

Oregon Health Information Technology Oversight Council 2025 Workplan

Finalized 2/6/2025

The 2025 workplan for the Oregon Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC) is based on the priorities that HITOC outlined in the [Oregon Strategic Plan for Health IT, 2024-2028](#) (Strategic Plan, or SP). The workplan lists actions that HITOC and its support staff can take to further the strategic priorities. HITOC's priorities are subject to change based on changes in the health IT landscape, federal and state policy priorities and opportunities, and direction from the Oregon Health Policy Board. As such, actual committee activities may vary from this guide as new priorities emerge.

List of HITOC Actions

Action	Description
Category: Provide Transparency and Accountability Track and bring attention to important topics	
Learn	Receive information on specific topics during a HITOC meeting and/or education session.
Discuss	Draw out important considerations or concerns for specific topics during HITOC meetings.
Monitor	Ongoing information collection to track changes in the health IT landscape and industry. Can include policy tracking or commissioning environmental scans of priority data.
Report	Compile, review, and make information available to the public, the Oregon Health Policy Board (OHPB), and/or the legislature or Congressional delegation via presentation or report.
Explore opportunities	Look for ways to influence health IT progress and decide to pursue if appropriate. Opportunities could include seeking new funding, developing or modifying programs, and policy/rule comment opportunities.
Category: Evaluate Gather information and consider implications	
Assess	Analyze information and decide how to proceed.
Identify	Identify gaps , barriers, areas where more information is needed, or other important elements related to the topic.
Category: Advocate Inform other groups of HITOC's priorities	
Advise (most formal)	Make informed suggestions to governmental entities such as OHPB, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS), and the legislature on health IT.
Recommend (moderately formal)	Actively ask an external partner to pursue a set of recommended actions . This typically includes developing recommendations, such as considering existing information and going through a prioritization process to determine a path forward.
Promote (least formal)	Promote priorities which could include advertising the direction HITOC set in the Strategic Plan (SP) to external groups, supporting policy and rule changes that align with SP priorities, encouraging actions, etc.
Category: Convene Bring people together to do something	
Provide learning space	Create a space for people/groups to learn from each other, share best practices and connect with each other . Could include hosting a community of practice or collaborative.
Engage community	Connect with community members . Can be for various reasons including for providing transparency, gathering input, learning, engaging community and reporting/promoting what community says, etc.
Charter workgroup	Formally charter a workgroup of external partners that will achieve defined objective(s) (e.g., making recommendations, developing white papers, etc.).
Delegate a sub committee	Create a subcommittee of HITOC members to achieve a defined objective(s) beyond what can be accomplished in a HITOC meeting.

Prioritization Crosswalk: Strategic Plan Strategies and Activities

The table below provides an overview of the Strategic Plan Activities that have been prioritized for 2025. The X's below denote which Activities relate directly to the action(s) listed in Tables 1 and 2. Many Activities relate to ongoing monitoring that is not reflected in this table.

Strategy 1. Strengthen engagement, access, and rights of patients and consumers	2025	2026+
1. Prioritize rights & needs of patients & consumers	X	
2. Strengthen accessibility		
3. Facilitate engagement opportunities		X
4. Promote education	X	
5. Advocate for policies		
Strategy 2. Close remaining electronic health record (EHR) gaps	2025	2026+
1. Prioritize resources	X	X
2. Advocate for regulatory alignment and supportive policy changes	X	X
3. Fill EHR data gaps	X	
Strategy 3. Spread health information exchange (HIE) across the state	2025	2026+
1. Encourage HIE participation & provide funding and support	X	X
2. Improve standards, guidance, & best practices		
3. Make more data available for HIE	X	X
4. Promote data sharing models and approaches		
5. Monitor HIE landscape & improve insight into HIE	X	
Strategy 4. Support, accelerate, and improve statewide community information exchange (CIE) efforts	2025	2026+
1. Provide support for CIE participation	X	X
2. OHA & ODHS to support & participate in CIE efforts	X	X
3. Use CIE data for policy recommendations & resource allocation. Ensure data access for community.		
4. Align privacy and security efforts		
Strategy 5. Improve interoperability and encourage broad sharing of valuable data	2025	2026+
1. Create opportunities to facilitate interoperability		X
2. Support data access and sharing		X
3. Use policy levers to support interoperability	X	
4. Promote public/private partnership & shared funding		
5. Study and address gaps	X	X
Strategy 6. Evolve governance of health IT efforts	2025	2026+
1. Clarify and define governance	X	
2. Develop governance principles		X
3. Explore new models of governance	X	X

Alignment

HITOC's priorities align well with state strategies and policy priorities, and with federal priorities related to health IT. The icons below denote action items that align directly with these priorities.



