



**Survey & Certification Unit**

800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 465

Portland, OR 97232

Voice: (971) 673-0540

Fax: (971) 673-0556

TTY: 711

<http://www.healthoregon.org/hcrqi>

[mailbox.hclc@state.or.us](mailto:mailbox.hclc@state.or.us)

December 6, 2017

Re: Summary of Nurse Staffing Audits for 2016

The legislature tasked the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) with implementing the statutory changes to nurse staffing laws enacted in 2015. Implementation included key milestones beginning in 2016 and continuing in 2017:

- January 1, 2016 – new statutory requirements regarding hospital nurse staffing committee composition and leadership took effect.
- July 1, 2017 – new and amended administrative rules on the nurse staffing requirements took effect.
- January 1, 2017 – new statutory requirements regarding hospital nurse staffing plans took effect.

The staggered effective dates for these regulatory changes meant that legally and practically hospitals and nurse staffing committees were in transition in 2016. Hospitals and nurse staffing committees used this time to engage in modification of both committees and staffing plans to meet the new standards.

In addition, the staggered effective dates meant that the OHA surveys under the new law could begin after the new statutory requirements for staffing plans took effect in January 2017. Throughout this legislatively-mandated transition period, OHA worked to provide stakeholders with resources and education about the changes to the law.

If you need this material in an alternate format,  
please call (971) 673-0540 or TTY (711).