In addition, the practitioner is entitled to charge a reasonable fee for collecting and preparing specimens to be sent to independent persons or laboratories for testing, and for the preparation of the billing to the patient for the test. However, a practitioner shall not mark up, or charge a commission or make a profit on services rendered by an independent person or laboratory.

(2) A practitioner shall prepare an itemized billing, indicating the charges for each service rendered to the patient. Any services rendered to the patient that were performed by persons other than those in the direct employ of the practitioner and the charges therefor shall be indicated separately on the patient's bill.

(3) Failure to comply with the requirements of this section shall be considered to be unprofessional conduct and may be subject to disciplinary action by the appropriate licensing board.

(4) As used in this section, "practitioner" means a person licensed to practice medicine, dentistry, naturopathic medicine or chiropractic or to be a nurse practitioner. [1979 c.428 §1]

**676.313 Prohibition on malpractice insurer taking adverse action against health care provider for specified reasons.** An insurer that provides malpractice insurance for a health care provider for care provided in this state may not take any adverse action, including but not limited to sanctions, fines, penalties, rate increases or denial or revocation of coverage, against a health care provider authorized to provide care in this state if the adverse action is:

(1) Based solely on the health care provider's providing, authorizing, recommending, aiding, assisting, referring for or otherwise participating in a reproductive or gender-affirming health care service that is lawful in this state but unlawful in the jurisdiction in which the health care provider provided the service, so long as the service provided was performed in accordance with the standard of care applicable to the service; or

(2) A result of an adverse action taken against the health care provider's license issued by another state that resulted solely from the health care provider's providing, authorizing, recommending, aiding, assisting, referring for or otherwise participating in a reproductive or gender-affirming health care service that is lawful in this state but provided to a resident of a jurisdiction in which the service is unlawful or is unlawful in the jurisdiction in which the health care provider provided the service, so long as the service provided was performed in accordance with the standard of care applicable to the service. [2023 c.228 §31]

**676.340 Limitations on liability of health practitioners providing health care services without compensation; requirements; exceptions; attorney fees; applicability.** (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a health practitioner described in subsection (7) of this section who has registered under ORS 676.345 and who provides health care services without compensation is not liable for any injury, death or other loss arising out of the provision of those services, unless the injury, death or other loss results from the gross negligence of the health practitioner.

(2) A health practitioner may claim the limitation on liability provided by this section only if the patient receiving health care services, or a person who has authority under law to make health care decisions for the patient, signs a statement that notifies the patient that the health care services are provided without compensation and that the health practitioner may be held liable for death, injury or other loss only to the extent provided by this section. The statement required under this subsection must be signed before the health care services are provided.

(3) A health practitioner may claim the limitation on liability provided by this section only if the health practitioner obtains the patient's informed consent for the health care services before providing the

services, or receives the informed consent of a person who has authority under law to make health care decisions for the patient.

(4) A health practitioner provides health care services without compensation for the purposes of subsection (1) of this section even though the practitioner requires payment of laboratory fees, testing services and other out-of-pocket expenses.

(5) A health practitioner provides health care services without compensation for the purposes of subsection (1) of this section even though the practitioner provides services at a health clinic that receives compensation from the patient, as long as the health practitioner does not personally receive compensation for the services.

(6) In any civil action in which a health practitioner prevails based on the limitation on liability provided by this section, the court shall award all reasonable attorney fees incurred by the health practitioner in defending the action.

(7) This section applies only to:

- (a) A physician licensed under ORS chapter 677;
- (b) A nurse licensed under ORS 678.040 to 678.101;
- (c) A nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390;
- (d) A clinical nurse specialist licensed under ORS 678.370 and 678.372;
- (e) A physician assistant licensed under ORS 677.505 to 677.525;
- (f) A dental hygienist licensed under ORS 680.010 to 680.205;
- (g) A dentist licensed under ORS chapter 679;
- (h) A pharmacist licensed under ORS chapter 689;
- (i) An optometrist licensed under ORS chapter 683;
- (j) A naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685; and
- (k) An acupuncturist licensed under ORS 677.757 to 677.770. [1999 c.771 §1; 1999 c.771 §3; 2005 c.462 §2; 2012 c.41 §3; 2017 c.356 §84; 2019 c.227 §1; 2019 c.358 §20; 2021 c.97 §77]

**676.345 Registration program for health care professionals claiming liability limitation; program requirements.** (1) A health practitioner described in ORS 676.340 (7) may claim the liability limitation provided by ORS 676.340 only if the health practitioner has registered with a health professional regulatory board in the manner provided by this section. Registration under this section must be made:

- (a) By a physician, physician assistant or acupuncturist, with the Oregon Medical Board;
- (b) By a nurse, nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist, with the Oregon State Board of Nursing;
- (c) By a dentist or dental hygienist, with the Oregon Board of Dentistry;
- (d) By a pharmacist, with the State Board of Pharmacy;
- (e) By an optometrist, with the Oregon Board of Optometry; and
- (f) By a naturopathic physician, with the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine.

