COVID-19 Safety Negotiations Underway

Your Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) negotiations committee has been working with management to formalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that addresses concerns related to the health, safety and well-being of nurses and patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The proposal is close to agreement but not yet finalized.

Issues the MOU addresses are:

- Access and cost of COVID-19 testing.
- Access to appropriate PPE.
- Access to EIB for quarantine and infection leave.
- Access to EIB if ETO program is discontinued.
- Access to HIV/AIDS program dollars for COBRA if a nurse is seriously ill due to COVID-19.
- Protection for at risk employees.
- Reassurance of exposure notice.
- Agreement on meeting with union representation to address member concerns.
- Waiving of discipline for missed work due to illness.
- Teleconference meeting agreement to insure social distancing for union related business.
- Nurses who can't get childcare have access to BOLI temporary rules on childcare.
- Agreement on reassignment.
- Process for declining an unsafe assignment.
- Provisions for a COVID-19 specific unit.
- Extending timelines for certifications.
- Flexibility for employer with mandatory education/meetings.

COVID-19 FAQs on ONA’s Website

If you are looking for specific guidance, the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) is working to answer member questions as they arise.

Under the PPE section the following FAQs are available:

OSBN Updated Position Statement on COVID-19 - March 23

ONA COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions document

Comparison Chart - March 31
FAQ: PPE Optimization (Reuse) Guidelines
FAQ: Are there recommendation for

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Petition to Governor Brown to Stand with Health Care Workers

Oregon nurses and frontline health care workers are risking their lives everyday to save patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, far too many of our hospitals and facilities are not protecting us.

For more than a month, frontline Oregon health care workers and their unions have fought 24/7 for the minimum of COVID-19 protections. However, the vast majority of hospitals, clinics, and health care facilities in Oregon have refused to agree to emergency COVID-19 protections for health care workers. After our courageous health care workers helped flatten the curve to delay Oregon’s surge, it is critical that employers treat their workers with the respect and dignity they deserve and do everything in their power to protect nurses, first responders and all essential workers.

That’s why we’re asking Governor Kate Brown to insist that health care employers come to the table with their workers and get COVID-19 protections in place before the lives of Oregon health care providers are lost.

Sign the petition to urge Governor Brown to intervene in this extraordinary public health and workers’ rights emergency. We need every employer to help protect all nurses! Stand with all frontline health care workers in Oregon.

Click here to sign the petition or visit www.OregonRN.org/Petition

ONA Text Updates

Be the First to Know with ONA Text Updates

Don't miss critical information about Sky Lakes meetings, bargaining updates and local and statewide events or other important ONA news.

To receive ONA texts:

Text ONASKY to 43506

You can opt-out at any time by texting STOP to 43506. Frequency varies by user/month. Msg & data rates may apply.


Important FAQS continued from page 1

pregnant healthcare workers?
FAQ: PPE Optimization (Reuse) Guidelines
FAQ: Information for Nursing Students

Nurse Staffing Section:
www.oregonrn.org/covid-nurse-staffing
ONA has provided guidance on Declining an Unsafe Staffing Assignment.
www.oregonrn.org/declining-unsafe-assignments
ONA also has links on issues related to childcare, malpractice and student nurses.
www.oregonrn.org/covid-other