



June
2021

Industry Update

*News and Information for
Northwest Automotive Trade Association
Members*

[View Online Classes](#)

June is 'Auto Service Professionals Month'

Join us throughout June 2021 as we celebrate the automotive service professionals who help keep our vehicles on the road, and our friends and family safe. The National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) has designated June as "Automotive Service Professionals Month."



It's a great opportunity to host automotive service appreciation events, giveaways, and much more!

A special landing page at www.ase.com/servicepro offer an assortment of creative files that can be downloaded free of charge and may be customized or incorporated into their own marketing materials.

The Automotive Service Professionals Month 2021 logo can also be found online in the ASE Tool Kit at www.asetoolkit.com. This dedicated website features a variety of ASE marketing communications files that are available for year-round download, including logos, flyers, posters, digital ads, social media posts and other collateral.

You can also visit ASE.com/ASPM2021 for more information.

Help with 'Work Opportunity Tax Credit'

We've heard from a number of our members with questions about Oregon's "Work Opportunity Tax Credit," so we've tried to find you the help you need.



Check out the links below, but also Loren Petersen of the Oregon Employment Department has been kind enough to allow us to pass along his contact information (541-548-8196 ext. 32, Loren.M.Petersen@oregon.gov), saying anyone needing help getting started can reach out to him directly.

He shared this [2-page summary of advice](#) related to the WOTC, this [application form](#), and a [pre-screening notice and certification request form](#).

Employer vaccination questions addressed

Can Oregon employers require workers to get the COVID-19 vaccination? As one [OPB article](#) outlines, it's complicated.

In an effort to clarify, the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries offers this [4-page document](#) with guidance and answers to frequently asked questions.



OR-OSHA, HealthNet on COVID-19

Oregon OSHA has adopted a [permanent rule](#) to address COVID-19 workplace risks. This rule replaces the temporary rule adopted in November 2020. Oregon OSHA indicated it will repeal this rule once it is no longer necessary to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Oregon OSHA states that several stakeholder groups will meet beginning in July and at least every two months thereafter, to discuss whether all or part of the rule can and should be repealed.



Key protection measures remain, including physical distancing, use of face coverings, employee training, notification procedures, risk assessment, and infection control planning. However, the permanent rule also includes some changes.

Read a summary of changes and important details at [saif.com](#).

Also, as some of you know, Health Net helped its members by waiving member cost shares (deductibles, co-pays and coinsurance) for medical and behavioral health telehealth services. Health Net also waived treatment costs for COVID-19.

Now that COVID-19 rules and guidelines are easing, doctors and patients have begun to return to in-person appointments, and many people have received vaccinations.

"Because of all this, Health Net will no longer waive member cost share for telehealth, or member cost share for services to treat COVID-19," the company says. "This change becomes effective for services received on or after June 1. On that date, the cost-sharing terms of a member's health plan will begin to apply."

Please note that Health Net will keep waving member cost share for COVID-19 testing, screening and vaccinations, per federal and state guidance.

For more COVID-19 information from Health Net, employers can [click here](#), and members can [click here](#).

Changes will streamline DMV services

A new state law and new online services will help Oregonians more quickly get services at DMV, which has been working hard to catch up with a backlog due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



House Bill 2137, signed May 6 by Gov. Kate Brown, will give Oregonians more time to renew their driver licenses and vehicle registration. It immediately extends a six-month grace period on expired licenses and registration through Dec. 31, 2021.

In addition, most Oregon residents can renew their driver license, permit or ID card online – the latest new DMV service at [DMV2U.Oregon.gov](https://dmv2u.oregon.gov) went live May 5. Combined with the news that airports won't require Real IDs until May 2023, customers will be able to get DMV services more quickly.

"This trifecta of good news will give Oregonians more time to get DMV services as we catch up with the backlog from the COVID-19 pandemic," DMV Administrator Amy Joyce said. "These will accelerate our progress as we expand online services, extend voluntary overtime work and employ additional staff."

Effective immediately under House Bill 2137:

- The moratorium on traffic tickets for driver licenses, permits, ID cards, vehicle registration and disabled parking placards that are expired less than six months has been extended through Dec. 31, 2021.

Effective June 5:

- New Oregon residents will no longer need to pass the Oregon traffic law knowledge test when they exchange their current, valid driver license from their former state for an Oregon license – including out-of-state licenses expired less than a year.
- New drivers under 18 will no longer need to pass a second knowledge test.
- Oregon driver licenses will be eligible for renewal for up to two years after expiration without testing, if all other eligibility requirements are met. The previous law's limit was one year.

Oregonians now likely can renew their license, permit or ID card online at [DMV2U.Oregon.gov](https://dmv2u.oregon.gov). This newest DMV2U service can save thousands of Oregonians a trip to a DMV office and free up appointment times for other customers.

Joyce noted, however, "If you want to change from a regular driver license or ID card to a Real ID-compliant credential, you will need to make an appointment and come into the office. The same is true if you need to add a motorcycle or farm endorsement, or add a veteran designation."