Alignment with Oregon Health Policy Board (OHPB) [2024-25 Priority Framework](#)



Alignment with [Oregon Health Authority Strategic Plan \(2024-2027\)](#)







Alignment with the [2024-2030 Federal Health IT Strategic Plan](#)

Priority providers: When this Workplan refers to “priority providers,” the group includes behavioral health, oral health, providers in rural areas, long-term care, carceral settings, school-based clinics, small independent physical health providers and other groups that have low EHR adoption and have had fewer resources for EHRs.

Table 1: Short-term HITOC Actions

The table below includes HITOC actions prioritized for 2025 organized by strategy and topic. Within each strategy, actions are listed by priority, starting with HITOC's highest priority (rank 1).

Strategic Plan Strategy	Strategic Plan Topic	HITOC Actions	Alignment	Rank	Meeting
Strategy 1: Patients and Consumers	Patient agency and data protections	Learn about efforts around the ability for patients to annotate or change their health records. Advocate as needed.		1	Aug
		Learn about federal health IT patient advocacy efforts.	★	2	
	Consent practices	Identify gaps and advocate as needed.	★	3	
		Learn about improvements in consent practices, including options for patients to decide which providers receive which data.	★	4	
	Representation in decision-making	Learn about the current extent of patient and consumer voice in decision-making in health care and health IT.		5	
	Artificial Intelligence	Learn about AI experiences for patients.		6	
	Patient education	Assess whether HITOC should play a role and issue recommendations if appropriate.	★	7	
Strategy 2: EHR	Support for EHRs for priority providers	Learn about <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each provider type's EHR needs and adoption rates, starting with behavioral health. Existing EHR supports, best practices, and remaining gaps / needs. EHR opportunities and resources (like incentives and technical assistance for providers). 	🎯🌅★	1	June
	Federal and state policies and opportunities	Explore EHR funding opportunities .	★	2	ongoing
		Monitor policies to support greater alignment for data standards and advocate if appropriate.	★	3	
Strategy 3: HIE	Support for HIE for priority providers	Learn about each priority provider's unique needs and menu of options for HIE. Host distinct conversations for different provider types, starting with behavioral health. Learn about confidentiality and data sharing policies that apply to each type (HIPAA, 42 CFR part 2, etc.).	🎯🌅★	1	June
		Discuss what constitutes meaningful clinical information exchange relating to oral health, behavioral health, and practice management systems.		2	

Strategic Plan Strategy	Strategic Plan Topic	HITOC Actions	Alignment	Rank	Mtg
	Support for HIE for priority providers	Identify what actions could support each provider type to achieve greater HIE adoption and use.	★	3	June
	HIE landscape	Continue monitoring HIE progress, barriers, and efforts to support participants.	★	4	ongoing
	Federal policies	Monitor federal data standards, national efforts such as TEFCA, and policy changes in HIE and discuss impacts on Oregon	★	5	
Strategy 4: CIE	CIE landscape	Continue monitoring progress toward HITOC's strategic CIE recommendations and priorities in place including landscape, progress and barriers to CIE adoption and use (especially support for community-based organizations [CBOs]), and OHA/other state agency use.	 ★	1	ongoing
	CIE data use	Learn about data activities across the CIE landscape, including what data is available in CIE and how it is used.	 ★	2	
Strategy 5: Interoperability	Gaps	Monitor data and interoperability gaps for priority providers. If needed, identify priority gaps and advocate for efforts to address them.	  ★	1	June
	Policy levers	Monitor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> state efforts around interoperability Federal regulation and TEFCA 	★	2	ongoing
Strategy 6: Governance	Governance landscape	Learn about governance in health IT and existing models in Oregon and other states, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>CIE governance</u> <u>HIE governance</u> (status, gaps, needs). If appropriate, convene partners to identify priority use cases and priority gaps. This could be listening sessions (community engagement), a standalone workgroup, or a subset of work done by a larger governance workgroup. Discuss applicable public-private partnerships like HIT Commons. <u>Health data utility (HDU)</u> concept 	★	1	Dec
	Role	Identify HITOC's role in governance.		2	
	Guidance	Consider defining governance scope and recommending principles.		3	
Additional focus areas (cross cutting)	Artificial Intelligence	Learn about Artificial Intelligence (AI) use in health IT, (e.g., including opportunities, risks, health equity implications, and the policy/regulatory environment).	★	1	Feb/Apr
	Vendor Alignment (Interoperability, Governance)	Explore opportunities for aligning expectations or leveraging collective power in the landscape to align vendors. Explore HITOC's role.		2	TBD

