Tentative Agreement Ratified

The tentative agreement presented to nurses has ratified! What’s next?

Per the terms of the collective bargaining agreement (CBA), our contract goes into effect following the first full pay period after ratification. Ratification was verified on Jan. 14, 2021, and the first full pay period after that date began Jan. 24. You should see all wage increases on your next check, although we have been informed that the hospital was able to implement the singular change to call pay already. All other changes agreed to are also now in effect.

If you are a nurse who was impacted by the previous practice of only allowing partial credit for some nursing experience, please provide a copy of your resume to human resources as soon as possible so they may give you full credit for those years of experience. All years where a nurse worked in a position that required a registered nurse will be given full credit moving forward.

An updated version of the redline is available on the ONA/STA bargaining unit website here (www.OregonRN.org/91). The contract is being formatted now and should be available in a print version in the next four to six weeks.

New Labor Representative

ONA is happy to announce that we have filled a position for a labor representative based in Eastern Oregon.

Jessica Barnes, MSN, RN, comes to ONA from Hermiston, OR where she has spent more than four years as a critical care nurse at Good Shepherd Medical Center. She was raised in and still lives in Eastern Oregon with her husband and family. Jessica has a passion for nursing best practice and education. She brings both to advocacy for fellow nurses, her patients, and her community.

Jessica will be taking over the units previously served by Ateusa Salemi, RN, as Ateusa moves into a new role with ONA as a Lead Labor Representative. Jessica will be training and orienting to the Eastern Oregon assignment over the coming weeks. Please welcome her. She can be reached via email at Barnes@OregonRN.org.
OHA Updates Nurse Staffing Complaint Process

Has your hospital violated the nurse staffing plan? Have you been using a system for meals and breaks that leaves your unit staffed below your core or minimum nurse staffing levels? You may need to file a complaint with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), the hospital nurse staffing regulatory body. OHA must, by statute, perform an investigation of a staffing complaint within 60 business days of receiving the complaint. OHA recently updated the complaint process and now includes a supplemental list of questions specific to nurse staffing.

If you are filing a complaint, it is important to note you will need to fill out both the “Health Care Facility Complaint Intake Form” and the “Hospital Nurse Staffing Additional Questions Form.”

If you need help with submitting a nurse staffing complaint or if you have previously filed a complaint and have not heard back from OHA, please contact your labor representative or your nurse practice consultant!

Nurse Practice Consultant: Christy Simila
Simila@oregonrn.org

Labor Representative: Jessica Barnes
Barnes@OregonRN.org, or Ateusa Salemi:
Salemi@oregonrn.org

Under Pressure: Nursing Care During Community Crises

Join the ALL-NURSE panel and share in a discussion about the challenges and triumphs nurses have experienced in 2020 AND the opportunities we see in 2021.

Presented by The Oregon Health Forum and sponsored by ONA, you’ll hear from Susan King, RN, MS, CEN, FAAN retired Executive Director of the Oregon Nurses Association, Diane Solomon, PhD, PMHNP-BC, CNM, behavioral health clinician, and Rep. Rachel Prusak-D, District 37, Tualatin/West Linn. This event highlights the struggles and triumphs of Oregon nurses in caring for our community and themselves during the emergency encompassing a pandemic and unprecedented social, political and economic upheaval.

Click here to register for this free event on Feb. 15 at 10 a.m.

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