(2) The health professional regulatory boards listed in subsection (1) of this section shall establish a registration program for the health practitioners who provide health care services without compensation and who wish to be subject to the liability limitation provided by ORS 676.340. All health practitioners registering under the program must provide the health professional regulatory board with:

- (a) A statement that the health practitioner will provide health care services to patients without compensation, except for reimbursement for laboratory fees, testing services and other out-of-pocket expenses;
- (b) A statement that the health practitioner will provide the notice required by ORS 676.340 (2) in the manner provided by ORS 676.340 (2) before providing the services; and
- (c) A statement that the health practitioner will only provide health care services without compensation that are within the scope of the health practitioner's license.



(3) Registration under this section must be made biennially. The health professional regulatory boards listed in subsection (1) of this section may not charge a fee for registration under this section. [1999 c.771 §2; 1999 c.771 §4; 2005 c.462 §3; 2012 c.41 §4; 2017 c.356 §85; 2019 c.227 §2]

**676.360 Pelvic examinations.** (1) A person may not knowingly perform a pelvic examination on a woman who is anesthetized or unconscious in a hospital or medical clinic unless:

(a) The woman or a person authorized to make health care decisions for the woman has given specific informed consent to the examination;

(b) The examination is necessary for diagnostic or treatment purposes; or

(c) A court orders the performance of the examination for the collection of evidence.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) of this section is subject to discipline by any licensing board that licenses the person. [2011 c.200 §1]

**676.400 Racial and ethnic composition of regulated health professions; findings; duties of health professional regulatory boards.** (1) It is the intention of the Legislative Assembly to achieve the goal of universal access to adequate levels of high quality health care at an affordable cost for all Oregonians, regardless of ethnic or cultural background.

(2) The Legislative Assembly finds that:

(a) Access to health care is of value when it leads to treatment that substantially improves health outcomes;

(b) Health care is most effective when it accounts for the contribution of culture to health status and health outcomes;

(c) Ethnic and racial minorities experience more than their statistically fair share of undesirable health outcomes;

(d) The lack of licensed health care professionals from ethnic and racial minorities or who are bilingual contributes to the inadequacy of health outcomes in communities of color in this state; and

(e) The development of a partnership between health professional regulatory boards and communities of color to increase the representation of people of color and bilingual people in health care professions has significant potential to improve the health outcomes of people of color and bilingual citizens of this state.

(3) Health professional regulatory boards shall establish programs to increase the representation of people of color and bilingual people on the boards and in the professions that they regulate. Such programs must include activities to promote the education, recruitment and professional practice of members of these targeted populations in Oregon.

(4) Each health professional regulatory board shall maintain records of the racial and ethnic makeup of applicants and professionals regulated by the board. Such information shall be requested from applicants and the professionals regulated who shall be informed in writing that the provision of such information is voluntary and not required.

(5) Each health professional regulatory board shall report biennially to the Legislative Assembly in the manner required by ORS 192.245. The report shall contain:

(a) Data detailing the efforts of the board to comply with the requirements of subsection (3) of this section; and

(b) Data collected under subsection (4) of this section documenting the ethnic and racial makeup of the applicants and of the professionals regulated by the board.

(6) For purposes of this section, “health professional regulatory board” means a health professional regulatory board, as defined in ORS 676.160, the Long Term Care Administrators Board, the Board of Licensed Dietitians and the Behavior Analysis Regulatory Board. [2001 c.973 §1; 2017 c.101 §21; 2018 c.61 §21]

**676.405 Release of personal information.** (1) As used in this section, “health professional regulatory board” means the agencies listed in ORS 676.160 and the Health Licensing Office created in ORS 676.575.

