

# Oregon Psilocybin Services

## 2026 Public Listening Sessions

### Summary of Themes with Questions and Answers

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## **Background**

Oregon Psilocybin Services (OPS) held two virtual public listening sessions on May 6 and May 8, 2026. The public listening sessions are not part of the official rulemaking but instead offer an opportunity for members of the public to provide feedback on all aspects of OPS' implementation of ORS 475A. The listening sessions were 90 minutes in length and open to the public. Spanish and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation were provided, as well as CART captioning. The sessions were recorded and can be found on the OPS [2026 Public Listening Sessions](#) webpage in English, Spanish and American Sign Language (ASL).

During public listening sessions, OPS does not answer questions. Instead, the purpose of the listening sessions is to provide an opportunity for members of the public to provide feedback on the ongoing administration of the Oregon Psilocybin Services Act ([ORS 475A](#)). OPS compiled themes and questions asked across the two listening sessions. This document summarizes themes and provides answers to the questions asked.

Input from the public listening sessions will continue to inform program development within the statutory container of ORS 475A, educational materials, and future community engagement.

## Definitions

**OHA** = Oregon Health Authority, the state agency that licenses and regulates psilocybin services in Oregon under ORS 475A.

**OPS** = Oregon Psilocybin Services, the section within OHA's Public Health Division that administers psilocybin licensure and regulation.

**OPAB** = The Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board (OPAB, or the "Board") is made up of members appointed by the Governor. ORS 475A directs OPAB to submit recommendations for rules and regulations to OHA.

**Statute** = A statute is a law adopted via ballot measure or passed by the Oregon Legislature and signed by the Governor. The Oregon Psilocybin Services Act was passed in November 2020 by Oregon voters as Ballot Measure 109 and is now codified in Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 475A ([ORS 475A](#)). OPS do not have the authority to amend statute. Making any changes to a statute requires passage of legislation by the Oregon Legislative Assembly and signing into law by the governor.

**Rule** = Administrative rules are adopted by agencies to implement statute. OPS is required to adopt administrative rules to administer and implement ORS 475A. Every Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) uses the same numbering sequence of a three-digit chapter number, followed by a three-digit division number and a four-digit rule number. All psilocybin rules are in Chapter 333, division 333: [OAR 333-333](#).

**Rulemaking** = The OPS rulemaking process is informed by recommendations from the Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board (OPAB), information from complaints, investigations, product tracking, and auditing by OPS, input from Rules Advisory Committees (RACs), and comments received during public comment periods. For more information, please see the [OPS Administrative Rules webpage](#).

## Public Comment Themes and Questions

OPS received multiple comments and questions during the [2026 Public Listening Sessions](#) on the key themes listed below.

### **Limitations on playing live music during administration sessions**

Many participants provided feedback related to rule [ORS 333-333-5200](#) and the guidance on this rule in [the OPS Guidance on Administrative Rules document](#) addressing ‘musician, breath worker, other performer or service provider present during administration sessions’.

Many participants voiced concerns about the need for more flexibility for administration sessions to include live music components. Several participants talked about the importance of music as a healing component of administration sessions. Some suggested that OPS could create a form for clients to provide formal consent for music to be played during their administration session. Some suggested that the use of music could be addressed more in facilitator training requirements. Some suggested that music and other contemplative practices like Yoga or Thai Chi should be allowed for groups consuming 5 mg of psilocybin or less. There was a request for more background on this rule and guidance.

OPS administrative rules are informed by recommendations from the Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board (OPAB), input from Rules Advisory Committees (RACs), and comments received during public comment periods. [ORS 333-333-5200\(6\)](#) went through a rulemaking process and was adopted in November 2024 went into effect January 1, 2025. Further guidance on complying with this rule was published in March 2025 in the [OPS Guidance on Administrative Rules](#) document, which is updated regularly.

OPS is committed to continuous improvement and engages in administrative rulemaking each year to update rules in response to new legislation, public input, and other identified needs.

### **Concerns related to traditional and indigenous healing practitioners**

Several commentors expressed concern for how limitations on live music affects traditional and indigenous healing practitioners and questioned OPS' level of engagement with these practitioners.

