

**Occupational Therapy Licensing Board  
2016 STRATEGIC PLAN**

2016 Current Reality	Key Area: Operations	2016-17	2018-19	2020-21	VISION
OTLB operates efficiently and stays within budget. It has earned a good reputation for its quick responsiveness. This year's renewal (2016-18) tested the use of NBCOT's navigator for CE and audits with acceptable results. The number of licensees has increased along with the increased number of complex disciplinary cases. The board has increased staff to include a .5 Admin Asst position. The board receives many questions about the supervision of OTA's. AOTA is considering changing the entry level of the OTA to a bachelor's degree.	* Website information Q&A	Survey licensees to ask for ways to continually improve communications.	Employ the use of text reminders during renewal time and to keep licensees aware of upcoming legislative issues.		The OTLB receives excellent consumer satisfaction scores because of its quick responsiveness and human contact on phone calls. The board has embraced virtual technology to interface with licensees statewide (Skype, iPads) and encourages exchanges with licensees on OT professional issues. The NBCOT CE Navigator is providing an easy way for licensees assess their skills and track their CEUs. The Board plans to decide if NBCOT registration should be mandatory for all licensees. CE categories have been clarified to reflect all CE options (mentoring, volunteering) in the changing CE landscape. The Board has produced webinars to clarify the supervision of OTAs and expectations of OTR supervisors. The number of questions concerning supervision has decreased.
	* NBCOT / CE - Follow up to rule change/audits	Develop process for auditing CE. Clarify and define OR CE rules about mentoring and volunteering.	Create a system to track NBCOT CE.	After 2nd renewal cycle using NBCOT, evaluate if more than 78% are using this system and if NBCOT registration should be mandatory.	
	* Discipline		Request .25 time investigator	Request a .25 time investigator.	
	* Fees / Management / Efficiencies	Attorney General Costs - DOJ flat rate	Increase allotment for Attorney General Costs.		
	*Technology that supports statewide communication and interaction. Use of technology to support OTA supervision.	Develop a plan to audit OTR's supervisors of OTA's.	Audit OTA supervision for accuracy.	On website, Licensees update their profile to reflect their current supervisor.	
		Monitor effects of school closures in OT in practice.	Development of webinar about OTR/ OTA supervision : expectations and frequently asked questions	Tracking system for OTR/OTA supervision in place.	
				Virtual interface with the Board - ability to Skype in at Board meetings.	
CURRENT REALITY	Key Area: POLITICAL CLIMATE	2016-17	2018-19	2020-21	VISION
The political climate with the upcoming 2016 presidential election is providing tension, with the anticipation of health care change, i.e. medicare, medicaid, private insurance, Obamacare. The OTLB adequately monitors legislative issues that will impact OT and this will need to continue. The current workplace survey does not adequately reflect the OT employment settings. There are few OTs in management areas and in private practice, which is limiting. The turf issues between disciplines continue to cause competition for practice areas. The issue of reciprocity between state licensing boards will be coming up for a decision in the form of the OT compact.	* Workplace survey	Give more accurate data to workforce survey in order to capture all the settings in which OT's are employed.	Workforce survey accurately reflects practice settings.		Within the political arena, OT has positioned itself with other strategic partners that support innovative practice and with what is in the best interest of the patient/client. OT is assertive and savvy regarding legislative issues because OTs stay informed and advocate for best practice.
	* Health Care Changes - Medicare, Obamacare, Medicaid, Personal Ins.	Sharing of mutual practice issues & solutions between like boards or member associations.	Continue engagement on health care issues with stakeholders. Development of key strategic partners to stay informed.	Participate in a "super" work group with other professions on shared issues .	
	* Legislative monitoring	OR Legislative session: Monitor legislation relevant to OT practice. Partner with OTAO, lobbyist.	Use of text to contact licensees of important upcoming legislative events.	OR Legislative session: Continue to monitor legislation relevant to OT practice. Partner with OTAO, Lobbyist.	
	* OT Compact / Portability	Educate Board/monitor the PT compact, evaluating Pros and Cons. What a compact would mean to the OT licensee.	Keep on top of NBCOT on timelines of formation of a commission.	Keep on top of NBCOT on timelines of formation of a commission.	
CURRENT REALITY	Key Area: PRACTICE AREAS / EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE	2016-17	2018-19	2020-21	VISION
Currently, Evidence-Based Practice is the practice standard. With new practice settings emerging and the changes in the health care industry, OTs are challenged with old systems (i.e. the educational system) not changing quickly enough. Some systems are too rigid to embrace new practices. OTs are asked to be flexible and embrace change, such as employing EMR, changes in billing, reimbursement, or using new techniques. New practice techniques are often not recognized as in the OT practice arena, so OTs are in a constant stage of educating others to the wide scope of OT. School based practice has struggled with changes as well as the field of mental health. OT would like to increase their influence in mental health area. The board would like to recognize the mental health /wellness needs of its licensees as practice becomes more stressful. The millennial generation is entering the workforce, bringing new values and skills to the workplace.	* School-Based Practice	Specific Q & A posted on website. Input from licensees.	Collaborate with other stakeholders to develop brochures/handouts/digital information.	Collaborate with stakeholders to entertain improvement process and talking with legislators.	OT Licensees embrace changes in OT practice by building collaborative relationships with OT partners, i.e., AOTA, OTAO, and NBCOT. The OT profession has welcomed a new generation into our professional workforce. The millennial generation has provided a leap into the digital, virtual technology world. OT has successfully expanded its practice areas to include mental health/wellness and telehealth. OT will lead the way to ease tensions between health care and educational models of practice.
	* Mental Health / Clinical Practice	Redesign newsletter - links to wellness/ mental health column in OTLB newsletter/website. Board Members and licensees contribute.	Ask for wellness tips from licensees for the mental health column in the newsletter.		
	* Telehealth	Collect data on what clinicians are using Telehealth and in what context.	Write feature in newsletter to keep licensees informed about Telehealth.	Monitor effectiveness in rural practice - supervision.	
		Connect with OTAO's SIS for Telehealth	Keep up with AOTA & NBCOT policy changes.		