To find out if you are eligible to renew your current Oregon card online, go to [DMV2U.Oregon.gov](https://dmv2u.oregon.gov) and start using the online renewal option. If you're eligible to renew online, you will be able to complete the transaction using a debit/credit card. DMV will mail your new license to you within about 10 days.

Program names 'Professional of the Year'

The Career Technical Education Center in Salem has named Jose Martinez as the Auto Body Paint & Repair Program's 2021 Professional of the Year.

"Jose has shown exemplary professional skills throughout the academic year," the school said in its announcement. "For many of our students in main-stream education, professionalism and professional practice is not necessarily taught as a key element in obtaining employment. Your partnership has provided opportunities for our future workforce to not only grow in professionalism, but been seen as a professional."



Paint booth caution for Ford electric vehicles

Ford's latest ["On Target"](#) newsletter warns body shops about subjecting any of the automaker's electric vehicle batteries to excessive heat. According to the On Target, high temperatures, such as those in some paint booths, can hurt the Ford high-voltage batteries and high-voltage traction batteries found in electrified vehicles.



Schools have openings for instructors

A number of schools in the region have announced job openings for automotive instructors.

Willamette Career Academy is seeking applicants for a position as [assistant diesel instructor](#). Under the supervision of the teacher, the Assistant Mechanic will be responsible for encouraging and demonstrating to youth the various areas of the diesel industry. This is an excellent opportunity to mentor and continually learn about the new technologies in the rapid changing diesel field..



Benson High School in Northeast Portland said one of its two full-time automotive instructors is retiring. The job posting is for an ["Automotive and Aviation Teacher."](#) but NATA has been told "aviation" is a small portion of the curriculum and candidates should "not let that feature deter you."

WrenchWay offers variety of tools

If you haven't yet checked out WrenchWay, here's some of what they offer:



WrenchWay Insiders: WrenchWay Insiders allows technicians to provide feedback on different topics to help improve the industry. WrenchWay keeps everything anonymous and gathers all feedback to create content used by shops and schools to make improvements. Download the free WrenchWay mobile app in the App Store or on Google Play to join.

WrenchWay School Connect: WrenchWay School Connect is a free tool that makes it easier for schools to connect with local shops and dealerships, and get the resources they need to attract students to technician programs and educate them about the industry. Sign up at: <https://wrenchway.com/school-connect>

WrenchWay Top Shop: Stand out from the competition and attract more technicians to your shop with a top shop profile. Learn more about WrenchWay Shop Memberships at <https://wrenchway.com/for-shops>

Find A Wrench: Find A Wrench offers tools and services for dealerships and shops that are struggling to find technicians, service advisors and service managers. Take advantage of the free job board postings, or let them take the work of recruiting off your shoulders. Learn more at FindAWrench.com

Register for SEMA, AAPEX

Organizers say SEMA and AAPEX will take place as scheduled in Las Vegas in early November.

Following Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak's recent announcement



to reopen the state at 100 percent capacity by June 1, SEMA organizers say more than 1,200 companies are already confirmed to exhibit at the event at the Las Vegas Convention Center on November 2-5.

AAPEX has announced the lineup of [technical and business management training](#) to be offered as the event takes place November 2-4, at the Sands Expo and Caesars Forum Conference Center.

Attendee registration for AAPEX can be found [here](#), and attendee registration for SEMA can be found [here](#).

Oregon equal pay for workers

The State of Oregon reminds employers that every worker must get equal pay for equal work regardless of gender, race, age

or other protected characteristics.

Employers must pay the same amount to people doing comparable work (including wages, bonuses, benefits, and more). There are limited circumstances where different pay may be allowed. If the difference in pay is based on bona fide factors including one or more of the following: a seniority system, a merit system, a system that measures earnings by quantity or quality of production, including piece-rate work, workplace location, travel, education, training, or experience. There must be a consistent and verifiable system for this pay structure.



It's illegal for an employer to pay someone less than someone else based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, veteran status, disability or age.

Employers can't give someone a pay cut to make their pay equal with other employees.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Oregon agencies offer business training

Three Oregon agencies offer regular training for companies within the state.

The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) offers training seminars on such topics as wage and hour laws, discipline and discharge, and the latest developments in employment law. Details are available by [clicking here](#).



The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites businesses that handle hazardous waste to sign up for a class covering basic management of such waste. Registration is free but on a first-come, first-served basis. [Click here](#) for more details.

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) offers classroom workshops and online training on such topics as hazard communications, safety meetings, lockout/tagout, personal protective equipment, etc. [Click here](#) for current class description and schedule, call (888) 292-5247 (option 2) or send an email to ed.web@oregon.gov.

EDUCATION

BENEFITS

CONSUMER INFO

SHOP HELP

INSURANCE

Northwest Automotive Trades Association

7931 NE Halsey St., Ste. 212
Portland, OR 97213

[Send Us A Message](#)

Phone: (503) 253-9898

Follow us on Facebook!