OPS follows Oregon law, which highlights the importance of honoring the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon as sovereign nations. OPS has connected with the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon through our state process to invite engagement. It is up to our tribal partners if, and when, they decide to engage with us. OPS respects their decisions and their priorities. Please read the [letter from the Oregon Health Authority Tribal Affairs Director](#) for more information.

OPS engages with individual tribal members, however, regardless of whether they are from one of the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon or not. They can speak as individuals but are unable to represent their tribal leadership. In addition, OPS connects with individuals who identify as indigenous and have made community circle offerings a priority since the development of the model. Please [Request a Meeting](#), if you would like to discuss co-hosting a community circle.

### **Definition of non-directive services**

Several commentors asked how “non-directive” services are defined and voiced that the requirement for services to be “non-directive” should be interpreted to mean “client-directed”, “client-centered”, or “client-led”.

Currently, “Nondirective facilitation” is defined in [ORS 333-333-1010](#) to mean: “a client-centered approach to facilitation in which the client makes decisions related to their participation in psilocybin services and the facilitator maintains a consistent disposition with a client, while avoiding giving the client direct advice or offering an interpretation of a client’s statements, behaviors or needs unless appropriate for health and safety reasons. Nondirective facilitation does not prohibit a facilitator from offering options, resources, referrals or providing health and safety support to clients within their scope of practice.” This definition comes from important conversations during the development period with the Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board and its subcommittees, feedback from clinicians,

and other community engagement as concerns were raised about facilitators potentially misinterpreting client experiences, or facilitator microaggressions or projections onto clients that could cause harm to clients.

### **Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board members and their effectiveness**

Some commentors expressed concern about the Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board (OPAB), its membership, and its failure to meet quorum at meetings which has affected their ability to move recommendations forward. Commentors expressed interest in learning about how OPAB board members are selected and why there are not more licensees serving on the board. There was also a question about whether OPAB members provide statements regarding conflicts of interest.

Established by ORS 475A, the Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board (OPAB) makes recommendations to OHA on available scientific studies and research on the safety and efficacy of psilocybin in treating mental health conditions, and makes recommendations on the requirements, specifications and guidelines for providing psilocybin services in Oregon. The Board has also developed a long-term strategic plan for ensuring that psilocybin services will become and remain a safe, accessible and affordable therapeutic option for all persons 21 years of age and older in this state for whom psilocybin may be appropriate and monitor and study federal laws, regulations and policies regarding psilocybin.

[ORS 475A.225](#) specifies positions that must be filled by members with specific expertise and qualifications, and these positions are filled as vacancies become available. OPS does not select board members; all OPAB members are appointed by the Governor. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please go to the following page to learn more: [Apply to become an Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board member](#).

OPAB is subject to public meetings law. The majority of voting members must be present during a meeting to achieve quorum, and quorum is required to consider any voting items.

Under Oregon Government Ethics Law, all OPAB members are required to declare conflicts of interest before voting on an issue. OPAB has taken the additional step of adopting bylaws that require members to publicly declare employment interests, financial interests or business connections on an annual basis. OPS posts all meeting agendas, minutes, member roster, and more on the [Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board](#) webpage.

### **License fee structures**

We received some comments related to license fees and suggestions for changing the license fee structure in support of small businesses and new licensees. Some suggested a graduated approach where license fees could increase over time. Others suggested a tiered approach that would be based on the number of sessions facilitated, which could be helpful to small businesses or those with dual licensure. Some suggested that license fee terms should extend for 2 years, rather than having a 1-year term. There was a suggestion to create a new license type that would provide a permitted worker with more options for supporting a facilitator. This new license/permit type could require specific training and distinct license fee.

General concerns about the potential increase in license fees were also expressed, and the potential effect on equitable access to services.

### **Requirement for services to conclude by 11:59 PM**

Some commented on the limitations created by [ORS 333-333-4480](#) which requires that every administration session begin at a time that allows the minimum duration of that session described to elapse prior to 11:59 PM. Some described that it is not ideal for clients to transport to a hotel or other unfamiliar environment directly after the administration session. Some spoke about the desire for a retreat-like setting that could allow for overnight guests. OPS rules do not prohibit a licensed service center from being located on the same tax lot as unlicensed facilities that provide lodging. This provision may allow for flexible business models that incorporate lodging at an adjacent location.