Strategic Plan Strategy	Strategic Plan Topic	HITOC Actions	Alignment	Rank	Mtg
	Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data	Learn about how data justice principles are being applied and about strategies to avoid harm for patients.	★	3	Oct
		Identify priority use cases or high value SDOH data if needed.		4	
		Discuss federal expectations around vendor alignment on interoperability, design, and SDOH data.	★	5	
		Monitor SDOH data standards and specific tools in use in Oregon.	★	6	
		Monitor the impact of health IT solutions to support SDOH efforts, including EHR, HIE, and CIE solutions.	★	7	
	Health equity	Discuss health equity opportunities and implications for health IT.	🎯🌅★	8	all
	Landscape and Progress Monitoring	Continue to monitor the health IT landscape and receive updates as relevant.		9	ongoing
Committee Business	OHPB reporting	Report committee activities to OHPB quarterly via written Digests and annually during an OHPB meeting.		1	As needed
	Chair elections	Elect HITOC Chair and Vice Chair.		2	

Additional Approaches to consider for 2025 Meetings:

- ❖ Highlight patient stories or “personas” to emphasize patient experiences with health IT.
- ❖ Discuss what success would look like for priority topics, especially from a health equity perspective.
- ❖ Include metrics when available, i.e. “10% of constituents understand what they’re consenting to” to frame problems.
- ❖ Contextualize discussions by noting HITOC’s role and authority in each area

Table 2: Mid- and Long-term HITOC Actions

The table below includes HITOC actions identified for 2026-28 organized by strategy and topic.

Strategic Plan Strategy	Strategic Plan Topic	HITOC Actions
Strategy 1: Patient Rights	Community engagement	Engage community when appropriate. Host conversations focused on priority groups and providers when appropriate.
Strategy 2: EHR	Support for EHRs for priority providers	Advocate for greater support for EHRs for priority providers from state agencies and health systems. Consider new and existing models, such as communities of practice for providers around EHRs. Learn from other states about successful efforts to support priority providers with EHRs.
	Federal policies and opportunities	Consider federal advocacy if appropriate.
	Provider burden	Learn about and discuss provider burden from health IT.
	EHRs and interoperability	Learn about how EHRs impact interoperability and identify functions of EHRs that could improve interoperability.
Strategy 3: HIE	Support for HIE for priority providers	Continue learning about HIE needs for any priority providers not discussed in 2025 (oral health, carceral settings, etc.).
	Technical assistance	Explore opportunities to support technical assistance (funding, etc.) and recommend OHA staff to pursue if applicable
	Data sharing	Consider advocacy to fill gaps in HIE data sharing. Advise state agencies and recommend other partners contribute more data to HIE to fill gaps.
Strategy 4: CIE	Discussion	Provide a learning space for dialogue and ideas around CIE.
	Support for CBOs	Recommend and encourage partners to support CBOs with CIE.
	Federal and state policies and opportunities	Advise OHA and ODHS, as appropriate, encouraging agencies to support CIE coordination and convening, and align with HITOC's CIE guidance.
		Learn about and discuss policy, contractual levers, and other opportunities available to support CIE efforts (in addition to Medicaid waivers).
Strategy 5: Interoperability	Use cases	Learn about interoperability use cases and how well current systems support interoperability. If needed, advocate for priority use cases or types of use cases.
	Valuable data	Monitor emerging use cases for valuable data. Learn about high value data and activities.
		Recommend that other groups put resources toward identifying high value data and activities if needed.
Strategy 6: Governance	Existing models	Continue learning about governance in health IT, especially as it relates to HIE, CIE, public-private partnerships, and the HDU concept.

