

OREGON Occupational Therapy Licensing Board

800 NE Oregon St. Suite 407, Portland, OR 97232

Tel: 971-673-0198 Fax: 971-673-0226



www.oregon.gov/otlb Director: Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us August, 2015

NEWSLETTER

OTLB BOARD MEMBERS:

Mashelle Painter, COTA/L, Chair
Linda Smith, OTR/L, Vice-Chair
Sybil Hedrick, OTR/L, CHT, CSCS
Robert Bond, Public member
Juanita Shepherd, Public Member

Staff: **Felicia Holgate**, Executive Director
Nancy Schuberg, Licensing Specialist

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Please update your contact information.

We send updates and let you know of important changes by email and on the web site.

The private email is kept confidential, and you can also provide a public e-mail.

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

The next Board meeting will be held on **Monday November 9, 2015** at the Portland State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon St, Room 445. Contact the Director for the Agenda.

Work of the Board

Workgroup for OTs in Education: The Board's workgroup is looking at issues affecting OT and OT Assistants working in schools. Data was collected on caseloads and workloads. The group met with Dr. Nancy Golden, Chief Education Officer, Sarah Drinkwater, Assistant Superintendent. We are now working with Melissa Glover, Education Specialist with the Department of Education to see what strategies can be used to provide better services for kids in schools. The work group hopes to adopt state standards and Best Practices for OTs working with children.

There is a session at the OTA conference on these issues. It is important that you be a member of the Association and help with this group. We will work with OTA to provide information on their web site with references and updates. Please consider joining if the Association if you are not a member to help promote this important initiative.

Workgroup on Use of Aides: The workgroup is meeting in August to start a review of rules of how OTs work with Aides. This will include use of aides in schools, as well as supervision of new behavior analyst “interventionists”. If you have any questions please contact Nancy Schuberg at 971-673-0202 or email her at Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us.

OTAO conference is coming up October 9-10 in Bend. The Licensing Board will make a presentation during Saturday lunch. Check www.otao.com/conference.

SAVE THE DATE - 2015 **OTAO Annual Conference** is happening in Bend !

Network, learn, and meet the lobbyists/legislative group in Bend, **Friday-Saturday, October 9-10** at St. Charles Medical Center. Posters, roundtables, keynotes, meet the OTAO board/hear what’s happening with OTAO, OTLB presentation, silent auction with proceeds going to the scholarship fund. Friday evening events. Go to www.otao.com for further information.

The mission of OTAO is to support our members and strengthen the occupational therapy profession through advocacy, education, and networking.

Current NBCOT Certification counts for your CE Requirement for renewals

339-020-0010 CE Requirements for Current Licensees

- (1) All current licensees shall obtain a minimum of 30 points of CE from Board approved categories during the two years immediately preceding the date of the license renewal; **or**
- (2) The Board recognizes the maintenance of current NBCOT Certification (National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy) as fulfilling the requirements for CE under (1).
- (3) Exceptions: a) Current licensees who have their first NBCOT certification do not need CE for their first year. **(b) Current licensee who have their second year of NBCOT certification** shall obtain a minimum of 15 points of CE from Board approved categories for their license renewal.

NBCOT Navigator system:

- Navigator is available free to active OTR and COTA certificants. They can access it through their NBCOT account and can pull it up at any time it is convenient
- Through various tools up to 18 PDU’s can be accrued toward renewal. Once a tool is completed, the PDUs are automatically filled in the log with a certificate available.
- An interactive virtual platform features games, quizzes and case simulations that mimic real life practice and case scenarios to help OTR and COTA certifications assess competency across all areas of occupational therapy.

Components include:

Mini Practice Quizzes 20 multiple choice questions. Results are given relative to your peer group with references and PDU earned.

Balloon Match Game users have to match balloons to the correct cloud in a limited period of time. Clouds could be children/adolescents, adults and seniors and the user has to match the balloons with different standardized tests.

