



Oregon

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NF-22-044 – Provider Alert

Date: August 3, 2022

To: All Community Based Care and Nursing Facility Providers

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

Subject: Increased COVID-19 Related Staffing Resources (CBC & NF)
& Med Tech Training Backfill Program (CBC only)



The following contains updated information from the 7/14/22 Provider Alert on Nurse Crisis Team (NCT) 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 Team (NCT) availability to supplement LTCF staffing crises: (Applicable for Community Based Care and Nursing Facilities)

In response to the recent surge, ODHS has increased the number of available clinicians on the NCT to support LTCFs. These NCT nurses and CNAs can be deployed to provide workforce relief to facilities experiencing a staffing crisis. These resources will continue to be provided at no cost to a facility.

To receive NCT staffing support, you need to have exhausted all other supplemental staffing resources available to you. If after taking steps to mitigate a staffing shortfall, quality of care and consumer safety continue to be at risk, please inform your Policy Analyst and submit a formal request for NCT staffing support [here](#).

ODHS teams will review staffing requests and provide a response within 24 hours of submission. All requests will be considered and prioritized. The criteria for prioritization are patient/resident safety, COVID-19 transmission risk, equity concerns related to access to care, and availability of NCT personnel.

ODHS will deploy NCTs to the LTCFs through December 31, 2022.

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

These teams are comprised of NCT LPNs and CNAs who are not currently responding to COVID-related staffing challenges. 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. If your facility could benefit from this type of program, submit a request [here](#).

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

CBC.team@dhs.ohio.gov

NF.licensing@dhs.ohio.gov

ODHS website: www.oregon.gov/DHS/