

Adult Care Home Program Newsletter

May 2026

Temporary Administrative Rules

In March 2026, the Adult Care Home Program held a public hearing on proposed updated rules. Rachel Pearl, Department of County Human Services interim director, reviewed written and verbal hearing testimony, and made the decision to adopt the rules with no amendments. A request for appeal of the director's decision was received, and the ACHP is in the process of scheduling an appeal hearing with the Board of County Commissioners.

Temporary administrative rules have been in effect since January 1, 2026. Because temporary rules are effective for no longer than 120 days, the rule was replaced with an identical temporary rule on May 1, 2026. This will allow time to complete the appeal process with the Board of County Commissioners.

Find temporary rules, as well as future updates about the appeal hearing, at [Adult Care Home Regulations](https://www.multco.us/ACHP.regulations), link.multco.us/ACHP.regulations.

Prepare Your Fax So It Reaches The Right Person

When you fax information to the ACHP, be sure to include the name of the care home's operator and license number on the document. It would also be helpful to include the name of the licenser. The resident's name is not enough information to get your fax to the right person.

We recommend using our fax cover sheet. Faxes received without a cover sheet may not reach their destination. Find the fax cover sheet at: [Record Keeping Forms](https://www.multco.us/info/record-keeping-forms) [multco.us/info/record-keeping-forms](https://www.multco.us/info/record-keeping-forms).

Vote by Election Day, May 19

Don't forget to return your ballots by Tuesday, May 19. Mailed ballots must be postmarked by Election Day. Ballots placed in official drop boxes must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. [Official Ballot Drop Sites](https://www.multco.us/info/official-ballot-drop-sites) [multco.us/info/official-ballot-drop-sites](https://www.multco.us/info/official-ballot-drop-sites)

Just Ask: English Requirement

Question: Who is required to pass an English test?

Answer: All operators, resident managers, shift managers and caregivers must be able to demonstrate an understanding of written and verbal instructions in English, including medication instructions and doctor orders. They must also demonstrate the ability to communicate in verbal and written English with residents, health care professionals, case managers and ACHP staff. (MCAR 023-070-205)

All operator, resident manager and shift manager applicants must pass the Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) English test before their application. Caregivers left in charge must also pass the English test. It must be passed before the caregiver is left in charge.

Once someone passes the MHCC English test, they don't need to retake it to apply for a new role.

The ACHP may require that a caregiver passes the English test to verify they are able to effectively understand and communicate in English. (MCAR 023-070-225)

New Measles Cases in Oregon

Measles cases and exposure have increased around the state this spring.

Measles Symptoms: Fever (may spike to more than 104° F); cough; runny nose; red and/or watery eyes; rash usually follows two to four days after symptoms begin; it typically starts at the hairline and spreads down toward the face, neck and trunk.

Facts About Measles:

- Measles is airborne, spreading through the air after an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- Symptoms begin seven to 21 days after exposure.
- The following people have presumptive evidence of measles immunity: born before 1957; written documentation of two MMR vaccine doses; laboratory evidence of immunity; confirmation of past measles disease.
- Two doses of the MMR vaccine is the most effective way to prevent measles and its potential complications.

What to do if You Suspect Measles:

- Immediately mask the resident and move them to an isolated location. They should avoid entering shared indoor spaces.
- Isolate for four days after a rash develops. Suspected exposure is counted as day zero.
- Assess immunity status of staff and residents, including potential visitors.
- Report the case to the county Communicable Disease team at 503-988-3406.
- If the resident needs to visit a health care facility or ER, call ahead so they can take precautions to protect staff, emergency responders or other patients at the facility.

[New Measles Cases in Oregon,](http://link.multco.us/measles)
link.multco.us/measles

Just Ask: Caregiver Date of Birth Questions

Question: Is it now illegal to ask a caregiver's date of birth on applications? Why do I see date of birth questions on required ACHP caregiver forms?

Answer: Last year it became illegal in Oregon to ask someone's age or date of birth in a job application (House Bill 3187). This change helps prevent age discrimination.

However, asking for a date of birth is allowed if it is a "Bona Fide Occupational Qualification." In adult care homes, people must be at least 18 years old to work as a caregiver, and at least 21 to work alone for more than two hours in a 12 hour period of time, or to be the caregiver in charge. These requirements are a "Bona Fide Occupational Qualification."

In the sample job application on the webpage Record Keeping Forms, we include questions about age to meet these requirements. This form is not mandatory and you can use your own job application for staff.

Another exception to HB 3187 is obtaining age-related information to comply with federal, state or local law, rule or regulations. The ACHP must obtain people's date of birth to run background checks and to enforce MCAR 023-070-110 and MCAR 023-070-130.

For more information, see the section [Age at Discrimination at Work,](http://link.multco.us/work.discrimination)
[link.multco.us/work.discrimination.](http://link.multco.us/work.discrimination)

Upcoming Holiday Office Closure

Memorial Day, Monday, May 25

Training and Support

Sessions are online unless listed as in person.
To register call 503-988-3000 or email
advsd.adult.carehomeprogram@multco.us.

Free Info Session for Operator Applicants

Tuesday, May 19, 9 – 11 a.m.

In-Person Provider Meeting:

FOCUS on Dementia Care: Supporting a Sense of Control for People Living With Dementia

Wednesday, May 27, 1 – 4 p.m.
Chinook Room, 600 NE 8th St., Gresham
\$30 | 3 CEUs

This training, facilitated by Matt Gannon with Oregon Care Home Consulting & Training, will introduce the FOCUS (Focus on Control Using Steps) Dementia Care Framework. Matt developed this framework from his 20+ years of direct dementia care experience.

FOCUS offers a practical approach to supporting individuals living with dementia through emotional awareness, communication and relationship-centered care. Participants learn to recognize “behaviors” as expressions of unmet needs and shift from “fixing” to providing safety, reassurance and dignity.

The framework emphasizes restoring a sense of control to people living with dementia through intentional presence and communication, using a structured process to understand what the person is feeling and how to respond. Through reflection and case examples, participants will build confidence in delivering compassionate, person-centered care.

Orientation

Required for operator, resident manager and shift manager applicants.

Tuesday, June 2
Time: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Sign on 8:50 a.m.)
\$55

First-year required trainings for operators, resident managers and shift managers:

In-Person Record Keeping Part A, Screening and Care Planning

Thursday, May 7, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Sharron Kelley Room B,
600 NE 8th St., Gresham, OR 97030
\$30 | 3 CEUs

In-Person Emergency Preparedness Planning

Tuesday, June 9, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Sharron Kelley Room A
600 NE 8th St., Gresham, OR 97030
\$30 | 3 CEUs
Attendees receive a binder with class materials.

Honoring Diversity

Thursday, June 11, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
\$30 | 3 CEUs

Record Keeping Part B TBD

Just Ask: Approved Fire Safety Course

Question: Which fire safety course is accepted by the ACHP?

Answer: Fire Safety is required for all operators, resident managers, shift managers and caregivers left in charge.

Only a transcript from the “ODHSOHA – SOQ – AFH – Fire and Life Safety Video and Test” in Oregon Workday will be accepted. Certificates from Oregon Youth Authority or Oregon Care Partners will not be accepted.

For more information on required trainings visit:

[Adult Care Home Operator and Manager Trainings](https://link.multco.us/achp.trainings), link.multco.us/achp.trainings

[Adult Care Home Caregivers](https://multco.us/info/adult-care-home-caregivers),
multco.us/info/adult-care-home-caregivers.