

Title 46
PROFESSIONAL AND
OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS
Part XLV. Medical Professions
Subpart 1. General
Subchapter G. Occupational
Therapists and Occupational
Therapy Assistants Fees

§171. Scope of Subchapter

A. The rules of this Subchapter prescribe the fees and costs applicable to the licensing of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270 and 37:1281.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 10:907 (November 1984).

§173. Licenses and Permits

A. For processing an application for an occupational therapist's license a fee of \$150 shall be payable to the board.

B. For processing an application for an occupational therapy assistant's license a fee of \$100 shall be payable to the board.

C. For issuing a temporary permit, a fee of \$50 shall be payable to the board.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014, 37:1270, 37:1281.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 10:907 (November 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:237 (February 2004).

§175. Annual Renewal

A. For processing an application for annual renewal of an occupational therapist's license, a fee of \$100 shall be payable to the board.

B. For processing an application for annual renewal of an occupational therapy assistant's license a fee of \$75 shall be payable to the board.

C. If the application for renewal is received beyond the deadline designated by the board, a late renewal fee of \$35 shall be payable to the board.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014, 37:1270, 37:1281.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 10:907 (November 1984), amended by the

Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:237 (February 2004).

§177. Reinstatement of License

A. For processing an application for reinstatement of a license which has lapsed by expiration and nonrenewal, a fee of \$25 shall be payable to the board in addition to the applicable renewal fee.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270 and 37:1281.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 10:907 (November 1984).

Title 46
PROFESSIONAL AND
OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS
Part XLV. Medical Professions
Subpart 2. Licensure and
Certification
Chapter 19. Occupational
Therapists and Occupational
Therapy Assistants
Subchapter A. General
Provisions

§1901. Scope of Chapter

§1901. Scope of Chapter

A. The rules of this Chapter govern the licensing of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants to engage in the practice of occupational therapy in the state of Louisiana.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986).

§1903. Definitions

A. As used in this Chapter the following terms shall have the meanings specified.

Applicant—a person who has applied to the board for a license to engage in the practice of occupational therapy in the state of Louisiana.

Application—a written request directed to and received by the board, upon forms supplied by the board, for a license to practice occupational therapy in the state of Louisiana, together with all information, certificates, documents, and other materials required by the board to be submitted with such forms.

Association—the Louisiana Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. (LOTA).

Board—the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

Department—the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals.

Good Moral Character—as applied to an applicant means that the applicant has not, prior to or during the pendency of an application to the board, been guilty of any act, omission, condition, or circumstance which would provide legal cause under R.S. 37:3011 for the suspension or revocation of occupational therapy licensure; the applicant has not, prior to or in connection with his application, made any representation to the board, knowingly or unknowingly, which is in fact false or misleading as to a material fact or omits to state any fact or matter that is material to the application; and the applicant has not made any representation or failed to make a representation or engaged in any act or omission which is false, deceptive, fraudulent, or misleading in achieving or obtaining any of the qualifications for a license required by this Chapter.

License—the lawful authority to engage in the practice of occupational therapy in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by a certificate duly issued by and under the official seal of the board.

Louisiana Occupational Therapy Practice Act or the Act—R.S. 39:3001-3014 as hereafter amended or supplemented.

NBCOT—National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc.

Occupational Therapist—a person who is licensed to practice occupational therapy, as defined in this Chapter, and whose license is in good standing.

Occupational Therapy—the application of any activity in which one engages for the purposes of evaluation, interpretation, treatment planning, and treatment of problems interfering with functional performance in persons impaired by physical illness or injury, emotional disorders, congenital or developmental disabilities, or the aging process, in order to achieve optimum functioning and prevention and health maintenance. The occupational therapist may enter a case for the purposes of providing consultation and indirect services and evaluating an individual for the need of services. Prevention, wellness and education related services shall not require a referral; however, in workers' compensation injuries preauthorization shall be required by the employer or workers' compensation insurer or provider. Implementation of direct occupational

therapy to individuals for their specific medical condition or conditions shall be based on a referral or order from a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, dentist, podiatrist, or optometrist licensed to practice in the state of Louisiana. Practice shall be in accordance with current standards of practice established by the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc., and the essentials of accreditation established by the agencies recognized to accredit specific facilities and programs. Specific occupational therapy services include, but are not limited to, activities of daily living (ADL); the design, fabrication, and application of prescribed temporary splints; sensorimotor activities; the use of specifically designed crafts; guidance in the selection and use of adaptive equipment; therapeutic activities to enhance functional performance; prevocational evaluation and training; and consultation concerning the adaptation of physical environments for the handicapped. These services are provided to individuals or groups through medical, health, educational, and social systems.

Occupational Therapy Assistant—a person who is licensed to assist in the practice of occupational therapy under the supervision of, and in activity programs with the consultation of, an occupational therapist licensed under this Chapter.

Person—any individual, partnership, incorporated association, or corporate body, except that only an individual may be licensed under this Chapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:422 (March 2004), LR 41:2136 (October 2015).

Subchapter B. Qualifications for License

§1905. Scope of Subchapter

A. The rules of this Subchapter govern the licensing of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants who in order to practice occupational therapy or hold themselves out as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant, or as being able to practice occupational therapy or to render occupational therapy services in the state of Louisiana must meet all of the criteria set forth in the Subchapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986).

§1907. Qualifications for License

A. To be eligible for a license, an applicant shall:

1. be of good moral character as defined by §1903;

2. be a citizen of the United States or possess valid and current legal authority to reside and work in the United States duly issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) of the United States, Department of Homeland Security, under and pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act (66 stat. 163) and the commissioner's regulations thereunder (8 CFR);

3. have successfully completed the academic and supervised field work experience requirements to sit for the "Certification Examination for Occupational Therapist, Registered" or the "Certification Examination for Occupational Therapy Assistant" as administered for or by the NBCOT or such other certifying entity as may be approved by the board;

4. have taken and successfully passed the licensing examination required by the board in accordance with Subchapter D of this Chapter.

5. file an application for licensure in a format prescribed by the board;

6. present proof of current certification by the NBCOT in a manner as prescribed by the board.

B. The burden of satisfying the board as to the qualifications and eligibility of the applicant for licensure shall be upon the applicant. An applicant shall not be deemed to possess such qualifications unless the applicant demonstrates and evidences such qualifications in the manner prescribed by, and to the satisfaction of, the board.

C. In addition to the substantive qualifications specified in §1907.A, to be eligible for a license, an applicant shall satisfy the procedures and requirements for application provided by §§1911 to 1915 of this Chapter and the procedures and requirements for examination provided by §§1917 to 1935 of this Chapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:422 (March 2004), LR 41:2136 (October 2015).

§1909. Waiver of Examination Requirements for Licensure

A. The board may waive the examination and grant a license to any applicant who presents proof of current licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant in another state, the District of Columbia, or a territory of the United States which requires standards for licensure considered by the board to be equivalent to the requirements for licensure of this Chapter, provided that such state, district, or territory accords similar privileges of licensure without examination to holders of a license under this Chapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986).

