



# Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) Contract Registered Nurse Opportunity

The Oregon Department of Human Services, Seniors and People with Disabilities (SPD) is currently in need of experienced (**five** years or more) Registered Nurses to work as independent contractors. The minimum requirements are:

- Current unencumbered Oregon RN license
- Must not be participating in the Oregon State Board of Nursing Nurse Monitoring Program
- Ability to work independently
- Strong clinical and assessment skills
- Minimum one year experience as an RN in a hospital setting preferred
- Experience in long term care (community or nursing facility) preferred
- Nursing knowledge of care for seniors and/or people with disabilities, minimum of five year's experience preferred
- Professional liability insurance with specific limits (detailed page 2)
- Although, not a requirement, RNs who are fluent in more than one language (applicable to the community) are encouraged to apply

SPD provides Medicaid services to seniors 65 years and over, adults with disabilities who are under age 65, and children and adults with developmental disabilities living at home or in foster care. SPD's goal is to provide care for clients in the most cost effective and least restrictive setting. The client's wishes are always considered when determining an appropriate residential environment.

Following a referral from the client's case manager, the Contract RN assesses Medicaid clients who live in community settings. All clients require some assistance with activities of daily living and may also have a combination of chronic health care needs, multiple diagnoses, physical disabilities, mental illness and/or dementia. The Contract RN assesses the client, develops a health care plan, and reports to the client's SPD or County Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP) Case Manager. The care of the elderly and adults with physical disabilities may be provided in a foster home, or in the client's home, by a friend, family member, or a paid care provider.

In addition to communication with the SPD or CDDP Case Manager, the RN may

also need to contact the client's physician, pharmacist, managed health plan, or other health provider for clarification or to report changes, etc. The Contract RN also serves as an advocate for ancillary services needed by the client.

Often care providers must be taught to perform tasks of nursing care. SPD relies on the Contract RN to do this teaching. Nursing tasks are taught through the process of nursing delegation, with supervision and follow-up as required by the Oregon State Board of Nursing licensing rules. Other than an occasional exception, the Contract RN does not provide direct "hands-on" care.

Contract RNs are **not employees** of Seniors and People with Disabilities. They are **independent contractors** performing work under a contract with the Department of Human Services and SPD. Independent contractors are not eligible for benefits or workers' compensation. Payments made to contractors are not considered wages or salary, therefore employment taxes (such as state/federal income tax or FICA) are not withheld.

Payment to the Contract RN is paid by SPD on an hourly basis. The current rate of pay is \$28.00 per hour. There is some mileage reimbursement. There is an extensive three-day Central Office orientation in Salem for which orientation time, mileage, and lodging expenses (as appropriate) are paid.

RN applicants must provide proof of **Professional Liability Insurance** with a combined single limit, or the equivalent, of not less than **\$1 million** each claim, incident or occurrence. This insurance is required to cover damages caused by error, omission or negligent acts related to the professional services provided under this contract. At the time of contracting and at policy renewal time, SPD requires a copy of the current certificate of insurance for the professional liability policy. The insurance is currently available through NSO, the Nurse Service Organization's carrier. Policies may be available through other carriers as well.

If you are interested in a Contract RN opportunity, or would like additional information about this program, please call:

Carmen Spencer, RN  
Contract RN Service Coordinator

503-945-6460 or  
800-232-3020