

OREGON Occupational Therapy Licensing Board

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www.oregon.gov/otlb

Director: Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us

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NEWSLETTER

OTLB BOARD MEMBERS:

Alan King, OTR/L, Chair

Robert Bond, Public Member, Vice Chair

Open - Public Member

Mashelle Painter, BS, COTA

Linda Harthun Smith, OTR/L

Staff: Director, Felicia Holgate

Office Specialist, Marianne Brusco (2 hours/day)

Mitch Schreiber, a Public Member of the Board, was appointed by the Governor in 2008 and just finished his 4 year term, and is not seeking a second term. We thank him for this public service. We are looking for a new public member for the Board.

Many of you knew **Gayle Shriver**, who worked for the OT Licensing Board for the last five years. She gave notice recently and is no longer working for the Board. We thank her for her dedication helping Felicia and the Board, and appreciate her hard work over the years. Please welcome **Marianne Brusco** to her new position.

**Please update your email & contact information to keep current with important news.
Your e-mail is kept confidential. You can provide a public e-mail if you wish.**

**Mission Statement: To protect the public by supervising occupational therapy practice.
The Board is charged with assuring safe & ethical delivery of occupational therapy services**

Board Strategic Planning Meeting in August

The August meeting will include a strategic plan review and decision about the priorities of the Board in the next few years. If you have comments or concerns please contact Felicia Holgate.

Continuing Education and CE AUDITS done during renewals

The OT Licensing Board, with your state Association, OTAO sent out a ONE MINUTE survey on CE. If you have not yet completed it, paste the link into your browser or just click on this link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2S3V8Q5> .

The Board's audit of CE found they were mostly well done and at practice level. Many of you have much more than the minimum 30 points required. That is great !

You can use CE that you obtained in March, April, and May of 2012, for the 2014 renewal **IF** it is over the required 30 points needed for the 2012 renewal and was not used for the 2012 renewal. You cannot count CE for both licensing renewal periods.

The OTA0 annual conference will be the weekend of **October 27th in Hood River**. Go to www.otao.com for more information. The Board will be presenting at the annual conference on supervision issues and ethics. We will be available to answer questions and talk with you.

Linda Hunt at Pacific University is offering a CE course **Understanding Capacity and How it Affects the Discharge Process** Friday Sept. 14, 2012. Topics cover the importance of discharge decisions, civil capacity, functional capacity assessments, and how to advocate for discharge to the least restrictive environment. Contact Kelly Hering at khering@pacificu.edu 503-352-7345, the brochure is at: http://www.pacificu.edu/ot/news/documents/2012-brochure-final_000.pdf

Renewals were all done online and completed May 31st

We hope you found the online process easy and fast. Most of you did the process without any problem. Thank you for that. We had some "hiccups", such as the system not recognizing a name with only 2 letters, or a missing SS #. For those that had to contact us with issues, we thank you for your patience. We were able to process and print the license for most within a day or so and the online process saved us a lot of time and staff work. This helps keep your fees low.

Not having current addresses caused a problem as we got over 150 renewal letters returned. The Board pays for paper and postage, and takes staff time. Please remember there is a rule that you contact the board and give us changes within 30 days. Just send an e-mail with the new contact information to Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us. We always confirm the change by return e-mail.

We did send 3 follow up e-mails about renewals and it was posted on the web site. With all that, we still had a few who complained they did not know it was time to renew and had to pay a late fee. We had several who tried to send in a new license applicant form as a way of renewing (with the wrong fee). They had to go back online to renew. We had others who started the process online but did not finish, and we contacted them to go back in and finish the renewal online.



SUPERVISION for Licensed OT Assistants

All OT Assistants working in Oregon by law must have a current Statement of Supervisor form for LICENSING purposes filed with the Board. Assistants only need 1 licensing OT supervisor, unless they work in different facilities. Many Assistant were not current on supervision. We cross-checked what the

OT and OT Assistant put in the supervision box during renewals and there were still a lot of discrepancies. OTR's did not list the OT Assistant who they were supposed to be supervising. This licensing supervision continues to be misunderstood or ignored. It is the responsibility of the OT Assistant to send in a new Statement of Supervision form when there are changes.

OT License numbers

License numbers continue growing. By the end of May, before renewals, there were 1898 licensees – almost 1900 ! Historically, about 12 % do not renew - 229 licenses just lapsed. Currently we have 1690 licensees (260 OTA and 1430 OTs, including 7 Limited Permits).

We expect 15 – 25 new license applications issued every month, most from out-of-state by endorsement. In the summer we issue many Limited Permits to new graduates. This year we have the OT Assistant students graduating from the new OT Assistant School at Linn Benton Community College.

Cultural Competency

The Director, Felicia Holgate is serving on the committee looking at cultural competency for health professionals in Oregon. The Committee was formed within the Oregon Health Authority, Office of Multicultural Health and Services, after the 2012 legislative bill, which would have mandated cultural competency training for all Oregon health professionals, did not pass by a 50/50 vote.

PLEASE CHECK THE WEB SITE FIRST FOR INFORMATION

These are questions we get almost every day at the Board office:

If you have a **name change**: FAX a copy of the legal document to 971-673-0226 – Make sure it shows the change, exactly how the name reads and other contact changes. You can scan and e-mail it to Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us



If you need a **license verification** to go to another state: E-mail Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us and give the exact address (like a mailing label) so we can copy it into the form we print up off the data base. We do not need their form. There is **No** charge. If you do it this way, we can continue to provide this service for free.

Please check the **web site** at www.oregon.gov/otlb for answers to your questions. There is a section on **Information Requests and Issues, Questions and Topics**.

The Director had training on the new **state web site**. It should appear seamless for you - all the work will be on our end. Your comments to improve the site are welcome.

Proposed Rules on Background checks & Ethics/law exam

The new rules are being filed with the Sec of state office and can be found on the web site. The changes were published in the last newsletter.

*Occupational Therapy:
Skills for the job of living*