Subchapter C. Application

§1911. Purpose and Scope

A. The rules of this Subchapter govern the procedures and requirements applicable to application to the board for licensing as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant in the state of Louisiana.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986).

§1913. Application Procedure

A. Application for licensing shall be made in a format prescribed by the board.

B. Application and instructions may be obtained from the board's web page or by personal or written request to the board.

C. An application for licensing under this Chapter shall include:

1. proof, documented in a form satisfactory to the board that the applicant possesses the qualifications set forth in this Chapter;

2. a recent photograph of the applicant; and

3. such other information and documentation as the board may require to evidence qualification for licensing.

D. All documents required to be presented to the board or its designee must be the original thereof. For good cause shown, the board may waive or modify this requirement.

E. The board may refuse to consider any application which is not complete in every detail, including submission of every document required by the application. The board may, in its discretion require a more detailed or complete response to any request for information set forth in the application form as a condition to consideration of an application.

F. Each application submitted to the board shall be accompanied by the applicable fee, as provided in Chapter 1 of these rules.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:237 (February 2004), LR 41:2137 (October 2015).

§1915. Effect of Application

A. The submission of an application for licensing to the board shall constitute and operate as an authorization by the applicant to each educational institution at which the applicant has matriculated, each state or federal agency to which the applicant has applied for any license, permit, certificate, or registration, each person, firm, corporation, clinic, office, or institution by whom or with whom the applicant has been employed in the practice of occupational therapy, each physician or other health care practitioner whom the applicant has consulted or seen for diagnosis or treatment and each professional organization to which the applicant has applied for membership, to disclose and release to the board any and all information and documentation concerning the applicant which the board deems material to consideration of the application. With respect to any such information or documentation, the submission of an application for licensing to the board shall equally constitute and operate as a consent by the applicant to disclosure and release of such information and documentation and as a waiver by the applicant of any privilege or right of confidentiality which the applicant would otherwise possess with respect thereto.

B. By submission of an application for licensing to the board, an applicant shall be deemed to have given his consent to submit to physical or mental examinations if, when, and in the manner so directed by the board and to waive all objections as to the admissibility or disclosure of findings, reports, or recommendations pertaining thereto on the grounds of privileges provided by law. The expense of any such examination shall be borne by the applicant.

C. The submission of an application for licensing to the board shall constitute and operate as an

authorization and consent by the applicant to the board to disclose and release any information or documentation set forth in or submitted with the applicant's application or obtained by the board from other persons, firms, corporations, associations, or governmental entities pursuant to §1915.A or B to any person, firm, corporation, association, or governmental entity having a lawful, legitimate, and reasonable need therefor, including, without limitation, the occupational therapy licensing authority of any state; the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States; the AOTA; and any component state and county or parish medical society, including the Louisiana Occupational Therapy Association (LOTA); the Louisiana Department of Health and Human Resources; Federal, state, county or parish, and municipal health and law enforcement agencies and the Armed Services.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986).

Subchapter D. Examination

§1917. Designation of Examination

A. For purposes of licensure, the board shall use the examination administered by or on behalf of the NBCOT or such other certifying entity as the board may subsequently approve.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:422 (March 2004).

§1919. Eligibility for Examination

A. To be eligible for examination an applicant for licensure must make application to the NBCOT or its designated contract testing agency in accordance with procedures and requirements of NBCOT. Information on the examination process, including fee schedules and application deadlines, must be obtained by each applicant from the NBCOT. Application for licensure under §1913 does not constitute application for examination.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:422 (March 2004).

§1921. Dates, Places of Examination

A. The dates on which and places where the NBCOT certification examination for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants are given are scheduled by the NBCOT.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:422 (March 2004).

§1931. Passing Score

A. The board shall use the criteria for satisfactory performance on the exam adopted by the NBCOT.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:423 (March 2004).

§1933. Reporting of Examination Score

A. Applicants for licensure shall be required to authorize the NBCOT to release their test scores to the board each time the applicant-examinee attempts the examination according to the procedures for such notification established by NBCOT.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:423 (March 2004), LR 41:2137 (October 2015).

§1935. Restriction, Limitation on Examinations; Additional Requirements

A. An applicant who fails the examination four times shall not thereafter be considered for licensure until successfully completing such continuing education or additional training as may be recommended by the advisory committee and approved by the board or as the board may otherwise determine appropriate. For multiple failures beyond four attempts such education or training may include, without limitation, repeating all or a portion of any didactic and clinical training required for licensure.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the

Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 39:3291 (December 2013).

Subchapter E. Temporary License

§1937. Temporary License in General

A. With respect to applicants who do not meet or possess all of the qualifications and requirements for licensing, the board may, in its discretion, issue such temporary licenses as are, in its judgment, necessary or appropriate to its responsibilities under law.

B. A temporary license entitles the holder to engage in the practice of occupational therapy in the state of Louisiana only for the period of time specified by such license and creates no right or entitlement to licensing or renewal of the license after its expiration.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986).

§1939. License Pending Examination; Reexamination; Renewal

A. The board shall issue a temporary license to practice occupational therapy to an applicant who has completed the academic and supervised field work experience requirements specified under §1907 of this Chapter and has applied for and is waiting examination. The temporary license shall be valid for three months or until the date on which results of the qualifying examination have been known to and acted upon by the board, whichever is the longer.

B. An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant holding a temporary license issued under this Section may practice occupational therapy only under the direction of an occupational therapist licensed by the board, who shall provide such on premises, close supervision of and instruction to the temporary license holder as is adequate to ensure the safety and welfare of patients. The direction and supervision required with respect to:

1. an occupational therapist holding a temporary license under this Section shall be deemed to be satisfied by on-premises direction and immediate supervision by a licensed occupational therapist for not less than two hours each week;

2. an occupational therapy assistant holding a temporary license under this Section shall be deemed to be satisfied by on-premises direction and immediate supervision by a licensed occupational therapist for not less than 25 percent of the average weekly caseload.

C. A temporary license shall be renewable only once, subject to the same terms and conditions of this Section, if the applicant has not passed the examination or if the applicant has failed to take the examination. Exceptions to the one extension rule can be given at the discretion of the board upon a request identifying extenuating circumstances.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 14:351 (June 1988), LR 41:2137 (October 2015).

§1940. Provisional Temporary Permit Pending Application for Visa

A. The board may issue a provisional temporary permit to an applicant for any license or permit provided for by these rules who is otherwise completely qualified for such license or permit, save for possessing an H-1 or equivalent visa as may be required by these rules, provided that the applicant has completed all applicable requirements and procedures for issuance of a license or permit and is eligible for an H-1 or equivalent visa under rules and regulations promulgated by the USCIS.

B. A provisional temporary permit issued under this Section shall be of the same type and scope, and subject to the same terms and restrictions, as the license or permit applied for, provided, however, that a provisional temporary permit issued under this Section shall expire, and become null and void, on the earlier of:

1. 90 days from the date of issuance of such permit;
2. 10 days following the date on which the applicant receives notice of USCIS action granting or denying the applicant's petition for an H-1 or equivalent visa; or
3. the date on which the board gives notice to the applicant of its final action granting or denying issuance of the license or permit applied for.

