

Sustainable Health Care Cost Growth Target Advisory Committee

Call for Applications: Consumer Advocate / Representative

The Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Health Policy Board are seeking a new member for the Cost Growth Target Advisory Committee, the governance committee for the Sustainable Health Care Cost Growth Target Program.

This call for applications is for a consumer advocate / consumer representative.

This new committee member will be replacing Maribeth Guarino from OSPIRG. The role of the consumer representative is to represent the consumer perspective on issues and actions before the Advisory Committee and facilitate dialogue on issues that affect consumers.

Successful applicants will:

- Have an affiliation with and/or active participation in a consumer or community-based organization, OR
- Bring expertise with specific communities or groups, including, but not limited to race, ethnicity, language, disability, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, social class, insurance status, and intersections among these communities or identities, AND
- Demonstrate experience/expertise in one or more of the following areas:
 - Health care administration
 - Health care affordability
 - Health economics
 - Health care financing
 - Ensuring equity in policy making
 - Employer health benefit / costs

Current health care industry professionals, including, but not limited to clinicians and administrators, are not considered consumer representatives for the purposes of the Advisory Committee.

To Apply for the Cost Growth Target Advisory Committee

Please complete the Cost Growth Target Advisory Committee Interest Form and Demographic Form, both available on the Cost Growth Target website, and submit both to HealthCare.CostTarget@oha.oregon.gov.

Applications will be accepted through Friday, September 29, 2023. The new Advisory Committee member will be appointed by the Oregon Health Policy Board in Oct or Nov 2023.

For More Information

[Oregon Cost Growth Target Advisory Committee website](#).

Health Care Cost Growth Target Program email: HealthCare.CostTarget@dhs.oha.state.or.us

Sarah Bartelmann, Cost Growth Target Program manager: Sarah.E.Bartelmann@oha.oregon.gov

If you are not interested in applying for the Advisory Committee, but would like to stay informed about OHA's health care cost growth target work, please visit our website and/or [subscribe](#)¹ for email updates.

¹ https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=ORDHS_782

Health Care Cost Growth in Oregon

Health care costs in Oregon are high and continue to grow, straining household budgets and resulting in people delaying or avoiding care, even for people with health insurance. In 2021, 7% of people in Oregon reported they delayed health care because of costs.

To ensure affordable, universal coverage for all people living in Oregon, we must take action to slow health care cost growth and ensure that people can afford to access needed care. Slowing health care cost growth will also ensure that state funds are available for investing in other priority areas and services. Oregon's health care cost growth target sets a goal for statewide health care spending, as well as spending by insurance plans and large provider organizations and asks plans and providers to take steps to ensure their cost growth remains below the target.

Advisory Committee Purpose

The Cost Growth Target Advisory Committee will build upon work done by the Cost Growth Target Implementation Committee (2019-2021) to advise and support the Oregon Health Policy Board, Oregon Health Authority, and Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services on transformative health care cost efforts and policy.

The Committee will use the sustainable health care cost growth target as a tool to examine statewide healthcare spending and understand health care cost trends, frame cost conversations, and recommend strategies and opportunities for mitigating cost growth and improving health equity.

In keeping with OHA's strategic goal to eliminate health inequities by 2030, the Committee will work to ensure that the Cost Growth Target Program helps contain costs for consumers without jeopardizing access or quality; help improve equity by making health care more affordable and accessible to all Oregonians; and inform future policy conversations about how to eliminate health inequities caused by costs.

Advisory Committee Charge

The Advisory Committee is charged with the following:

- Monitoring and informing ongoing cost growth target program implementation
- Revisiting the cost growth target value for 2026-2030 (and beyond)
- Reviewing and understanding cost growth trends and cost drivers and advising OHA, DCBS and OHPB on the impact of cost
- Monitoring for negative impacts of the cost growth target
- Exploring opportunities to improve equity
- Reviewing and understanding progress toward value-based payment (VBP) goals
- Identifying and recommending opportunities to reduce cost growth
- Informing public hearings

Advisory Committee members will serve two-year terms, although terms may be extended to ensure continuity. The Advisory Committee will meet bi-monthly for approximately 3 hours. All meetings are currently held remotely; in-person meetings may be held in the future. Should in-person meetings occur, a virtual meeting option will be available for those who cannot attend in-person. All Advisory Committee meetings are public. For more information about the Advisory Committee responsibilities, please see the [charter](https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/HP/Cost%20Growth%20Target%20Meeting%20Documents/4.-Advisory-Committee-Charter-FINAL-July-2022.pdf).²

² <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/HP/Cost%20Growth%20Target%20Meeting%20Documents/4.-Advisory-Committee-Charter-FINAL-July-2022.pdf>