

Adult Care Home Program Newsletter September 2025

Message From ACHP Program Manager: State's Plan to License All IDD Homes

I'd like to provide an update regarding the Oregon Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) budget, which includes a plan for the centralization of licensing for adult foster homes across Oregon, effective January 1, 2026. This initiative specifically pertains to Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) licensed adult foster homes and does not affect Aging & People with Disabilities (APD) or Behavioral Health (BH) licensed homes. It also affects IDD interagency placements in APD and BH homes.

All local Community Developmental Disabilities Programs (CDDPs) statewide are impacted and are beginning their transition planning processes.

Here are some important updates for IDD homes and homes serving IDD residents:

- The ACHP is continuing to process IDD caregiver applications.
- The ACHP is no longer accepting applications for IDD licenses or IDD interagency placements.
- The ACHP is continuing to send out IDD renewal applications for renewals that will happen in December.
- The state sends out renewal applications 120 days before the renewal date and the ACHP sends them out 90 days before the renewal date. This means some IDD providers may receive renewal applications from the state in September. I recommend you wait until October to complete a renewal application from the state. By then we will know more about this transition.

As you know, Multnomah County has historically operated as a licensing authority under an exemption granted through state and county ordinance since the 1980s. It remains our strong intent to continue providing this essential service and to preserve the unique support that local licensing offers, which may not be available through a centralized state model.

Currently, Multnomah County leadership is engaged in discussions with ODDS leadership to determine whether Multnomah County IDD homes will be included in this proposed centralization or if we will be able to continue local licensing. We commit to providing you with a clear answer regarding future requirements as soon as this determination is made.

In the interim, ODDS has begun sending out invitations to IDD providers for informational meetings regarding this transition. We strongly recommend that you attend these meetings. This is an invaluable opportunity to provide your feedback, ask questions and gain a comprehensive understanding of the proposed plan and timeline, should centralization include your IDD licensed homes here in Multnomah County.

ODDS has also created a form for providers to ask questions about the transition. This will help shape an FAQ and updates to answer these questions: [Transition Feedback](https://link.multco.us/ODDS.feedback), link.multco.us/ODDS.feedback

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Message From ACHP Program Manager, Continued

Should ODDS centralize licensing for Multnomah County IDD homes, the ACHP and MCAR would no longer be your licensing authority or provide direct support for these homes, with ODDS and OAR assuming this role beginning January 1, 2026.

We understand that this transition raises many questions regarding licensing transfers, application processes, consumer support, and more. Please direct these specific inquiries to ODDS directly, as the ACHP may not have the definitive answers at this time.

Thank you for your continued patience and collaboration as we navigate this period of uncertainty together. We are dedicated to keeping you informed.

Steven Esser
ACHP Program Manager

Two Free Dementia Training Courses

Do you serve residents with dementia? Two comprehensive training programs are now available to help you improve your caregiving skills!

Navigating Dementia: Essential Skills for Care Teams:

The Oregon Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program is offering this free self-paced online training. It will equip you with practical skills to better support people with dementia and their families. You will learn how to:

- Recognize the symptoms of different types of dementias.
- Differentiate between dementia and delirium.

- Explain how a dementia diagnosis impacts the patient and family.
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate with a person who has dementia in an age-friendly manner.
- Increase the ability to communicate a person's care plan with the healthcare team.
- Increase the ability to refer patients and family care partners to community resources.

The six module online series takes about two to three hours to complete, and provides 3 CEUs. This training is open to adult care home providers, as well as nurses, social workers and other health professionals. The Oregon Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program is part of Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine.

Find more information and register at link.multco.us/gwep.register.

Dementia In Long-Term Care:

Oregon Extension for Community Health Outcomes (ECHO) is offering a free eight session training opportunity for all caregivers.

Join this virtual, interactive program to learn and share strategies for working with people with dementia, and earn 8 CEUs.

Dates: Tuesdays, Sept. 30 – November 18
Time: 1 – 2 p.m.

This training will help create supportive care environments that optimize function, promote well-being, and reduce unnecessary hospitalizations for residents with dementia.

Sign up at [Dementia in Long-term Care, link.multco.us/echo.register](http://link.multco.us/echo.register).

If you have questions, please email apd.afhteam@odhs.oregon.gov.

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

Date: Tuesday, September 16
Time: 9 – 11 a.m. (Sign on 8:50 a.m.)

In-Person Provider Meeting

“Understanding Medications in Your Home”
Presenters: County Health Department

Date: Wednesday, September 24, 1 – 4 p.m.
Location: Chinook Room
600 NE 8th St., Gresham, OR 97030

Orientation

Required for operator, resident manager and shift manager applicants.

Date: Thursday, October 2
Time: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Sign on 8:50 a.m.)

Cost: \$55

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

In-Person Record Keeping Part B, Medication Management

Dates: Tuesday, September 9, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: Sharron Kelley Room A,
600 NE 8th St., Gresham, OR 97030

Cost: \$30 | 3 CEUs

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

Required for APD and MHA operators, resident managers and shift managers.

Date: Thursday, September 11, 9 a.m. – noon

Location: Sharron Kelley Room A,
600 NE 8th St., Gresham, OR 97030

Cost: \$30 | 3 CEUs

Honoring Diversity

Date: Thursday, October 9
Time: 9 a.m. – noon (Sign on 8:50 a.m.)

Cost: \$30 | 3 CEUs

In-Person Emergency Preparedness Planning

Date: Tuesday, October 14
Time: 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Blue Lake Room,
600 NE 8th St., Gresham, OR 97030

Cost: \$30 | 3.5 CEUs

This session is open to all providers, even if they have previously taken Emergency Preparedness Planning. Every attendee will receive a binder with class materials.

It is required for operators, resident managers and shift managers to complete this training within their first year of role approval.

New House Requirements Guide Helps New Operators Find the Right House

The ACHP knows that finding a house that meets MCAR requirements can be a challenge.

Now applicants have a new comprehensive resource to help them – the ACHP House Requirements guide.

Before you buy, lease or rent a house, review the guide. It combines regulations from the MCAR, ADA requirements, city building requirements and fire code into one guide to help you choose the right home.

[House Requirements,
link.multco.us/house.requirements](http://link.multco.us/house.requirements)