(2) Notwithstanding ORS 192.410 to 192.505, a health professional regulatory board may, at its discretion, release or withhold the personal electronic mail address, home address and personal telephone number for a person licensed, registered or certified by the board. If the personal electronic mail address, home address or personal telephone number is requested for a public health or state health planning purpose, the board shall release the information. [2009 c.756 §3; 2013 c.568 §22]

**676.410 Information required for renewal of certain licenses; confidentiality; data collection; fees; rules.** (1) As used in this section, “health care workforce regulatory board” means the:

- (a) State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology;
- (b) State Board of Chiropractic Examiners;
- (c) State Board of Licensed Social Workers;
- (d) Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists;
- (e) Oregon Board of Dentistry;
- (f) Board of Licensed Dietitians;
- (g) State Board of Massage Therapists;
- (h) Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine;
- (i) Oregon State Board of Nursing;
- (j) Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board;
- (k) Oregon Board of Optometry;
- (L) State Board of Pharmacy;
- (m) Oregon Medical Board;
- (n) Occupational Therapy Licensing Board;
- (o) Oregon Board of Physical Therapy;
- (p) Oregon Board of Psychology; and
- (q) Board of Medical Imaging.

(2) An individual applying to renew a license with a health care workforce regulatory board must provide the information prescribed by the Oregon Health Authority pursuant to subsection (3) of this section to the health care workforce regulatory board. Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, a health care workforce regulatory board may not approve an application to renew a license until the applicant provides the information.

(3) The authority shall collaborate with each health care workforce regulatory board to adopt rules establishing:

(a) The information that must be provided to a health care workforce regulatory board under subsection (2) of this section, which may include:

- (A) Demographics, including race and ethnicity.
- (B) Education and training information.
- (C) License information.
- (D) Employment information.
- (E) Primary and secondary practice information.
- (F) Anticipated changes in the practice.
- (G) Languages spoken.

(b) The manner and form of providing information under subsection (2) of this section.

(4)(a) Subject to paragraph (b) of this subsection, a health care workforce regulatory board shall report health care workforce information collected under subsection (2) of this section to the authority.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection, personally identifiable information collected under subsection (2) of this section is confidential and a health care workforce regulatory board and the authority may not release such information.

(c) A health care workforce regulatory board may release personally identifiable information collected under subsection (2) of this section to a law enforcement agency for investigative purposes or to the authority for state health planning purposes.

(5) A health care workforce regulatory board may adopt rules to perform the board's duties under this section.

(6) In addition to renewal fees that may be imposed by a health care workforce regulatory board, the authority shall establish fees to be paid by individuals applying to renew a license with a health care workforce regulatory board. The amount of fees established under this subsection must be reasonably calculated to reimburse the actual cost of obtaining or reporting information as required by subsection (2) of this section.

(7) Using information collected under subsection (2) of this section, the authority shall create and maintain a health care workforce database. The authority shall provide data from the health care workforce database and may provide data from other relevant sources, including data related to the diversity of this state's health care workforce, upon request to state agencies and to the Legislative Assembly. The authority may contract with a private or public entity to establish and maintain the database and to perform data analysis. [2009 c.595 §1175; 2011 c.630 §23; 2013 c.14 §9; 2015 c.318 §40; 2015 c.380 §1; 2017 c.6 §24; 2019 c.3 §3; 2019 c.43 §8]

**Note:** Section 3, chapter 380, Oregon Laws 2015, provides:

**Sec. 3.** (1) For individuals applying to renew a license to practice a regulated profession with the Oregon Board of Dentistry, Board of Licensed Dietitians, Oregon State Board of Nursing, State Board of Pharmacy, Oregon Medical Board, Occupational Therapy Licensing Board and Physical Therapist Licensing Board, the amendments to ORS 676.410 by section 1, chapter 380, Oregon Laws 2015, apply to applications to renew a license to practice a regulated profession that are submitted on or after January 1, 2016.

(2) For individuals applying to renew a license to practice a regulated profession with the State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, State Board of Licensed Social Workers, Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists, State Board of Massage Therapists, Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine, Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board, Oregon Board of Optometry, Oregon Board of Psychology and Board of Medical Imaging, the amendments to ORS 676.410 by section 1, chapter 380, Oregon Laws 2015, apply to applications to renew a license to practice a regulated profession that are submitted on or after the date on which rules are adopted for health care workers regulated by a health care workforce regulatory board pursuant to ORS 676.410 (3). [2015 c.380 §3; 2017 c.6 §25]

**676.440 Duty of health professional regulatory boards to encourage multidisciplinary pain management services.** (1) Health professional regulatory boards shall encourage the development of state-of-the-art multidisciplinary pain management services and the availability of these services to the public.