C. The board may, in its discretion, extend or renew, for one or more additional 90-day periods, a provisional temporary permit issued hereunder which has expired pursuant to §1940.B.1, in favor of an applicant who holds a provisional temporary permit issued under this Section and who has filed a petition for H-1 or equivalent visa with the USCIS, but whose pending petition has not yet been acted on by the USCIS within 90 days from issuance of such provisional temporary permit.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 19:1144 (September 1993), amended LR 41:2138 (October 2015).

Subchapter F. License Issuance, Termination, Renewal and Reinstatement

§1943. Issuance of License

A. If the qualifications, requirements, and procedures prescribed or incorporated by §§1907 to 1915 are met to the satisfaction of the board, the board shall issue to the applicant a license to engage in the practice of occupational therapy in the state of Louisiana upon payment of the license fees set forth in Chapter 1 of the board's rules.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 41:2138 (October 2015).

§1945. Expiration of License

A. Every license issued by the board under this Chapter shall expire and thereby become null, void, and to no effect each year on the last day of the month in which the licensee was born.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 24:1499 (August 1998), LR 41:2138 (October 2015).

§1947. Renewal of License

A. Every license issued by the board under this Subchapter shall be renewed annually on or before its date of expiration by submitting to the board an application for renewal in a format prescribed by the board, together with the renewal fee prescribed in Chapter 1 of these rules and documentation of satisfaction of the continuing professional education requirements prescribed by Subchapter H of these rules.

B. Renewal application and instructions may be obtained from the board's web page or upon personal or written request to the board.

C. The renewal of a license which has expired for 60 days or less may be renewed by submitting to the

board an application for renewal a manner prescribed by the board together with the late renewal fee prescribed in Chapter 1 of these rules.

D. Current NBCOT registration or certification is not a prerequisite to renewal of a license to practice as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1003 (September 1994), LR 24:1499 (August 1998), LR 30:237 (February 2004), LR 30:423 (March 2004), LR 41:2138 (October 2015).

§1949. Reinstatement of License

A. A license which has expired may be reinstated by the board subject to the conditions and procedures hereinafter provided.

B. An application for reinstatement shall be made in a format prescribed by the board, together with the applicable late renewal and reinstatement fees prescribed in Chapter 1 of these rules.

C. Reinstatement of a license that has expired for two years or more may include additional fees and requirements as the board deems appropriate, including but not limited to reexamination in accordance with Subchapter D, satisfaction of the requirements of Subchapter H with respect to continuing professional education, and/or complying with all requirements and procedures for obtaining an original license.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1003 (September 1994), LR 30:423 (March 2004), LR 41:2139 (October 2015).

§1951. Titles of Licensees

A. Any person who is issued a license as an occupational therapist under the terms of this Chapter may use the words "occupational therapist," "licensed occupational therapist," or he may use the letters "OT" or "LOT," in connection with his name or place of business to denote his licensure. In addition, any person currently licensed by the board and certified or registered by and in good standing with the NBCOT, may use the words "licensed occupational therapist registered" or "occupational therapist registered" or "LOTR" or "OTR."

B. Any person who is issued a license as an occupational therapy assistant under the terms of this Chapter may use the words "occupational therapy assistant," "licensed occupational therapy assistant," or he may use the letters "OTA" or "LOTA" in connection with his name or place of business to denote his licensure. In addition, any person currently licensed by the board and certified as an assistant by and in good standing with the NBCOT, may use the designation "licensed certified occupational therapy assistant" or "LCOTA" or "certified occupational therapy assistant" or "COTA."

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:423 (March 2004), LR 41:2139 (October 2015).

Subchapter G. Occupational Therapy Advisory Committee

§1957. Constitution of Committee

A. To assist the board in the review of applicants' qualifications for licensure and renewal of licensure under this Chapter, the board shall constitute and appoint an Occupational Therapy Advisory Committee (advisory committee) which shall be organized and shall function in accordance with the provisions of this Subchapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1003 (September 1994).

§1959. Composition; Appointment

A. The advisory committee shall comprise nine members who shall be occupational therapists licensed by the board and practicing and residing within the state of Louisiana, consisting, more particularly, of one licensed occupational therapist proficient in and representing each of the following areas of occupational therapy practice:

1. administration and management;
2. developmental disabilities;
3. education;
4. gerontology;
5. mental health;

6. physical disabilities;
7. sensory integration;
8. technology; and
9. work programs.

B. Insofar as possible or practical, in its appointment of members to the advisory committee, the board shall maintain geographic diversity so as to provide membership on the advisory committee by occupational therapists residing and practicing in North, Central, Southwestern, and Southeastern Louisiana.

C. Of the board's initial appointment of members to the advisory committee following the effective date of these rules, four appointees shall be designated to serve terms expiring on the last day of the year of appointment and five to serve terms expiring on the last day of the year succeeding the year of appointment. Thereafter, each member of the advisory committee shall serve a term of two years, subject to removal at any time at the pleasure of the board. Members appointed to the advisory committee by the board to fill a vacancy occurring on the advisory committee other than by expiration of the designated term shall serve for the unexpired term. A member of the advisory committee may be appointed by the board for not more than three consecutive terms. Other than the initial appointments provided for herein, board appointments to the advisory committee shall be effective when made with respect to appointments for unexpired terms and otherwise shall be effective as of the first day of the year following the date of appointment.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1003 (September 1994).

§1961. Delegated Duties and Responsibilities

A. The advisory committee is authorized by the board to:

1. advise and assist the board in the ongoing evaluation of the occupational therapy licensing examination required by the board;
2. assist the board in examining the qualifications and credentials of and interviewing applicants for occupational therapy licensure and make recommendations thereon to the board;
3. provide advice and recommendations to the board respecting the modification, amendment, and

supplementation of rules and regulations, standards, policies, and procedures respecting occupational therapy licensure and practice;

4. serve as a liaison between and among the board, licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants, and occupational therapy professional associations;

5. receive reimbursement for attendance at board meetings and for other expenses when specifically authorized by the board; and

6. advise and assist the board in the review and approval of continuing professional education programs and licensee satisfaction of continuing professional education requirements for renewal of licensure, as prescribed by Subchapter H of these rules, including the authority and responsibility to:

a. evaluate organizations and entities providing or offering to provide continuing professional education programs for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants and provide recommendations to the board with respect to the board's recognition and approval of such organizations and entities as sponsors of qualifying continuing professional education programs and activities pursuant to §1969 of these rules;

b. review documentation of continuing professional education by occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistants, verify the accuracy of such documentation, and evaluation of and make recommendations to the board with respect to whether programs and activities evidenced by applicants for renewal of licensure comply with and satisfy the standards for such programs and activities prescribed by these rules; and

c. request and obtain from applicants for renewal of licensure such additional information as the advisory committee may deem necessary or appropriate to enable it to make the evaluations and provide the recommendations for which the committee is responsible.

