



Oregon Prescription Drug
Affordability Board

THE QUARTERLY

Prescription drug community forums coming in April, May



The Prescription Drug Affordability Board will hold in person and online community forums around the state to hear from Oregonians about the impact of prescription drug costs. PDAB staff members will facilitate the free meetings in April and May. Everyone is invited to attend, learn more about prescription drug costs and tell their story of how costly prescriptions have affected their health, budgets and lives. Lou Savage, a past director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services and former insurance commissioner of Oregon, will be the moderator. He will present an overview of the Prescription Drug Affordability Board's work

to make prescription drugs more affordable for Oregonians and explain why drug costs are high. Spanish translation will be provided April 15, May 8, and May 14; American Sign Language will be provided April 25, May 8, and May 14. [See English flyer on Page 6](#) and [Spanish flyer on Page 7](#).

In person

Portland – April 2, 6-8 p.m.

Portland State Office Building
800 NE Oregon Street

Lincoln City – April 9, 6-8 p.m.

Cultural Center
540 NE Highway 101

Woodburn – April 15, 5-7 p.m.

280 Garfield Street

Foro en Español

Medford – April 25, 6-8 p.m.

Rogue Community College HEC
101 S Bartlett Street

ASL provided

Bend – April 30, 6-8 p.m.

Deschutes County Library
62080 Dean Swift Road

Online

May 8, noon to 2 p.m.

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1609683098?pwd=ZfVvNHdGV1dMYm5GWwQ1ZWlkcEl4UT09>

Meeting ID: 160 968 3098

Passcode: OregonPDAB

Dial by your location: 669 254 5252

May 14, 6-8 p.m.

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1617060370?pwd=YlhObURQRtCyTTJrSkx2ZjBOS3RUUT09>

Meeting ID: 161 706 0370

Passcode: OregonPDAB

Dial by your location: 669 254 5252

ASL interpretation provided April 25, May 8, May 14. Spanish interpretation provided April 15, May 8, May 14.

Rx foro comunitario en español: 15 de abril a la biblioteca de Woodburn



La Junta de Asequibilidad de Medicamentos Recetados llevará a cabo un foro comunitario gratuito en español el 15 de abril en la Biblioteca de Woodburn, de 5:00 p.m. a 7:00 p.m. Queremos escuchar a los habitantes de Oregon sobre el impacto de los costos de los medicamentos recetados. Todos están invitados a asistir, aprenda más sobre los costos de medicamentos recetados

y cuenta tus historias sobre el impacto de los medicamentos costosos. Si tiene preguntas, envíe un correo electrónico a pdab@dcbs.oregon.gov o llame al 971-374-3724.

Prescription Drug Affordability Board has a new chair, vice chair



Shelley Bailey

The Prescription Drug Affordability Board elected Shelley Bailey as chairperson and Amy Burns as vice chairperson at the February board meeting following the resignation of Akil Patterson, chairperson since the board’s first meeting in June 2022. Patterson will continue serving on the board until a replacement member has been appointed.

Bailey has served as vice chairperson on the board since June 2022. She is CEO of Famlee, the nation’s first and only 50-state virtual fertility care and treatment option, combining at-home labs with fertility telehealth and Rx delivery. Previously she was co-owner of Central Drugs pharmacy. She holds a master’s in business administration from Babson College in Boston. Burns has served on the board since September 2022. She is the vice president of benefit management and pharmacy services at AllCare Health, a coordinated care organization in Grants Pass. She received a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the College of Pharmacy at Oregon State University and holds a board certification in pharmacology. They began serving in their roles during the February board meeting.



Amy Burns

Patterson said he has been grateful for the opportunity to serve as chairperson. “I look forward to seeing the new heights this board will reach in the coming future,” he said. “I’m particularly grateful for the support and expertise of Ralph Magrish and his team. Their commitment has been the cornerstone of our progress. I’m confident in the board’s ability to continue making strides in making prescription drugs more affordable and accessible for all Oregonians. As I leave I urge this state and its leaders to address the operational challenges we all face, engaging more actively, revising restrictive policies that will empower this board and articulate our progress towards more equitable health care system.”



Akil Patterson

Patterson, the program manager of Prosper Portland, has been instrumental in passing prescription drug affordability legislation in several states, including Oregon. He was awarded the Presidential Volunteer Service Award in a Washington D.C. ceremony in 2016. Ralph Magrish, executive director of the Prescription Drug Affordability Board and Drug Price Transparency Program, said he is grateful for Patterson’s work on the board. “You have been a champion for this program,” Magrish said.



[Click here to find wildflower hikes around Oregon, including some near Mount Hood, pictured in this photo by Robert Crum. Read about Southern Oregon hikes on Page 4.](#)

Christopher Laman, Astoria hospital pharmacist, appointed to the board



Chris Laman

Christopher Laman, PharmD, MBA, was appointed to the Prescription Drug Affordability Board and began serving during the February meeting. He has worked at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria since 2006, where he serves as vice president of strategy, focusing on vision and mission. Previously he was pharmacy manager and then director of Pharmacy and Cancer Center Services. Christopher is a third-generation pharmacist. Laman met his wife in pharmacy school and moved to rural Oregon. During the past 18 years at Columbia Memorial Hospital, Christopher has opened two retail pharmacies, a 340B program and a cancer center.

He has seen firsthand the inequities and effect that prescription drug prices can have on underserved members of the community, as well as the incredible burden on the healthcare system. Laman worked as the incident commander for the Covid Vaccination Task Force in Clatsop County, a role that opened his eyes to health inequities in rural communities. His experience in a broad range of healthcare settings will allow him to bring a unique perspective and value to the board.