(2) As used in subsection (1) of this section, "health professional regulatory boards" means the:

- (a) Oregon Medical Board;
- (b) Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine;
- (c) Oregon Board of Dentistry;
- (d) Oregon State Board of Nursing;
- (e) Oregon Board of Physical Therapy;

- (f) State Board of Chiropractic Examiners;
- (g) State Board of Pharmacy; and
- (h) Oregon Board of Psychology. [2003 c.325 §1; 2009 c.43 §10; 2017 c.6 §26; 2019 c.43 §9]

**676.553 Prohibitions relating to provision of substance abuse, problem gambling or mental health services and support.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Advertisement” means a public notice, announcement or communication in any form or by means of any media that describes a mental health or substance abuse treatment service or facility for the purpose of promoting, soliciting the purchase of or selling substance abuse, problem gambling or mental health services and support that a person provides to residents of this state.

(b)(A) “Person” means a natural person, a partnership, a limited partnership, a limited liability partnership, a corporation, a professional corporation, a nonprofit corporation, a limited liability company, a business trust or another business entity.

(B) “Person” does not include a public body, as defined in ORS 174.109, or the Oregon Health and Science University.

(c) “Substance abuse, problem gambling or mental health services and support” means all services and supports necessary to treat substance abuse, problem gambling or other mental health issues, such as outpatient behavioral health services and supports for children and adults, intensive treatment services for children, outpatient and residential substance use disorders treatment services and outpatient and residential problem gambling treatment services.

(2) A person that provides substance abuse, problem gambling or mental health services and support may not:

(a) Accept from another person, or pay to another person, a fee, commission, bonus, rebate or other compensation for a referral of, or to refer, a resident of this state for substance abuse, problem gambling or mental health services and support.

(b) Issue, engage, pay for, disseminate or otherwise make available an advertisement that intentionally falsely states or misrepresents the need for a resident of this state to obtain substance abuse, problem gambling or mental health services and support outside this state or at a facility that is located outside this state.

(c) Intentionally misrepresent or falsely state in an advertisement a resident of this state’s eligibility to participate in a medical assistance program. [2019 c.363 §1]

## **CULTURAL COMPETENCY CONTINUING EDUCATION**

**676.850 Authority of regulatory boards to require cultural competency continuing education; documentation of participation; rules.** (1) As used in this section, “board” means the:

- (a) State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology;
- (b) State Board of Chiropractic Examiners;
- (c) State Board of Licensed Social Workers;
- (d) Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists;
- (e) Oregon Board of Dentistry;
- (f) Board of Licensed Dietitians;
- (g) State Board of Massage Therapists;
- (h) Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine;
- (i) Oregon State Board of Nursing;
- (j) Long Term Care Administrators Board;
- (k) Oregon Board of Optometry;
- (L) State Board of Pharmacy;

- (m) Oregon Medical Board;
- (n) Occupational Therapy Licensing Board;
- (o) Oregon Board of Physical Therapy;
- (p) Oregon Board of Psychology;
- (q) Board of Medical Imaging;
- (r) State Board of Direct Entry Midwifery;
- (s) State Board of Denture Technology;
- (t) Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board;
- (u) Home Care Commission;
- (v) Oregon Health Authority, to the extent that the authority licenses emergency medical service providers; and

(w) Health Licensing Office, to the extent that the office licenses lactation consultants.

(2)(a) A board shall adopt rules to require a person authorized to practice the profession regulated by the board to complete cultural competency continuing education. Completion of the continuing education described in this subsection shall be a condition of renewal of an authorization to practice the profession regulated by the board every other time that the person's authorization is subject to renewal.

(b) Cultural competency continuing education courses may be taken in addition to or, if a board determines that the cultural competency continuing education fulfills existing continuing education requirements, instead of any other continuing education requirement imposed by the board.

(c) A board shall consider the availability of the continuing education described in this subsection when adopting rules regarding the required number of credits of continuing education.

(d) A board shall encourage, but may not require, the completion of continuing education approved by the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 413.450. A board shall accept as meeting the requirements of this subsection continuing education that meets the skills requirements established by the authority by rule.

(3) The requirements of subsection (2) of this section do not apply to a person authorized to practice a profession regulated by a board if the person is:

(a) Retired and not practicing the profession in any state;

(b) Not practicing the profession in this state; or

(c) Residing in this state but not practicing the profession in any state. [2013 c.240 §1; 2017 c.6 §28; 2017 c.499 §19; 2018 c.61 §24; 2019 c.43 §11; 2019 c.186 §1]

**676.855 Authority of public universities and community colleges to require cultural competency continuing education.** Each public university listed in ORS 352.002 and each community college, as defined in ORS 341.005, may require persons authorized to practice a profession regulated by a board, as defined in ORS 676.850, who provide services to students at health care facilities located on a campus of the public university or community college to provide proof of completing cultural competency continuing education approved by the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 413.450. [2013 c.240 §18; 2019 c.186 §2]

## **SUICIDE RISK ASSESSMENT, TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT CONTINUING EDUCATION**

**676.863 Oregon Health Authority list of continuing education opportunities.** (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall develop a list of continuing education opportunities related to suicide risk assessment, treatment and management and make the list available to each board, as defined in ORS 676.860 and 676.866.