B. In discharging the functions authorized under this Section the advisory committee and the individual members thereof shall, when acting within the scope of such authority, be deemed agents of the board. All information obtained by the advisory committee members pursuant to §1961.A.2 and 6 shall be considered confidential. Advisory committee members are prohibited from communicating, disclosing, or in any way releasing to anyone, other than the board, any information or documents obtained when acting as agents of the board without first obtaining written authorization of the board.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1004 (September 1994).

Subchapter H. Continuing Professional Education

§1963. Scope of Subchapter

A. The rules of this Subchapter provide standards for the continuing professional education requisite to the annual renewal of licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, as required by §§1947 and 1965 of these rules, and prescribe the procedures applicable to satisfaction and documentation of continuing professional education in connection with application for renewal of licensure.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1004 (September 1994).

§1965. Continuing Professional Education Requirement

A. Subject to the exceptions specified in §1979 of this Subchapter, to be eligible for renewal of licensure an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall, within each year during which he or she holds licensure, evidence, and document in a manner prescribed by the board, the successful completion of not less than 12 contact hours, or 1.2 continuing education units (CEUs).

B. One CEU constitutes 10 hours of participation in an organized continuing professional education program approved by the board and meeting the standards prescribed in this Subchapter; one continuing professional education hour is equal to one-tenth of a CEU. Twelve hours, or 1.2 CEUs, is required to meet the standards prescribed by this Subchapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1004 (September 1994), amended LR 41:2139 (October 2015).

§1967. Qualifying Continuing Professional Education Programs

A. To be acceptable as qualified continuing professional education under these rules a program shall:

1. have significant and substantial theoretical and/or practical content directly related to the practice of occupational therapy, or the development, administration, and supervision of clinical practice;

2. have preestablished written goals and objectives, with its primary objective being to maintain or increase the participant's competence in the practice of occupational therapy;

3. be presented by persons whose knowledge and/or professional experience is appropriate and sufficient to the subject matter of the presentation;

4. provide a system or method for verification of attendance or course completion; and

5. be a minimum of one continuous hour in length.

B. Self-study or independent study, to be acceptable as qualified continuing professional education under these rules, shall be sponsored or offered by the AOTA, by an AOTA approved provider, or the LOTA.

C. A licensee may earn hour for hour continuing education units (up to a maximum of 5 hours per year) for initial presentations, workshops and institutes presented by the licensee when documented by an official program, schedule or syllabus containing title, date, hours and type of audience.

D. A licensee may earn continuing education units (up to a maximum of 5 hours per year) for publications appearing in a peer-reviewed professional journal, a book on theory/practice of occupational therapy, or chapter(s) in a book. Documentation shall consist of the full reference of the publication including, title, author, editor and date of publication or, if not yet published, a copy of a letter of acceptance for publication.

E. None of the following programs, seminars, or activities shall be deemed to qualify as acceptable continuing professional education programs under these rules:

1. any program, seminar or activity not meeting the standards prescribed by §1967.A.-D;

2. any program, presentation, seminar, or course of instruction not providing the participant an opportunity to ask questions or seek clarification of specific matters presented;

3. mentoring, training, or supervisory activities;

4. holding office in professional or governmental organizations, agencies, or committees;

5. participation in case conferences or informal presentations;

6. writing articles for publications that are not peer-reviewed, writing grant applications, or developing or participating in research projects; or

7. reading books or journals, viewing videos, or similar activities.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1004 (September 1994), amended LR 31:3161 (December 2005).

§1969. Approval of Program Sponsors

A. Any program, course, seminar, workshop, self-study, independent study or other activity meeting the standards prescribed by §1967.A.-D sponsored or offered by the AOTA, by an AOTA approved provider, or the LOTA shall be presumptively deemed approved by the board for purposes of qualifying as an approved continuing professional education program under these rules.

B. Upon the recommendation of the advisory committee, the board may designate additional organizations and entities whose programs, courses, seminars, workshops, or other activities shall be deemed approved by the board for purposes of qualifying as an approved continuing professional education program under §1967.A.-D.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1005 (September 1994), amended LR 31:3162 (December 2005).

§1971. Approval of Programs

A. A continuing professional education program sponsored by an organization or entity not deemed approved by the board pursuant to §1969.A.-D may be preapproved by the board as a program qualifying and acceptable for satisfying continuing professional education requirements under this Subchapter upon written request to the board therefore, upon a form supplied by the board, providing a complete description of the nature, location, date, content, and purpose of such program and such other information as the board or the advisory committee may request to establish the compliance of such program with the standards prescribed by §1967.A.-D. Any such request for preapproval respecting a program which makes and collects a charge for attendance shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable processing fee of \$30.

B. Any such written request shall be referred by the board to the advisory committee for its recommendation. If the advisory committee's recommendation is against approval, the board shall give notice of such recommendation to the person or organization requesting approval and such person or organization may appeal the advisory committee's recommendation to the board by written request delivered to the board within 10 days of such notice. The board's decision with respect to approval of any such activity shall be final. Persons and organizations requesting preapproval of continuing professional education programs should allow not less than 60 days for such requests to be processed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1005 (September 1994), amended LR 31:3162 (December 2005).

§1973. Documentation Procedure

A. Annual documentation and certification of satisfaction of the continuing professional education requirements prescribed by these rules shall accompany an applicant's annual renewal of licensure in a format prescribed by the board.

B. Any certification of continuing professional education not presumptively approved by the board pursuant to these rules, or preapproved by the board in writing, shall be referred to the advisory committee for its evaluation and recommendations pursuant to §1961.A.6.b. If the advisory committee determines that a program or activity certified by an applicant for renewal in satisfaction of continuing professional education requirements does not qualify for recognition by the board or does not qualify for the number of CEUs claimed by the applicant, the board shall give notice of such determination to the applicant for renewal and the applicant may appeal the advisory committee's recommendation to the board by written request delivered to the board within 10 days of such notice. The board's decision with respect to approval and recognition of any such program or activity shall be final.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1005 (September 1994), amended LR 41:2139 (October 2015).

§1975. Failure to Satisfy Continuing Professional Education Requirements

A. An applicant for renewal of licensure who fails to evidence satisfaction of the continuing professional

education requirements prescribed by these rules shall be given written notice of such failure by the board. The license of the applicant shall remain in full force and effect for a period of 60 days following the mailing of such notice, following which it shall be deemed expired, unrenewed, and subject to revocation without further notice, unless the applicant shall have, within such 60 days furnished the board satisfactory evidence, by affidavit, that:

1. the applicant has satisfied the applicable continuing professional education requirements;
2. the applicant is exempt from such requirements pursuant to these rules; or
3. the applicant's failure to satisfy the continuing professional education requirements was occasioned by disability, illness, or other good cause as may be determined by the board.

B. The license of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant whose license has expired by nonrenewal or has been revoked for failure to satisfy the continuing professional education requirements of these rules may be reinstated by the board upon written application to the board, accompanied by payment of a reinstatement fee, in addition to all other applicable fees and costs, of \$50, together with documentation and certification that:

1. the applicant has, within the preceding 12 months, completed 12 contact hours (1.2 CEUs) of qualifying continuing professional education;
2. the applicant is currently certified by the NBCOT; or
3. the applicant has, within one year prior to making application for reinstatement, taken and successfully passed the recertification examination of the NBCOT.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1005 (September 1994), amended LR 24:1499 (August 1998), LR 30:424 (March 2004), LR 41:2139 (October 2015).

