

# July 2023 eNews

Welcome to the Office of Health Information Technology (IT) & Analytics Infrastructure eNewsletter! Here you will find updates on health IT in Oregon and at the federal level. For a deeper dive into health IT in Oregon check out the [Policy and Program Updates](#). If there are specific items you would like to see in this newsletter, please send ideas to [HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov).

## Open Positions for the Oregon Health Policy Board

### Are you interested in helping guide health policy for the Oregon Health Authority?

Governor Tina Kotek and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) are seeking qualified candidates to serve on the Oregon Health Policy Board (OHPB). The Governor is looking for individuals who are committed to eliminating inequities, improving health, improving health care and to lowering health care costs in Oregon.

The OHPB is a nine-member Board appointed by the Governor. It serves as the policy-making body for OHA and is responsible for improving the health care delivery system as well as improving the health of Oregonians by developing state public health goals, strategies, programs, and performance standards.

For information and materials from previous meetings, visit [OHPB's website](#). For resources and information on executive membership, including OHPB, visit the Governor's [Boards and Commissions webpage](#).

While all applications will be considered, based on current membership there is interest in identifying Board members who are located outside of the Portland-metro area and have expertise and/or experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Equity, diversity and inclusion (professional and lived expertise, ally or representative from underrepresented communities or experiencing health inequities)
- Behavioral Health
- Health Policy
- Healthcare Workforce

The term of office is four years. Upon nomination by the Governor, nominees must be confirmed by the state Senate.

Oregon rules ([ORS 413.007](#)) requires that OHPB consists of individuals who:

- ✓ Have demonstrated leadership skills in their professional and civic lives.
- ✓ Represent, to the greatest extent possible, various geographic, ethnic, gender, racial and economic diversity of the state.
- ✓ Collectively offer expertise, knowledge and experience in consumer advocacy, management of a company that offers health insurance to its employees, public health, finance, organized labor, health care and operation of a small business.
- ✓ Are citizens of the United States and are residents of Oregon.

### How to apply

If you are interested, please go to [Workday OHPB application](#). Applications are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis by the Governor's Office. We are asking interested people to submit their application immediately to be considered for the Senate confirmation hearing scheduled for September 2023.

## HITOC

### August Meeting

HITOC's next meeting is [August 3](#) from 12:30-3:30. Members will engage in discussion on three of the Health Information Exchange (HIE) Workgroup's draft concept papers: Connecting the Care Team, Advancing Population Health through HIE, and Demonstrating Value with Social Determinants of Health use cases of HIE. Members will also hear about upcoming Strategic Plan community engagement efforts and events.

### June Meeting

HITOC met on [June 8](#) and engaged in discussion on the HIE Workgroup's draft concept papers on the [Statewide Vision for HIE](#) and [Consumer, Privacy & Security, and Data Quality](#). Members also reviewed a [report on existing community engagement](#) from the last several years as part of the 2024-2028 Strategic Plan work.

### Community Engagement

Community engagement opportunities for HITOC's 2024-2028 Strategic Plan for Health IT are coming soon! HITOC will be hosting listening sessions this summer/fall - dates and details to be announced in coming weeks, and will be posted on [Oregon's Health IT Strategic Plan webpage](#) and shared via this eNews. Members of the public will have the opportunity to engage in discussion on their experiences with health IT. Participants' input will help to inform strategies for health IT solutions in Oregon.

## Federal Highlights

### Information Blocking Final Rule

On June 27, 2023, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG) posted its [final rule implementing information blocking penalties](#). The final rule establishes the statutory penalties created by the 21st Century Cures Act. If OIG determines that an individual or entity has committed information blocking, they may be subject up to a \$1 million penalty per violation.

## Upcoming Events: OHA Health IT Meetings/Events

- July 14, 2023, 9:00-12:00: [HIE Workgroup monthly meeting](#)
- July 27, 2023, 1:00-4:00: CCO [HIT Advisory Group \(HITAG\) quarterly meeting](#)
- August 3, 2023, 12:30-3:30: [HITOC Meeting](#)
- August 18, 2023, 9:00-12:00: [HIE Workgroup monthly meeting](#)

### Want to weigh in on OHA's Health IT work? How to make public comment:

OHA's Health IT committee and workgroup meetings (i.e., HITOC, HIE Workgroup, HITAG) are open to the public, and public comment is always welcome at the meeting during the specified time or in writing

at any time. Public comment is an important part of OHA's committee work and is an opportunity for members of the public to provide input and feedback to the Committee or Workgroup.

**Meetings:** Typically, the public comment period is held at the end of each meeting. There may occasionally be more than one comment period. Members of the public are asked to comment or post in the chat only during this period, and to keep verbal comments to about 2 minutes. The public comment period is held solely for the public to share their thoughts with the Committee or Workgroup. Committee members are unlikely to ask questions or respond to public comment directly but give consideration to public comments during committee work. If you know before the meeting that you'd like to provide public comment, you can email [HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov) to sign up. If you'd like to provide public comment during the meeting, you can message one of the hosts to sign-up. If you are unable to message, please speak up during the open public comment period.

**Written Comment:** You can also send written public comment to [HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov) at any time. To be included in the materials a meeting please submit the comment no less than 2 business days before the intended meeting. Please specify which group it is for – HITOC, HIE Workgroup, or HITAG. Written comment is emailed out and posted as part of meeting materials.

**Have questions about public comment?** We want to hear from you! Please email [HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov)