



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Department of Human Services

*Safety, Oversight and Quality*

PO Box 14530, Salem, OR 97309

550 Capitol Street NE

Salem, OR 97301

Phone: (503) 373-2227

Fax (503) 378-8966

**NF-22-041 – Provider Alert**



Date: July 15, 2022

To: All Community Based Care Providers  
All Nursing Facility Providers

From: ODHS Office of Aging and People with Disabilities - Safety,  
Oversight and Quality Unit (SOQ)

Subject: COVID Related Staffing Resources (CBC & NF)  
& Med Tech Training Backfill Program (CBC only)

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The following contains updated information on limited nurse crisis team staffing resources available for resident COVID-19 outbreaks and the availability of a backfill program for individuals participating in on-site Med Tech training.

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

These teams are comprised of LPNs and/or CNAs and will be deployed to provide workforce relief to facilities through a short-term state contract. A Nurse Crisis Team (NCT) will be provided at no cost to a facility (Community Based Care Facilities and Nursing Facilities). The pool of NCT clinicians is extremely limited. If you are experiencing a *resident outbreak*, we strongly encourage you to submit a request [here](#).

ODHS teams will review staffing requests and provide a response within 24 hours of submission. All requests will be considered and are subject to criteria-based application and prioritization of regional needs. Those criteria are patient/resident safety, COVID-19 transmission risk, equity concerns related to access to care and availability of the very limited NCT personnel.

ODHS will deploy NCTs to the facilities through September 30, 2022 and will reassess continuing need beyond September as needed.

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

These teams are comprised of NCT LPNs and CNAs. NCT members will be deployed to backfill staff who are either participating in a Med Tech refresher/retraining or an initial Med Tech training at no cost to the facility.

The NCT is intended to backfill staff while training is being conducted by your facility. The process will include orientation for ATC clinicians one day in advance to ensure a seamless transition in resident care. Thus far, the NCT has focused on backfilling a cohort of current med techs so that they can participate in classroom style training; however, there are opportunities to pre-assign a CNA to a facility to backfill a specific caregiver who is ready to begin their training as a new med tech. Available times are filling up fast. If interested, submit requests for training backfill support [here](#).

If you need Med Tech training resources or if you have question, please contact your licensing team:

[CBC.team@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:CBC.team@dhsosha.state.or.us)  
[NF.licensing@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:NF.licensing@dhsosha.state.or.us)

ODHS website: [www.oregon.gov/DHS/](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/)