§1977. Waiver of Requirements

A. The board may, in its discretion and upon the recommendation of the advisory committee, waive all or part of the continuing professional education required by these rules in favor of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant who makes written request for such waiver to the board and evidences to the satisfaction of the board a permanent physical disability, illness, financial hardship, or other similar extenuating circumstances precluding the

individual's satisfaction of the continuing professional education requirements.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1006 (September 1994).

§1979. Exceptions to Continuing Professional Education Requirements

A. The continuing professional education requirements prescribed by this Subchapter as requisite to renewal of licensure shall not be applicable to:

1. an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant employed exclusively by, or at an institution operated by, any department or agency of the state of Louisiana; or
2. an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant who has held an initial Louisiana license on the basis of examination for a period of less than one year.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1006 (September 1994).

Title 46 PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS Part XLV. Medical Professions Subpart 3. Practice Chapter 49. Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants Subchapter A. General Provisions

§4901. Scope of Chapter

A. The rules of this Chapter govern the practice of occupational therapy in the state of Louisiana.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986).

§4903. Definitions

A. As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings specified.

Activities of Daily Living—the components of everyday activity.

Activity Limitation—the exclusion of certain activities, or restrictions in method or duration of performance.

Assistive/Adaptive Equipment—a special device which assists in the performance of occupations.

Board—the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

Client—a person, group, program, organization or community for whom the occupational therapy practitioner is providing service (American Occupational Therapy Association).

Client Care Conference—a meeting between the supervising occupational therapist, who must have previously evaluated and/or treated the client, and an occupational therapy assistant to discuss client progress or lack thereof, client issues, revision of goals, initiation, modification or termination of an individual program plan, assessment of utilization of additional resources, discharge and any other information which may affect a client's plan of care. Except when specifically required in this Chapter to be conducted by face to face conference, such meeting may be undertaken by telephone or other means of telecommunication which allows for simultaneous interactive discussion between the supervising occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant.

Close Client Care Supervision—face to face observation of an occupational therapy assistant administering occupational therapy to a client, accompanied or followed in a timely fashion by verbal discussion of client goals, the individual program plan and other matters which may affect the client's plan of care.

Cognitive Skills—actions or behaviors a client uses to plan and manage the performance of an activity.

Community Services, Programs, or Resources—vocational, social, religious, recreational, health, education, and transportation services or programs that may be available in the community.

Coordination—the ability to perform motions in a smooth concerted way.

Consultation—process of assisting a client, agency, or other provider by identifying and analyzing issues, providing information and advice and developing strategies for current and future actions.

Context—a variety of interrelated conditions within and surrounding the client that influences performance including, but not limited to, cultural, personal, temporal, virtual, physical and social.

Coping Skills—the ability to sublimate drives, find sources of need gratification, tolerate frustration and anxiety, experience gratification, and control impulses.

Documents—the written recording of information in the client's overall record/chart and/or in the occupational therapy record/chart.

Dyadic Interaction Skills—the ability in relationships to peers, subordinates, and authority figures to demonstrate trust, respect, and warmth; to perceive and respond to needs and feelings of others; to engage in and sustain interdependent relationships; and to communicate feelings.

Early Intervention Setting—a natural environment, such as a child's home, child care or other community setting in which children through 3 years of age (36 months) participate.

Education—an intervention process that involves the imparting of knowledge and information about occupation and activity. This does not include school based occupational therapy.

Evaluate/Evaluation—the process of collecting and interpreting data through direct observation, interview, record review, or testing of a client.

Environmental Adaptations—structural or positional changes designed to facilitate independent living and/or increase safety in the home, work, or treatment setting: i.e., the installation of ramps, bars; change in furniture heights; adjustments of traffic patterns.

Face to Face—direct communication between the occupational therapist supervising client care and an occupational therapy assistant, which is conducted in the physical presence of one another.

Facilitation Techniques—selection, grading, and modification of sensory input which attempts to encourage motion in a non-functioning muscle or muscle group.

Group Interaction Skills—abilities in performing tasks in the presence of others; sharing tasks with others; cooperating and competing with others; fulfilling a variety of group membership roles; exercising leadership skills; perceiving and responding to needs of group members.

Inhibition Techniques—selection, grading, and modification of sensory input which attempts to

decrease muscle tone or excess motion that interferes with function.

Joint Protection/Preservation—the principles or techniques of minimizing stress on joints. It includes the use of proper body mechanics; avoidance of excessive weight-bearing, static, or deforming postures.

Kinetic Activities—those activities requiring motion. It can include activities of daily living and isometric, assistive, resistive exercises.

Louisiana Occupational Therapy Practice Act or the Act—R.S. 39:3001-3014 as hereafter amended or supplemented.

Mobility—moving from one place to another during the performance of everyday activities, including skills such as getting in/or out of bed, chair, wheelchair, vehicles, using transportation, functional ambulation and transporting objects.

Motor Skills—the level, quality, and/or degree of range of motion, gross muscle strength, muscle tone, endurance, fine motor skills, and functional use.

Object Manipulation—skills such as the handling of common objects such as telephone, keys, money, light switches, doorknobs.

Occupational Performance—the act of engaging in any occupation including activities of daily living (ADL), instrumental ADLs (IADL), rest and sleep, education, work, play, leisure, and social participation.

Occupational Therapist—a person who is licensed to practice occupational therapy, as defined in this Chapter, and whose license is in good standing.

Occupational Therapy—the application of any activity in which one engages for the purposes of evaluation, interpretation, treatment planning, and treatment of problems interfering with functional performance in persons impaired by physical illness or injury, emotional disorders, congenital or developmental disabilities, or the aging process, in order to achieve optimum functioning and prevention and health maintenance. The occupational therapist may enter a case for the purposes of providing consultation and indirect services and evaluating an individual for the need of services. Prevention, wellness and education related services shall not require referral, however, in workers' compensation injuries preauthorization shall be required by the employer or workers' compensation insurer or provider. Implementation of direct occupational therapy to individuals for their specific medical condition or conditions shall be based on a referral or order from a physician, dentist, podiatrist, advanced

practice registered nurse, or optometrist licensed to practice in the state of Louisiana. Practice shall be in accordance with current standards of practice established by the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc., and the essentials of accreditation established by the agencies recognized to accredit specific facilities and programs. Specific occupational therapy services include, but are not limited to, activities of daily living (ADL); the design, fabrication, and application of prescribed temporary splints; sensorimotor activities; the use of specifically designed crafts; guidance in the selection and use of adaptive equipment; therapeutic activities to enhance functional performance; pre-vocational evaluation and training and consultation concerning the adaptation of physical environments for the handicapped. These services are provided to individuals or groups through medical, health, educational, and social systems.

