

HITOC 2026 Workplan

The 2026 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 OHA 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.

Strategic Plan Strategies

HITOC's [Strategic plan](#) includes six strategies in support of HITOC's goals to advance health IT in Oregon.

Number	Strategy
1	Strengthen engagement, access, and rights of patients and consumers
2	Close remaining EHR gaps
3	Spread HIE across the state
4	Support, accelerate, and improve statewide CIE efforts
5	Improve interoperability and encourage broad sharing of valuable data
6	Evolve governance of health IT efforts

HITOC 2026 Workplan

Strategy 1: Patients and Consumers

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Learn about priority patient and consumer use cases for health IT. Explore barriers and facilitators to patient use of health IT, understand how patients use health IT and how use varies for different groups of consumers. Explore HITOC's role in supporting patient use of health IT.	Oct	Major
Monitor and discuss patient data privacy concerns.	Oct	Moderate
Learn about current role, scope, and functionality of third-party health apps and use of patient access APIs.	Oct	Moderate
Learn about privacy and security policies for third-party apps, including those implemented by other states.	Oct	Minor
Explore state-level levers for supporting patients and consumers with health IT.	TBD	Minor
Explore possible role of health IT to support information sharing for benefits enrollment and re-determination.	TBD	Minor
Discuss successes and challenges in patient engagement and secure communication.	TBD	Minor

Strategy 2: EHR

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Continue to learn about EHR and other health IT needs and barriers for specific provider types as needed, including long-term care, carceral settings, and primary care.	TBD	Tracking

Strategy 3: HIE

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Explore ways to expand participation in existing HIE programs and use of HIE tools in Oregon.	Various	Moderate

Strategy 4: CIE

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Provide a learning space for dialogue and ideas around CIE.	Various	Major
Recommend and encourage partners to support CBOs with CIE.	Various	Moderate
Advise OHA and ODHS, as appropriate, in alignment with HITOC's CIE recommendations.	TBD	Minor

Strategy 5: Interoperability

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Explore if advocacy is needed to identify and support priority interoperability use cases.	Apr	Major
Learn about federal initiatives (e.g. TEFCA) and requirements (e.g. CMS interoperability rules), discuss implications, explore if more action is needed.	Feb	Major
Explore opportunities to support vendor alignment.	Apr	Major
Learn about interoperability use cases, especially for high value data (e.g. SDOH data).	Apr	Moderate
Learn about how well current health IT systems support interoperability.	Apr	Moderate
Consider recommending that partners identify high value data and activities.	Aug	Moderate
Learn about statewide collaboration to support interoperability and data alignment.	Aug	Moderate

Strategy 6: Governance

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Learn about existing governance efforts, especially for CIE, HIE, and HDU.	Dec	Major
Explore HITOC's role in statewide governance.	Dec	Minor
Consider defining scope and principles for health IT governance.	Dec	Minor

Note: HITOC actions not assigned to a meeting in the meeting plan will be included in HITOC activities whenever relevant.

Additional cross-cutting focus areas

Health IT and behavioral health (BH) activities

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Assess health IT for BH organizations with small provider focus.	Various	Moderate
Publish list of behavioral health EHRs in use in Oregon.	Various	Moderate

Artificial Intelligence (AI) use in health IT

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Explore AI integration into health IT and its potential role in health care improvement, including improved patient care and decreased provider burden.	Jun	Major
Learn about governance and regulatory environment of artificial intelligence in health IT.	Jun	Major
Learn about patient experiences with AI in health IT.	Jun	Moderate
Discuss specific use cases for different types of AI use in health IT.	Jun	Moderate

Health IT and rural Oregon

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Learn about health IT needs and challenges for providers in rural areas.	Aug	Major
Discuss health IT impacts of the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP).	Aug	Moderate

Additional areas

HITOC actions	Meeting	Priority level
Receive updates on state and federal health IT policy.	Various	Minor

Discuss impact of financial challenges on health IT in Oregon.	TBD	Minor
Receive updates on health IT to support SDOH data.	TBD	Tracking

Note: HITOC actions not assigned to a meeting in the meeting plan will be included in HITOC activities whenever relevant.

HITOC’s key focus areas for 2026:

- Interoperability
- RHTP

HITOC 2026 Meeting plan

February

Focus areas	Priority topics and desired outcomes
Workplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize workplan
Interoperability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about federal priorities for interoperability

April

Focus area	Priority topics and desired outcomes
Interoperability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about how well current health IT systems support interoperability • Learn about priority use cases and explore how to provide support • Explore support for vendor alignment

June

Focus area	Priority topics and desired outcomes
AI in health IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore AI integration into health IT and its impacts on health care and provider burden • Learn about <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ governance and regulatory environment of artificial intelligence in health IT ○ patient experiences with AI in health IT ○ different types of AI use in health IT

August

Focus area	Priority topics and desired outcomes
Health IT and rural Oregon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about health IT needs and challenges for providers in rural areas. • Discuss health IT impacts of the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP)
Interoperability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore identifying high value data • Learn about statewide interoperability efforts

October

Focus area	Priority topics and desired outcomes
Patients and consumers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ patient & consumer use cases for health IT ○ patient data privacy concerns ○ current functionality of third-party apps ○ privacy and security policies for third-party apps • Explore barriers and facilitators to patient use of health IT • Explore HITOC's role in supporting patient use of health IT

December

Focus area	Priority topics and desired outcomes
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about governance efforts, especially for CIE, HIE, and HDU • Explore HITOC's role in statewide governance • Consider defining scope and principles for health IT governance

All meetings

Focus area	Priority topics and desired outcomes
Behavioral health (BH) activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on health IT assessment for BH organizations • Updates on behavioral health EHR list
CIE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on community information exchange (CIE) • Provide a learning space for dialogue and ideas around CIE • Encourage partners to support CBOs with CIE

Additional topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore ways to expand use of HIE in Oregon • Updates on state and federal health IT policy
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Priority level guide

Involvement level	Description
Major priority	HITOC will spend multiple meetings learning about and working on the topic and may develop a deliverable or course of action to support the area.
Moderate priority	HITOC will spend some meeting time (1 or 2 hours) learning about and discussing the topic and will explore if more attention is needed.
Minor priority	HITOC will direct OHA to track developments and provide occasional short updates
Not a priority for 2026	HITOC will direct OHA to track developments but will not plan to reserve meeting time for this area in 2026 unless major developments occur

List of HITOC Actions

This list describes the scope of actions that HITOC can take to further its strategic priorities.

Action Category: Provide transparency

Category definition: Track and bring attention to important topics

Action	Description
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.

Action Category: Evaluate

Category definition: Gather information and consider implications

Action	Description
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.

Action Category: Advocate

Category definition: Inform other groups of HITOC's priorities

Action	Description
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.

Action Category: Convene

Category definition: Bring people together to do something

Action	Description
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.

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