

Oregon OT Licensing Board
SPECIAL Board Meeting – Thursday, April 2, 2020
Portland State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon St. Suite 407, Portland, OR 97232

PUBLIC Board Minutes

The Oregon Occupational Therapy Licensing Board held a Special Board Meeting on **Thursday, April 2, 2020**. A phone conference was held. Board members: Board Chair Sybil Hedrick Park, OTR/L, CHT, CSCS; Vice Chair/Public Member Erion Moore, Kari Hill, COTA/L, public member Clyde Jenkins, Maxwell Perkins, OTR/L and Nancy Schuberg, Executive Director were all present on the call.

Guests: Kristen Neville, AOTA State Affairs; Debra Fitzgibbons, RSOI; Margaret Brown, ESD

With a quorum present, Board Chair Sybil Hedrick Park called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.

PUBLIC SESSION:

1. Temporary Rule Review in response to COVID-19:

The board reviewed drafted temporary rules:

To eliminate the late fee that kicks in on May 2- May 31, a temporary rule deletion of this rule. The impact on budget eliminating late fee revenue: \$5-6K.

339-005-0000 Fees

~~(6) The fee for delinquent payment is \$50 and is due on renewal applications not renewed before May 1.~~

To extend renewals to June 30th:

339-005-0000 Fees

(6) The fee for delinquent payment is \$50 and is due on renewal applications not renewed before ~~May 1.~~ July 1.

To waive fingerprinting requirement because requiring applicants to visit a Fieldprint site is not practicing social distancing. Many Fieldprint sites are already closed.

339-010-0012

Background Checks and Fingerprinting Requirements

- ~~(1)~~ The Board may require Oregon or National criminal history checks, including fingerprints or other background checks such as the Law Enforcement Data System **maintained by the Oregon State Police** (LEDS), from any applicants for a license as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, a limited permit, or an applicant to reinstate a lapsed license. The fingerprints shall be provided in a format prescribed by the Board. The Board will provide information on where acceptable fingerprints may be obtained and what acceptable procedure is to be used for submitting them. The Board will use the fingerprints to conduct Criminal History Checks. When applicable, fingerprint cards will be destroyed as required by law.
- ~~(2)~~ The Board may conduct a criminal record check on licensees applying to renew a license using ~~the Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS), maintained by the Department of State Police.~~

(3) In the case of a state or national emergency, or for any other cause deemed sufficient by the Board, the Board may waive fingerprint requirements for initial licensure, reinstatement of lapsed licensure or both, for applicants who hold licensure in good standing in another state of the United States. The waiver shall be for a period of time specified by the Board. Applicants who are granted a waiver from fingerprint requirements are still subject to a criminal record check using LEDS.

OT/OTA'S as Respiratory Therapy Assistants/Aides:

Providence leadership approached the board about the idea of OTs/OTAs working as assistants to respiratory therapists by the Oregon OT Licensing Board. This is in response to the anticipated surge in coronavirus/COVID-19 patients needing care with mechanical ventilators. The board approved it as long as the therapists have proper training.

Motions:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Erion Moore AND SECONDED BY Kari Hill TO approve the temporary rule by extending renewals to 6/30/2020 and thereby deleting the \$50 late fee. THE MOTION PASSED WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Max Perkins AND SECONDED BY Erion Moore TO waive FP requirements from April 8, 2020 to 8/31/2020 for new applicants, those coming by endorsement, and those renewing a lapsed license. THE MOTION PASSED WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Max Perkins AND SECONDED BY Sybil Hedrick Park TO allow OT/OTA's to volunteer as Respiratory Assistant/Aides in response to COVID-19. THE MOTION PASSED WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

The meeting adjourned at 12:47 pm.

Director Nancy Schuberg, April 6, 2020