“When individuals from diverse backgrounds come together, they bring unique perspectives, experiences, and ideas,” he said. “This diversity of thought encourages innovative solutions and promotes out-of-the-box thinking crucial to success in our ever-evolving world. I’m very excited to bring that experience to the board and look forward to doing the work.”

Executive director highlights PDAB successes at Cost Growth meeting

The Prescription Drug Affordability Board is making a difference in the lives of Oregonians by advocating for legislation that makes prescription drugs more affordable, Executive Director Ralph Magrish told the Cost Growth Target Advisory Committee on Jan. 23. He highlighted recent board accomplishments:

- The board recommended to the Oregon Legislature that it lower the insulin co-pay limit to \$35 and/or decouple from inflation index.
 - The 2024 Legislature passed Senate Bill 1508 that will cap the cost of insulin at \$35 a month and also limit the cost to \$105 for a 90-day supply.
- The board recommended to the Oregon Legislature a study of upper payment limits and expand pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reporting requirements for more transparency.
 - The 2023 Legislature passed Senate Bill 192 to create an implementation plan for upper payment limits. The legislation also expands PBM reporting requirements.

Then on March 26, Ralph Magrish and Jane Horvath, of Horvath Health Policy, spoke to the Cost Growth committee again about the board’s work to study upper payment limits as directed by Senate Bill 192. As part of the study, the board is hosting community forums around the state to seek feedback on how prescription drug costs impact peoples’ lives. [Learn more on the PDAB website.](#)

Watch Ralph Magrish’s presentations to the committee in January and March 2024:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/HP/Pages/cost-growth-target-advisory-committee-archive.aspx>

Spring wildflower hikes of Southern Oregon



Wildflowers are abundant along the Jacksonville Woodlands Trails, including Gentner's fritillary (upper left photo) but watch out for poison oak. Find trail maps here: <https://jvwoodlands.org/maps-trails/jacksonville-woodlands-trails/>



Wildflowers grow around Roxy Ann Peak near Medford on a trail/road shared with mountain bikers. <https://www.travelmedford.org/pre-scott-park>



Grizzly Peak Trail in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument has many wildflowers. The trail is three miles one way, climbs 700 feet and offers views of Mount Shasta in California. Find a trail map here: <https://www.blm.gov/visit/grizzly-peak-trail>

By Melissa Stiles



The Pacific Crest Trail near Mount Ashland features a variety of flora. A good access point is near the Grouse Gap picnic shelter, which you can drive to with a high-clearance vehicle. Otherwise, park at the ski lodge and walk on the gravel road to the trailhead. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recreation/rogue-siskiyou/recreation/?recid=70320>



Oregon Prescription Drug
Affordability Board

2024 Calendar

[Register for Zoomgov meetings](#)

Friday, Jan. 26	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 21	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, March 20	Postponed
Wednesday, April 17	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, May 15	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, June 26	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, July 24	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 21	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 18	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 16	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 20	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 18	9:30 a.m.

DO YOU THINK YOUR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS COST TOO MUCH?

Learn why drug costs are so high

The Prescription Drug Affordability Board was created to find ways to make prescription drugs more affordable for Oregonians by making recommendations to the Oregon Legislature.

Help us identify solutions to high drug costs

Please come share your story at a community forum with board staff about how prescription drug prices and medication costs have affected you.



In-person forums

Portland – Tuesday, April 2, 6-8 p.m.
Portland State Office Building
800 NE Oregon St.

Lincoln City – Tuesday, April 9, 6-8 p.m.
Cultural Center
540 NE Highway 101

Woodburn – Monday, April 15, 5-7 p.m.
Woodburn Public Library
Multipurpose Room
280 Garfield St.

Foro en Español

Medford – Thursday, April 25, 6-8 p.m.
Rogue Community College HEC
Presentation hall, 101 S Bartlett St.

ASL provided

Bend – Tuesday, April 30, 6-8 p.m.
East Bend Library
62080 Dean Swift Road

Online forums

Wednesday, May 8, noon to 2 p.m.
Join ZoomGov Meeting
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1609683098?pwd=ZfVvNHdGV1dMYm5GWwQ1ZWlkcE14UT09>

Meeting ID: 160 968 3098
Passcode: OregonPDAB
Dial by your location: 669 254 5252

Tuesday, May 14, 6-8 p.m.
Join ZoomGov Meeting
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1617060370?pwd=YlhObURQRtCyTTJrSkx2ZjB0S3RUUT09>

Meeting ID: 161 706 0370 Passcode:
OregonPDAB
Dial by your location: 669 254 5252

**American Sign Language
interpretation will be provided
April 25, May 8 and May 14.**



Oregon Prescription Drug
Affordability Board

¿USTED CREE QUE EL COSTO DE LOS MEDICAMENTOS RECETADOS ES MUY ALTO?

Conozca por qué los costos de los medicamentos son tan altos

La Junta de Asequibilidad de Medicamentos Recetados se formó para encontrar maneras de hacer que los medicamentos recetados sean más económicos para los habitantes de Oregon a través de recomendaciones a la Legislatura de Oregon.

Ayúdenos a identificar soluciones a el costo alto de los medicamentos

Venga a compartir su historia en el foro comunitario con el personal de la junta sobre cómo le han afectado los precios y los costos de los medicamentos recetados.



Foro en Español

Woodburn April 15, 5-7 p.m.
Woodburn Public Library
Multipurpose Room
280 Garfield St, Woodburn, OR 97071



Oregon Prescription Drug
Affordability Board