

# Join Us

## in supporting legislation to strengthen Oregon's health care workforce



Many solutions to our health care workforce issues in Oregon require long time frames before the effects will be felt by our communities. To ensure Oregonians have the care they need, the Legislature urgently needs to make immediate, short-term investments to recruit and retain health care providers in our state over the next one to three years. These include:

- Increasing funding to the Health Care Provider Incentive Program
- Creating funding to expand clinical training opportunities for students in Oregon
- Funding to directly support nurse faculty at Oregon's community colleges and universities
- Exploring ways to provide meaningful incentives to help offset the salary gap between bedside nurses and nurse educators.
- Providing additional funding for other health care career preparation and advancement assistance programs.

The continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health care workforce must be acknowledged even as the public health emergency comes to an end. To support our current and future health care providers in Oregon, this legislation will have immediate effects to:

- Remove barriers to entering the health care workforce
- Expand the diversity of our health care providers
- Increase access to care across the state

*“Workforce shortages and lack of diversity in many areas of the health care workforce are a national problem experienced in Oregon, stemming from historic underinvestment, current economic and social forces, and systemic racism.”*

Finding from the Oregon's Health Care Workforce Needs Assessment 2023



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