Case Simulation give practice of clinical reasoning by deciding on best action to take in a number of scenarios.

Self-Reflection asks specific questions related to your practice and navigator makes recommendations for tools to use. Or you can choose tools of your own choice through the navigator bar. Other areas include: Custom Feedback, Reading list, and Evidence-based research.

There are 33 different ways to mix and match on the PDU activity chart. Everything is supported by current articles. Feedback is given on your strength and weaknesses and you are provided a reading list to help increase your practice knowledge. Results will only be available to you. It is up to you if you decide you want to share them or not. It is specifically designed for OTRs or COTA's - navigator will filter the tools that are appropriate for you.



One-time PAIN MANAGEMENT requirement.

If you got licensed in the last two years and still need to complete this one-time legislative requirement find information on the web site at www.oregon.gov/otlb or go here for information: http://www.oregon.gov/otlb/Pages/CE.aspx#PAIN_MANAGEMENT_CE

Email Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us with the dates, name of class and hours so we can add the information on your data base and it will show as done when you renew next year.

Marijuana law changes:

July 1st there were changes to the Oregon marijuana laws. The Oregon OT Licensing Board like other health boards will follow up on any complaint regarding marijuana use. It will be treated as any other complaint, with the Board checking whether any laws were broken and whether there are any competency or impairment issues.

The State is working with the Department of Justice on policy updates and the Oregon State police to create training for state employees. BOLI is also offering training sessions regarding recreational marijuana and will include information on substance abuse, prescription drugs, privacy concerns and disability accommodations.

As therapists you need to know your employer's rules, policies and collective bargaining agreement language so you understand issues such as reasonable suspicion, drug testing and mandatory drug testing. State Agencies will treat any suspected marijuana impairment the same as any other impairment of alcohol and prescription or illegal drugs.

OLCC recently launched a public information to address general recreational marijuana questions at <http://whatslegaloregon.com/> BOLI (Bureau of Labor and Industries) is also

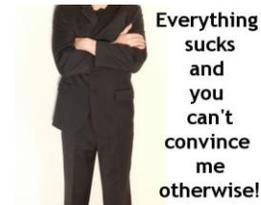
offering training sessions regarding recreational marijuana and will include substance abuse, prescription drugs, privacy concerns and disability accommodations.

Marijuana laws changed in the state, but Federal laws did not. What is legal on state land is not on federal lands - we have a lot of Federal forests and parks and BLM lands, so be aware.

Reporting of crimes: There is a legal requirement for you to reports any conviction of a misdemeanor or arrest of a felony to the Licensing Board within 10 days. You will also be asked about any citation, arrest or conviction on your renewal form.

Discipline issues: Cases the Board dealt with this year included:

- Drunk driving
- Dealing in illegal drugs
- Felony theft
- Practicing with lapsed license
- Competency
- Improper billing
- OT Assistant practicing without filing supervision form
- Applicants with discipline in another state



One case alone, which almost went to administrative hearing, included legal costs for the Board of over \$16,000. Costs for the board's disciplinary cases are the most unpredictable. The investigative and legal costs of the Assistant Attorney General, who represents the Board, may in the future require a fee increase. Although this one case was settled just days before the hearing, costs added up. The Board paid for setting up an administrative hearing, getting witnesses ready, preparing documents and exhibits for the administrative trial by the Board's attorney and staff.

CHECK THE WEB SITE www.oregon.gov/otlb for information

For changes to your contact information go to www.oregon.gov/otlb for the change form. You can fax to 971-673-0226. We need a copy of the legal document showing a name change. You can scan and e-mail to Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us. Make sure it shows exactly how the name reads and changes to address, e-mail, and telephone.

If you need license **verification** sent to another state, e-mail to Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us and give the exact address where it needs to be sent. There is No charge. We do not need their form. We will e-mail you back when it is done.

Occupational Therapy: Living life to the fullest