Occupational Therapy Assistant—a person who is licensed to assist in the practice of occupational therapy under the supervision of, and in activity programs with the consultation of, an occupational therapist licensed under this Chapter.

Performance Skills—the abilities clients demonstrate in the actions they perform. The learned and developmental patterns of behavior which are the prerequisite foundations of occupation. The performance skills components include: motor skills, sensory perceptual skills, praxis skills, emotional regulation, communication and social/skills.

Periodically—occurring at regular intervals of time not less than every two weeks or the sixth visit, whichever comes first.

Play/Leisure Skills—those skills necessary to perform and engage in activities such as games, sports, and hobbies.

Positioning—the placing of body parts in proper alignment.

Practice-Experience—1600 hours of documented work as an occupational therapy practitioner is equivalent of one year of practice experience.

Psychological/Intrapersonal Skills—the level, quality, and/or degree of self-identity, self-concept, and coping skills.

Reality Orientation—the treatment approach aimed at reinforcement of reality; i.e., the use of simple structured activities for orientation to time, place, and person.

Re-Evaluate/Re-Evaluation—the process of periodically and systematically reviewing and interpreting the effectiveness and efficiency of client

goals, the treatment plan, intervention and any other aspect of an individual's occupational therapy program.

Self-Care Skills—activities that are oriented toward taking care of one's own body, including, but not limited to, skills such as bathing, showering, bowel and bladder management, dressing, eating, feeding, functional mobility, personal device care, hygiene/grooming, sexual activity, and toilet hygiene.

Self-Identity and *Self-Concept*—the ability to perceive self needs and expectations from those of others; identify areas of self-competency and limitations; accept responsibility for self; perceive sexuality of self; have self-respect; have appropriate body image; view self as being able to influence events.

Sensation—reception of stimuli, includes touch, pain, temperature, stereognosis, proprioception/kinaesthesia, vestibular, taste, smell, vision, hearing.

Sensory Integration—the level, quality, or degree of development and integration of somatosensory functions, reflected in reflex and sensory status, posture, motor activity and praxis, form and space perception, body schema, and self-concept.

Service Competency—with respect to an occupational therapy assistant, means one who is appropriately trained and qualified to perform occupational therapy in accordance with the current standards of practice, as identified by the American Occupational Therapy Association.

Significant Others—persons who have an important relationship to the client. This could include the client's family, friends, employer, teacher, or other health care providers.

Social/Interpersonal Skills—the level, quality, and/or degree of dyadic and group interaction skills.

Splinting—the provision of temporary dynamic and/or static splints for the purpose of: relieving pain, maintaining joint alignment, protecting joint integrity, improving function, and/or decreasing deformity.

Structuring Environment—the organization of the client's time, activities, and/or physical environment in order to enhance performance (see *environmental adaptations*).

Supervising Occupational Therapist—an occupational therapist responsible to the client for occupational therapy who observes, directs, consults with and retains responsibility for the service competence and performance of an occupational

therapy assistant in the administration of occupational therapy to such client.

Wellness—an active process through which individuals become aware of and make choices toward a more successful existence. Wellness is more than a lack of disease symptoms. It is a state of mental and physical balance and fitness.

Work Simplification—the streamlining of the performance of an activity in order to minimize energy output.

Work Skills—skills such as habits, workmanship, actual skills related to specific job tasks. The skills may refer to the work of the student, paid employee, retiree or volunteer.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 28:1976 (September 2002), LR 30:424 (March 2004), LR 41:2140 (October 2015).

Subchapter B. Standards of Practice

§4905. Scope of Subchapter

A. This Subchapter provides the minimum standards for occupational therapy practice applicable to all persons licensed to practice occupational therapy in the state of Louisiana.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986).

§4907. Screening

A. Occupational therapists have the responsibility to identify clients who may present problems in occupational performance that would require an evaluation.

B. Occupational therapists may screen independently or as members of a team.

C. Screening methods shall be appropriate to the client's age, education, cultural background, medical status, and functional ability.

D. Screening methods may include interview, observation, testing, and record review.

E. Occupational therapists shall communicate the screening results and recommendations only to appropriate individuals.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 41:2141 (October 2015).

§4909. Referral

A. A client is appropriately referred to occupational therapy for remediation, maintenance, or prevention when the client has, or appears to have, a dysfunction or potential for dysfunction in occupational performance or performance skills.

B. Clients shall be referred to occupational therapy for evaluation, design construction of, or training in therapeutic adaptations that include, but are not limited to, the physical environment, orthotics, prosthetics, and assistive and adaptive equipment.

C. The occupational therapist enters a case at the request of a Louisiana licensed physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist or advanced practice nurse practitioner; assumes full responsibility for the occupational therapy evaluation and; and, in consultation with the referring physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist or advanced practice nurse practitioner, establishes the appropriate type, nature, and mode of service.

D. Occupational therapists shall refer clients back to the physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist or advanced practice nurse practitioner when, in the judgment of the occupational therapists, the knowledge and expertise of another professional is required.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 41:2141 (October 2015).

§4911. Evaluation

A. Occupational therapists shall evaluate the client's performance according to the current AOTA guidelines.

B. Initial occupational therapy evaluations shall consider the client's medical, vocational, educational, activity, context, environment, social history, and personal/family goals.

C. The occupational therapy evaluation shall include assessment of the functional abilities and deficits as related to the client's needs in the following areas:

1. occupational performance: activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, rest and sleep, education, work, play, leisure, and social participation;

2. performance components: sensory perceptual skills, motor, praxis skills, emotional regulation, communication, social skills, cognitive, and psychosocial;

3. therapeutic adaptations and prevention, context and environment.

D. All evaluation methods shall be appropriate to the client's age, education, cultural and ethnic background, medical status, and functional ability.

E. The evaluation methods may include observation, interview, record review, and the use of evaluation techniques or tools.

F. When standardized evaluation tools are used, the tests should have normative data for the client characteristics. If normative data are not available, the results should be expressed in a descriptive report.

G. Collected evaluation data shall be analyzed and summarized to indicate the client's current status.

H. Occupational therapists shall document evaluation results in the client's record and indicate the specific evaluation tools and methods used.

I. Occupational therapists shall communicate evaluation results to the referring physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist or advanced practice registered nurse and/or appropriate persons in the facility.

J. If the results of the evaluation indicate areas that require intervention by other professionals, the occupational therapist should refer the client back to the physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist or advanced practice registered nurse or appropriate persons in the facility.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 41:2141 (October 2015).

§4913. Individual Program Planning

A. Occupational therapists shall use the results of the evaluation to develop an individual occupational therapy program that is:

1. stated in measurable and reasonable terms appropriate to the client's needs and goals and expected prognosis;

2. consistent with current principles and concepts of occupational therapy theory and practice.

B. The planning process shall include:

1. identifying short and long-term goals;
2. collaborating with client, family, other professionals, and community resources;
3. selecting the media, methods, environment, and personnel needed to accomplish goals;
4. determining the frequency and duration of occupational therapy services.

C. This initial program plan shall be prepared and documented promptly.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986).