(2) In developing the list, the authority shall:

- (a) Consider suicide risk assessment, treatment and management training programs recommended by organizations that provide suicide awareness advocacy and education; and
- (b) Consult with institutions of higher education and experts in suicide risk assessment, treatment and management. [2017 c.511 §2; 2021 c.114 §6]

**676.866 Suicide risk assessment, treatment and management continuing education for behavioral health care providers; completion reports and documentation; report to Legislative Assembly; rules.** (1) As used in this section:

- (a) “Board” means:
  - (A) The Oregon Board of Psychology;
  - (B) The Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists;
  - (C) The State Board of Licensed Social Workers;
  - (D) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission; and
  - (E) The Traditional Health Workers Commission.
- (b) “Licensee” means:
  - (A) A clinical social worker, as defined in ORS 675.510;
  - (B) A regulated social worker, as defined in ORS 675.510;
  - (C) A licensed marriage and family therapist, as defined in ORS 675.705;
  - (D) A licensed psychologist, as defined in ORS 675.010;
  - (E) A licensed professional counselor, as defined in ORS 675.705;
  - (F) A school counselor, as defined by rule by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission; and
  - (G) The following professionals regulated by the Oregon Health Authority by rules adopted pursuant to subsection (9) of this section or employed in a program operated or overseen by the authority:
    - (i) A qualified mental health associate;
    - (ii) A qualified mental health professional;
    - (iii) A certified alcohol and drug counselor;
    - (iv) A prevention specialist;
    - (v) A problem gambling treatment provider;
    - (vi) A recovery mentor;
    - (vii) A community health worker;
    - (viii) A personal health navigator;
    - (ix) A personal support specialist;
    - (x) A peer wellness specialist;
    - (xi) A doula;
    - (xii) A family support specialist;
    - (xiii) A youth support specialist; and
    - (xiv) A peer support specialist.

(2)(a) The authority and a board shall require a licensee regulated by the authority or the board to complete two hours every two years or three hours every three years of continuing education related to suicide risk assessment, treatment and management and report to the authority or the board the licensee’s completion of the continuing education described in this subsection. The authority and the board shall ensure that the timelines for completion of the continuing education align with the licensee’s professional authorization issuance and renewal timelines.

(b) The authority and a board shall approve continuing education opportunities that are applicable and relevant to the licensees regulated by the authority or the board. A board may encourage a licensee regulated by the board to complete continuing education opportunities recommended by the authority.

(3) A licensee shall report the completion of the continuing education described in subsection (2) of this section to the board that regulates the licensee or to the authority if the licensee is a professional listed in subsection (1)(b)(G) of this section.

(4)(a) The authority and a board shall document completion of the continuing education described in subsection (2) of this section by a licensee regulated by the authority or a board.

(b) In consultation with the authority, a board shall adopt rules requiring licensees to submit documentation of completion to the board.

(c) The authority shall adopt rules requiring licensees regulated by the authority to submit documentation of completion to the authority.

(5) The authority and a board may adopt rules to:

(a) Identify the experience and training that a licensee regulated by the authority or the board must have in order to be exempt from the requirements of subsection (2) of this section.

(b) Allow the concurrent completion of continuing education described in subsection (2) of this section with continuing education opportunities related to professional ethics or cultural competency if the opportunities also provide the continuing education described in subsection (2) of this section.

(6) A board, on or before March 1 of each odd-numbered year, shall report to the authority on the information described in subsection (4) of this section, as well as information about the implementation of the continuing education described in subsection (2) of this section.

(7) The authority, on or before August 1 of each odd-numbered year, shall report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to health care on the information submitted to the authority under subsection (6) of this section and information collected by the authority under subsection (4) of this section. The authority shall remove any personally identifiable information collected by or submitted to the authority under subsection (4) or (6) of this section.

(8) The authority may use the information collected by the authority under subsection (4) of this section in conjunction with the information described in ORS 676.860 to facilitate improvements in suicide risk assessment, treatment and management efforts in this state.

(9)(a) The authority and a board may adopt rules to carry out this section.

(b) The authority may adopt rules to define and regulate the professions listed in subsection (1)(b)(G) of this section. [2021 c.114 §1]

## **PENALTIES**

**676.990 Criminal penalties.** Violation of any of the provisions of ORS 676.110 to 676.130 is a Class C misdemeanor. [Amended by 2011 c.597 §278]