



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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NF-22-052 – Provider Alert



Date: September 29, 2022

To: All Nursing, Assisted Living and Residential Care Facilities

From: ODHS Office of Aging and People with Disabilities –
Strategic Initiatives Unit

Subject: Oregon Emergency Board Funding Update
Bed Census/Workforce Survey Update
Limited Staffing Resources Available
Enhanced Care Service Program Expansion

On September 23, the Oregon Emergency Board approved additional funds for crisis and stabilization programming supports for long term care providers.

We will review census data to aid in determining where resources are needed most. While not mandatory, we strongly encourage your participation in our weekly [Bed Census/Workforce Survey](#) to help us understand the workforce needs of your facility, and how we may develop and deploy programs to provide support.

We've revised the survey based on your feedback the link is available [here](#) and does not expire. We'll continue to send the survey link email every Monday morning at 10 a.m. **Please complete it as soon as you can and no later than each Tuesday by 5 p.m.**

The Emergency Board also approved funding for a discharge incentive Program, additional funds for the Community Based Care Distressed Provider Relief Fund, and expansion of Enhanced Care Services Program for complex patients. ODHS will be communicating detailed information on how to access those resources in the coming weeks.

The following existing supports will remain in place:

**Nurse Crisis Teams to support LTCF Resident Covid-19 Outbreaks
(Available for Community Based Care and Nursing Facilities)**

ODHS will maintain a pool of LPNs and/or CNAs through March 2023 to assist with staffing crises.

All requests are subject to availability and prioritization of patient/resident safety, COVID-19 transmission risk, equity concerns related to access to care, and specific regional needs.

Submit a request for this staffing resource [here](#).

The legislature has directed ODHS to develop a 25% cost-share program for this crisis support. ODHS will be developing protocols and will issue updated guidance in the next month for implementation of this provision.

**Med Tech Training Backfill Program
(Available for Community Based Care Facilities only)**

This program has been in place since July 2022. These teams are comprised of LPNs and/or CNAs who staff a CBC facility, so that that CBC direct care staff can participate in a Med Tech refresher/retraining or an initial Med Tech training program as a quality improvement and workforce stabilization initiative. The Med Tech Backfill program is no cost to the facility. Facility staff and materials are used for the training.

If interested, submit a request for training backfill support [here](#).

**Enhanced Care Service (ECS) Program Expansion
(Available for Community Based Care and Nursing Facilities)**

The ECS program is a partnership between a licensed nursing facility or Residential Care facility that has an intensive outpatient mental health program embedded in the facility. This program is intended to service APD consumers with cooccurring mental health diagnoses to ensure they are as successful as possible in the community. Facilities approved as an

Enhanced Care Facilities (ECF) will need to enter a contract with ODHS.

The Oregon Emergency Board approved funding to expand the number of ECS contracts and provide rate increases for the behavioral health services provided in these settings. There will be a limited number of these contracts available due to funding. ODHS will use the workforce survey to support expansion targets. ODHS will be partnering with OHA on program development and will communicate information on how to apply for this program expansion in the next month.

If you have questions about the ECS Program Expansion, please contact:
Melissa Taber – Contract Administrator - MELISSA.G.TABER@dhsoha.state.or.us
Trevin Butler – Central Supports Manager - Trevin.Butler@dhsoha.state.or.us

If you have general questions, please contact your licensing team:
CBC.team@dhsoha.state.or.us
NF.licensing@dhsoha.state.or.us

ODHS website: www.oregon.gov/DHS/