Strategic Plan Strategy	Strategic Plan Topic	HITOC Actions
	Guidance	<p>Consider developing recommendations related to governance including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Clarifying and defining governance</u> scope, authority, structure(s), goals, and responsibilities. • <u>Develop governance principles</u> in partnership with community groups. HITOC specified that this process should include community participation across multiple sectors.
Additional focus areas	Data Standards (EHR, HIE, Interoperability, etc.)	Learn about federal, state, and regional (WA, CA, ID) data standards and regulations, especially those that impact data sharing for priority providers.
		Discuss how standards impact EHR choices, interoperability, and use of health IT. Discuss how these policies relate to HITOC's priorities and identify gaps if applicable.
		Identify if further action needs to be taken.
		Consider advocating for standardized data or advising OHA on areas where standardization is needed.
	Vendor alignment (Interoperability, Governance)	Learn about federal expectations around vendor alignment on interoperability and SDOH data. Learn about case studies.
		Promote federal expectations around vendor alignment.
	Equity and Privacy	Promote principles around equity and privacy and security.
	Workforce	Learn about gaps in the health IT workforce and how they impact HITOC's priority areas.
		Learn from payers and priority providers what kinds of workforce supports would be most helpful.

2025 Meeting Plan

Meeting	Focus Areas	Desired Outcomes
February	Finalize HITOC 2025 Workplan	Confirm priorities for 2025 meetings.
	State and Federal Priorities	Learn about the 2025 state priorities related to health and health IT from OHPB and OHA. Learn about federal health IT priorities. Review how these priorities align with SDOH, BH, and HITOC's other priority areas.
	Artificial Intelligence (AI): Part 1	Learn about AI in health IT and the evolving policy/regulatory environment. Discuss equity implications, opportunities, risks.
April	Artificial Intelligence: Part 2	Discuss additional priorities related to AI in health IT.
	Retreat Preparation	Discuss priorities for June retreat on health IT in behavioral health.
June – Retreat	Health IT in Behavioral Health (BH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data sharing policies (42 CFR pt 2) EHR and HIE adoption (and applicable interoperability gaps) Existing supports, best practices from Oregon and other states, and remaining gaps/needs 	Learn about health IT nuances specific to BH. Identify continuing gaps and opportunities for greater support. Discuss what HITOC or other partners could do to better support health IT for BH. Identify actions to further priorities. Discuss what constitutes meaningful clinical information exchange for BH. Consider creating a product to advocate for greater support: position paper, letter of support, etc.
August	Patients and Consumers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient agency, consent Patient education, representation 	Learn about existing efforts related to patients and consumers and explore what role HITOC could play to further priorities. Identify gaps in consent practices. Discuss emerging privacy concerns.
October	Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data justice & avoiding harm Federal expectations for vendor alignment State SDOH standards and policies update 	Learn about health IT efforts to support SDOH data activities. Highlight best practices. Decide how HITOC should support SDOH data efforts. Identify priority use cases. Explore connections to health equity, consent, governance, and other priority topics.
December	Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on CIE, HIE, and HDU governance Identify HITOC's role and consider defining scope and principles 	Learn about existing efforts and explore HITOC's role in statewide governance.
Additional Topics	These topics will be incorporated into meetings as applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities to align vendors around interoperability and governance. Explore HITOC's role. Health Equity in health IT Landscape and progress update 	
All meetings	Check in on workplan progress. Receive updates on policy changes. Additional time to finalize products, discuss emerging topics.	

HITOC Responsibilities

These duties are based on state statute and HITOC's charter and informed the development of the proposed actions for the 2025 HITOC Workplan. The specific descriptions in this list of responsibilities were developed for HITOC's draft 2020 Workplan.

- 1. Explore Health IT Policy**

Explore high-priority health IT policy topics related to Oregon's goals of health system transformation and promoting health equity; when appropriate, convene workgroups to aid exploration.

- 2. Plan Oregon's Health IT Strategy**

Make recommendations to the Oregon Health Policy Board (OHPB) about health IT policy, including health IT strategic planning, priority setting, policy direction, legislative opportunities, and other opportunities to improve the effectiveness of health IT efforts in Oregon.

- 3. Oversee OHA's Health IT Efforts**

Oversee and monitor OHA's health IT efforts, including the Oregon Health IT Program; promote transparency about those efforts.

- 4. Assess Oregon's Health IT Landscape**

Assess the state of health IT in Oregon; identify gaps, barriers, areas where more information is needed, and other issues with HIT in Oregon.

- 5. Report on Oregon's Health IT Progress**

Develop reports to inform the Board and other stakeholders about use of HIT in Oregon, including electronic health record (EHR) adoption and use, participation in HIT efforts, and other topics important to achieving Oregon's goals for HIT-optimized health care.

- 6. Monitor Federal Health IT Law and Policy**

Monitor federal health IT laws and policies that impact Oregon; make recommendations to the Board or the Oregon Congressional Delegation or take other action when appropriate.