REDO ON BILINGUAL CERTIFICATION!

We heard from many of you that the company we selected to test for bilingual certification was defunct; their website had several deadlinks. We apologize for the inconvenience.

We revisited a well-established resource, the College Board, which offers College-Level Examination Process (CLEP) and Advanced Placement (AP) testing programs. [https://www.collegeboard.org/](https://www.collegeboard.org/)

The employer has agreed to recognize Spanish and French language proficiency with a score of 50 or higher on the CLEP. The CLEP costs $89 and is offered at official CLEP test centers or at home with remote proctoring. Alternately, a nurse can certify their Chinese language proficiency with a score of 3 or higher on the AP test. The AP costs $96 and is offered at local high schools.

Nurses can be reimbursed for these fees from the ONA education funds. Further, a nurse could use those funds to pay for their time to take the exam (See §16.1 of our contract). For more information, please contact your departmental education representative listed here: [https://www.oregonrn.org/page/MCW](https://www.oregonrn.org/page/MCW).

Nurses with a language certification will receive an additional $2.00 per hour differential for the bilingual certification for all hours worked. For other non-bilingual certification, nurses can continue to earn a separate $2.00 per hour differential (See §9.12 and §9.13 of our contract).

To receive bilingual differential retroactively for all hours worked since July 13, 2021, a nurse:

- Must have been employed at McKenzie-Willamette since June 6, 2021,
- Complete the test on or before July 15, 2022,
- And provide the employer with documented certification by August 15, 2022.

Please keep us informed about your progress on this matter, including your experiences with the exams.
So far, we have only heard from nurses who want to certify in Spanish, French, and Chinese. If a nurse would like to become certified in American Sign Language or another language not listed, please help us identify an appropriate exam. Nurses receive the bilingual differential for only one language.

This bilingual certification allows nurses to communicate with patients for medical purposes but would not allow the patient to provide legal consent.

For more information, contact Gary, our labor rep, text/call 503-444-0690 or Aguiar@OregonRN.org.