### **Desire for clients to access psilocybin services at home**

OPS received comments requesting that clients with mobility limitations, who are terminally ill or who are in hospice have the option to receive psilocybin services at home. This issue cannot be handled in administrative rule and is currently prohibited by statute. ORS 475A.498 states that psilocybin products may only be consumed at licensed service centers. Making any changes to a statute requires that a legislator sponsor and propose an amendment to ORS 475A. The amendment must then be passed by both houses through a step-by-step process. Go to the OPS webpage on [Community Engagement with the Oregon Legislature](#) for more information about how to engage with the Oregon Legislature.

### **Concerns related to OPS compliance costs and approaches**

Some spoke to concerns related to how OPS handles complaints and investigations. There was a suggestion to consider creating a first-year grace period for new licensees to understand how to comply with administrative and reporting rules. The commentor suggested that during the first-year grace period, OPS could provide education regarding errors, before escalating to civil penalties. There was some mention about the amount of money spent on investigations and enforcement activities, and requests to review those costs before raising license fees.

### **Statewide Health Improvement Plan strategy to “destigmatize psilocybin as a culturally responsive option for healing and wellness”**

Some commentors referenced the Statewide Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) and asked about what it means, how it will be implemented, and how people can get involved.

Every five years the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division describes health priorities and develops a plan called the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP). The 2025-29 Oregon State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) includes a strategy to “destigmatize psilocybin as a culturally responsive option for healing and wellness”. For more background on how OPS aligns with the SHIP, please see the [OPS-SHIP Fact Sheet](#).

The [OHA Public Health Division](#) leads the implementation of the SHIP and it is a collaborative effort that involves many partners. If you have ideas for collaborating or advancing this strategy, please contact us at

[OHA.psilocybin@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:OHA.psilocybin@oha.oregon.gov). You can also contact the SHIP team directly.

### **Whether gatherings of staff at a service center require a temporary use notice**

A commenter asked whether gatherings of facilitators and staff at a service center require a temporary use notice. Under [OAR 333-333-4300](#), a service center must provide notice of temporary use of the licensed premises for activities that are unrelated to the exercise of license privileges. Staff meetings and similar gatherings are related to licensee activities and do not require notice. For more information on temporary use events, please visit the [OPS Guidance on Administrative Rules](#).

### **Engaging in the 2026 Rulemaking process**

Some commenters expressed interest in learning more about how to participate in the 2026 rulemaking process.

OPS rulemaking occurs each year and there are several ways to engage throughout the process. You can apply to serve on a Rules Advisory Committee (RAC). You can provide written testimony or verbal testimony during the rulemaking public comment periods.

For 2026 rulemaking, applications to serve on a Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) will be available May 18<sup>th</sup> and are due June 5, 2026. The first version of 2026 draft rules will be shared with the RACs and discussed in the RAC meetings in July. RAC meeting information, such as Zoom links and meeting materials including copies of the draft rules, will be posted on the [OPS Administrative Rules](#) page. Recordings of the meetings will be posted on the days following each meeting.

The next version of proposed rules will be published for public comment on September 1, 2026. The public may comment on any rule during the public comment period scheduled for September 1 through September 21, 2026.

The final rules will be adopted by the end of the year and will be effective January 1, 2027.

For more information about how to engage in the 2026 rulemaking process, please go to the [OPS Administrative Rules](#) webpage.

In addition to the official rulemaking process, you can engage by attending [OPAB and/or subcommittee meetings](#) and sharing your ideas in the public comment periods during these meetings. You can also attend and provide comments during our annual [public listening sessions](#).

We recommend that you [subscribe to the OPS Distribution List](#) to receive updates.

## Thank you for your continued engagement

Thank you for participating in the 2026 OPS Public Listening Sessions, for sharing your feedback and asking important questions.

We are always interested in learning from you. If you have any additional comments or questions, please contact the Oregon Psilocybin Services section at: [OHA.psilocybin@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:OHA.psilocybin@oha.oregon.gov)