§4915. Individual Program Implementation

A. Implementation of direct occupational therapy to individuals for their specific medical condition or conditions shall be based on a referral or order from a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist or advanced practice registered nurse licensed to practice in the state of Louisiana.

B. Occupational therapists shall implement the program according to the program plan. Occupational therapy assistants may assist in program implementation under the supervision of and in consultation with a supervising occupational therapist, as prescribed by §§4919 and 4925.

C. Occupational therapists shall formulate and implement program modifications consistent with changes in the client's occupational performance and performance skills.

D. Occupational therapists shall periodically re-evaluate and document the client's occupational performance and performance skills.

E. Occupational therapists shall promptly document the occupational therapy services provided and the frequency of the services.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 28:1977 (September 2002), LR 41:2141 (October 2015).

§4917. Discontinuation of Services

A. Occupational therapists shall discontinue services when the client has achieved the goals or has achieved maximum benefit from occupational therapy.

B. Occupational therapists shall document the comparison of the initial and current state of functional abilities and deficits in occupational performance and performance skills.

C. Occupational therapists shall prepare a discharge plan that is consistent with the occupational therapy, client, interdisciplinary team, family and goals, and the expected prognosis. Consideration should be given to appropriate community resources for referral and environmental factors or barriers that may need modification.

D. Occupational therapists shall allow sufficient time for the coordination and the effective implementation of the discharge plan.

E. Occupational therapists shall document recommendations for follow-up or re-evaluation.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended, by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 41:2141 (October 2015).

§4919. Quality Assurance and Service Competency

A. The occupational therapist shall periodically and systematically review all aspects of individual occupational therapy programs for effectiveness and efficiency.

B. Occupational therapists shall periodically and systematically review the quality and appropriateness of total services delivered, using predetermined criteria that reflect professional consensus and recent development in research and theory.

C. Any occupational therapist supervising an occupational therapy assistant must have performed and documented a service competency on the occupational therapy assistant. The occupational therapist must have previously evaluated and/or treated any client being seen by an occupational therapy assistant he or she is supervising. In addition:

1. initial service competency. Following acceptance of responsibility to supervise an occupational therapy assistant, but prior to utilization of such assistant in the implementation of any client program plan or other administration of occupational therapy to a client, the supervising occupational

therapist shall initially evaluate and document the occupational therapy assistant's service competency to administer all occupational therapy services which are to be performed under his or her supervision and direction. The service competency is designed to document the occupational therapy assistant's skill set;

2. annual service competency. Following such an initial evaluation the supervising occupational therapist shall thereafter annually conduct and document a service competency to determine the occupational therapy assistant's skill set;

3. documentation of service competency. Documentation of initial and annual competency shall include the date the evaluation was performed, a description of the tasks evaluated, and the name, signature and Louisiana license number of the supervising occupational therapist conducting the service competency evaluation;

4. in practice settings where an occupational therapy assistant is supervised by more than one occupational therapist, service competencies (initial and/or annual) performed by one supervising occupational therapist will satisfy the requirements of this Section for all occupational therapists supervising the occupational therapy assistant in the performance of the same services, provided that their name, signature and Louisiana license number appears on the evaluation;

5. a supervising occupational therapist shall insure such documentation is maintained by the occupational therapy assistant and at each clinic, facility or home health agency where the occupational therapy assistant practices under his or her supervision.

D. A supervising occupational therapist is responsible for and must be capable of demonstrating compliance with the requirements of this Chapter and AOTA supervision guidelines respecting supervision of occupational therapy assistants.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 28:1977 (September 2002), LR 41:2142 (October 2015).

§4923. Reserved.

§4925. Supervision of Occupational Therapy Assistants

A. The rules of this Section, together with those specified in §4915 and §4919, govern supervision of

an occupational therapy assistant by a supervising occupational therapist in any clinical setting.

B. An occupational therapy assistant may assist in implementation of a client program plan in consultation with and under the supervision of an occupational therapist. Such supervision shall not be construed in every case to require the continuous physical presence of the supervising occupational therapist provided, however, that the supervising occupational therapist and the occupational therapy assistant must have the capability to be in contact with each other by telephone or other telecommunication which allows for simultaneous interactive discussion between the supervising occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant. Supervision shall exist when the occupational therapist responsible for the client gives informed concurrence of the actions of the occupational therapy assistant and adheres to all requirements set forth in this Chapter.

C. Prior to Implementation of Program Plan. Prior to the administration of occupational therapy by an occupational therapy assistant, the supervising occupational therapist shall, in accordance with AOTA standards of practice as may from time to time be amended:

1. perform an evaluation;
2. identify and establish occupational therapy needs, goals and an individual program plan;
3. ensure that the documents created pursuant to §4925.C.1 and §4925.C.2 are made part of the client's record and accessible to the occupational therapy assistant prior to his or her the first treatment session with the client; and
4. be available for a client care conference.

D. Throughout the Duration of Program Plan. Following implementation and throughout the duration of the program plan:

1. a supervising occupational therapist shall periodically and systematically re-evaluate the appropriateness of all services delivered. Such information shall be documented in the client's record, which shall be made available to the occupational therapy assistant. The supervising occupational therapist preparing such revisions shall communicate any critical aspect or significant change in the program plan to the occupational therapy assistant by means of a client care conference prior to the occupational therapy assistant's next treatment session with the client;
2. at all times during which an occupational therapy assistant assists in program plan

implementation, the supervising occupational therapist shall be immediately accessible for a client care conference; and

3. an occupational therapy assistant shall not administer occupational therapy to any client whose physical, cognitive, functional or mental status differs substantially from that identified by the supervising occupational therapist's individual program plan in the absence of re-evaluation by, or an immediate prior client care conference with, the supervising occupational therapist.

E. In addition to the terms and conditions specified in §4919 and §4925.A-D, the following additional requirements are applicable to an occupational therapy assistant's administration of occupational therapy under the supervision of an occupational therapist.

1. In any clinical setting, other than specified by §4925.E.3:

a. an occupational therapy assistant with less than one year of practice experience:

i. shall receive close client care supervision in each clinical setting for not less than one of every four, or 25+ percent, of those clients to whom he or she has administered occupational therapy during an average weekly case load;

ii. in addition, a client care conference shall be held with respect to each client to whom the occupational therapy assistant administers occupational therapy;

b. an occupational therapy assistant with more than one but less than two years of practice experience:

i. shall receive close client care supervision in each clinical setting for not less than one of every 10, or 10 percent, of those clients seen during an average weekly case load;

ii. in addition, a client care conference shall be held with respect to each client to whom the occupational therapy assistant administers occupational therapy;

c. an occupational therapy assistant with more than two years of practice experience:

i. shall receive a client care conference with respect to each client to whom the occupational therapy assistant administers occupational therapy.

2. School System, Long-Term Psychiatric and Nursing Home Facility Settings. In addition to the requirements prescribed in §4925.E.1, clients in school system, long-term psychiatric or nursing home facility settings shall be re-evaluated or treated by the

supervising occupational therapist not less frequently than the earlier of once a month or every sixth treatment session.

3. Home Health Setting. The terms and conditions prescribed by §4925.E.1 shall not be applicable to a home health setting. An occupational therapy assistant may assist in implementation of a client program plan in a home health setting under the supervision of an occupational therapist provided all the following terms, conditions and restrictions of this Chapter, except §4925.E.1, are strictly observed:

a. an occupational therapy assistant shall have had not less than two years practice experience in providing occupational therapy prior to administering occupational therapy in a home health environment;

b. each client in a home health setting to whom an occupational therapy assistant administers occupational therapy shall be re-evaluated or treated by the supervising occupational therapist not less frequently than the earlier of once every two weeks or every sixth treatment session; and

c. a face-to-face client care conference shall occur not less frequently than once every two weeks to discuss all clients to whom the occupational therapy assistant has administered occupational therapy in a home health setting. Such conference shall be documented by the supervising occupational therapist in a supervisory log and maintained by or at the home health entity.

4. Early Intervention Setting. The terms and conditions prescribed by §4925.E.1 shall not be applicable to an early intervention setting. An occupational therapy assistant may assist in implementation of a client program plan in an early intervention setting under the supervision of an occupational therapist provided all the following terms, conditions and restrictions of this Chapter, except §4925.E.1, are strictly observed:

a. an occupational therapy assistant shall have had not less than two years practice experience in providing occupational therapy prior to administering occupational therapy in an early intervention setting;

b. each client in an early intervention setting to whom an occupational therapy assistant administers occupational therapy shall be re-evaluated or treated by the supervising occupational therapist not less frequently than the earlier of once a month or every sixth treatment session; and

c. a client care conference shall occur not less frequently than the earlier of once every month or every sixth treatment session to discuss all clients to whom the occupational therapy assistant has

administered occupational therapy in an early intervention setting. Such conference shall be documented and maintained by the supervising occupational therapist in a supervisory log.

F. Mutual Obligations and Responsibilities. A supervising occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant shall bear equal reciprocal obligations to insure strict compliance with the obligations, responsibilities and provisions set forth in this Chapter.

G. The administration of occupational therapy other than in accordance with the provisions of this Section and §4919 shall be deemed a violation of these rules, subjecting the occupational therapist and/or an occupational therapy assistant to suspension or revocation of licensure pursuant to §4921.B.18.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 19:340 (March 1993), amended LR 28:1977 (September 2002), LR 41:2142 (October 2015).

Subchapter C. Unauthorized Practice, Prohibitions and Causes for Administrative Action

§4927. Unauthorized Practice

A. No individual shall engage in the practice of occupational therapy in this state in the absence of a current license or permit duly issued by the board.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 41:2143 (October 2015).

§4929. False Representation of Licensure Prohibited [Formerly §1955]

A. No person who is not licensed under this Chapter as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant, or whose license has been suspended or revoked, shall use, in connection with his name or place of business, the words "occupational therapist," "licensed occupational therapist," "occupational therapy assistant," "licensed occupational therapy assistant," or the letters, "OT," "LOT," "OTA," "LOTA," or any other words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that he is an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant, or in any way, orally, in writing, in print, or by sign, directly or by implication, represent himself as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant.

B. No person who is not licensed under this Chapter as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant, or whose license has been suspended or revoked, who is not currently certified or registered by and in good standing with the NBCOT shall use, in connection with his name or place of business, the words "occupational therapist registered," "licensed occupational therapist registered," "certified occupational therapy assistant," or "licensed certified occupational therapy assistant" or the letters, "OTR," "LOTR," or "COTA," or "LCOTA" or any other words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that he is an occupational therapist registered or a certified occupational therapy assistant, or in any way, orally, in writing, in print, or by sign, directly or by implication, represent himself as such.

C. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be fined not more than \$500 or be imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:424 (March 2004), repromulgated LR 41:2143 (October 2015).

§4931. Suspension and Revocation of License; Refusal to Issue or Renew; Unprofessional Conduct [Formerly §4921]

A. The board may refuse to issue or renew, may suspend or revoke, or may impose probationary conditions on any occupational therapy or occupational therapy assistant license, if the licensee or applicant for license has been guilty of unprofessional conduct which has endangered or likely to endanger the health, welfare, or safety of the public.

B. As used herein and R.S. 37:3011, *unprofessional conduct* by an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall mean:

1. conviction of a crime or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a criminal charge constituting a felony under the laws of Louisiana, of the United States, or of the state in which such conviction or plea was entered;
2. conviction of a crime or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to any criminal charge arising out of or in connection with the practice of occupational therapy;

3. perjury, fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or concealment of material facts in obtaining a license to practice occupational therapy;

4. providing false testimony before the board or providing false sworn information to the board;

5. habitual or recurring abuse of drugs, including alcohol, which affect the central nervous system and which are capable of inducing physiological or psychological dependence;

6. solicitation of patients or self-promotion through advertising or communication, public or private, which is fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading;

7. making or submitting false, deceptive, or unfounded claims, reports, or opinions to any patient, insurance company, or indemnity association, company, individual, or governmental authority for the purpose of obtaining anything of economic value;

8. cognitive or clinical incompetency;

9. continuing or recurring practice which fails to satisfy the prevailing and usually accepted standards of occupational therapy practice in this state;

10. knowingly performing any act which in any way assists an unlicensed person to practice occupational therapy, or having professional connection with or lending one's name to an illegal practitioner;

11. paying or giving anything of economic value to another person, firm, or corporation to induce the referral of patients to the occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant;

12. interdiction by due process of law;

13. inability to practice occupational therapy with reasonable competence, skill, or safety to patients because of mental or physical illness, condition or deficiency, including but not limited to deterioration through the aging process and excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol;

14. refusal to submit to examination an inquiry by an examining committee of physicians appointed by the board to inquire into the licensee's physical and/or mental fitness and ability to practice occupational therapy with reasonable skill or safety to patients;

15. practicing or otherwise engaging in any conduct or functions beyond the scope of occupational therapy as defined by the Act or these rules;

16. the refusal of the licensing authority of another state to issue or renew a license, permit, or

certificate to practice occupational therapy in that state, or the revocation, suspension, or other restriction imposed on a license, permit, or certificate issued by such licensing authority which prevents, restricts, or conditions practice in that state, or the surrender of a license, permit, or certificate issued by another state when criminal or administrative charges are pending or threatened against the holder of such license, permit, or certificate;

17. violation of the code of ethics adopted and published by the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. (AOTA); or

18. violation of any rules and regulations of the board, or any provisions of the Act, as amended, R.S. 37:3001-3014.

C. Denial, refusal to renew, suspension, revocation, or imposition of probationary conditions upon a licensee may be ordered by the board in a decision made after a hearing in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and the applicable rules and regulations of the board. One year after the date of the revocation of a license, application may be made to the board for reinstatement. The board shall have discretion to accept or reject an application for reinstatement but shall hold a hearing to consider such reinstatement.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3011.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 17:885 (September 1991), repromulgated LR 41:2143 (October 2015).