Mission: To protect the public by supervising occupational therapy practice and ensuring safe & ethical delivery of occupational therapy services.

OTLB News



August 2025

Occupational Therapy Licensing Board

BOARD MEMBERS

- Whitney Hooker, OTR/L, CLT, Chair
- Heather McCarthy, OTR/L
- Elise Dorris, Public Member
- Ellen Stauder, Public Member

Legislative CE

BOARD STAFF

- Nancy Schuberg
 Executive Director
- Rachel Cillo Licensing Specialist

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Get ready for 2026 Renewals!

You do not have to wait for the next renewal to start entering your Continuing Education into the License Portal. Make renewing in 2026 even faster by inputting your CE courses as you earn them. Log into the <u>OTLB License Portal</u> any time and enter your CE requirements. 2026 renewals begin on March 1st through May 31st.

Requirements for ALL Licensees:	OAR	
Cultural Competency CE	339-020-0025	ALL licensed Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants are required to complete at least one hour on Cultural Competency every renewal period. This is a legislative requirement that went into effect in 2019. Licensees can choose a course that will be helpful to their practice. For step-by-step instructions on entering Cultural Competency into the License Portal: click here.
FREE Pain Management CE Requirement	<u>339-020-0015</u>	ALL licensed Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants are required to demonstrate completion of the Oregon Pain Commission pain management course during each license cycle. Required FREE Oregon Pain Commission course: Transforming Pain Management: A journey to better care For step-by-step instructions on entering the pain course into the License Portal: click here.
General CE Requirements	OAR	
Licensees must have the required 30 points of CE OR Must be currently NBCOT certified when you renew	339-020-0010	If you are current on your NBCOT certification when you renew, click that you ARE certified in your renewal and you do NOT need to upload CE. (Exceptions are pain mgmt. and cultural competency). If you are <u>not</u> NBCOT certified when you renew, you must upload completion certificates that total at least 30 points, and taken within the last 2 years. The pain management and cultural competency courses count toward the 30 points. For step-by-step instructions on entering your CE into the License Portal: <u>click here.</u>

OTLB honors Kari Hill for her Service

At the May 16th board meeting, the OT Board and staff honored Kari Hill's eight years of distinguished service on the board and to the State of Oregon. Kari joined the board in 2017 and served out the maximum two, four-year terms. The last four years she served as Vice Chair.

With 28 years of experience as an OTA and her background as a school therapist, Kari brought an invaluable perspective to the board's discussion and decisions. She was the go to for all questions on schools and supervision, in addition to her many board responsibilities such monitoring budgets, reviewing discipline cases, and policy decisions. We extend our deepest thanks to Kari for her wisdom, leadership and enduring impact to the OT Licensing Board.

With Kari's departure, Public Member Ellen Stauder has assumed the role as Vice Chair. The new OTA board member will be announced in the next (October) newsletter.

Workforce Data

For data on Oregon's licensed health care workforce, visit the <u>Health</u> Care Workforce Reporting Program (HWRP) website.



News from the Linn Benton Community College OTA Program (Courtesy of LBCC)



The OTA Program at Linn-Benton Community College is pleased to announce that Emily Lorang, MHA, COTA/L, has been appointed to serve as the program's new Program Director. Emily, a 2017 graduate of the LBCC OTA Program, has been with the program since 2019, serving as the program's Distance Education Coordinator. She is a skilled clinician and educator and brings a spirit of collaboration and a deep commitment to continuing the program's mission of excellence in occupational therapy assistant education.

Emily is replacing Mashelle Painter, MEd, COTA/L, CLA, ROH, who is retiring from the college in June 2026. Mashelle has been with the OTA Program in various capacities since its inception in 2009 and has served as the OTA Program Director for the past six years. Throughout her 40-year career, Mashelle has demonstrated unwavering dedication to the advancement of occupational therapy assistant education, mentorship, and professional excellence. Her contributions have helped shape the next generation of OTA practitioners and have strengthened the field in meaningful ways.

Please join us in congratulating Mashelle Painter for her dedication and service to the OT community and in welcoming Emily Lorang to her new role at LBCC.

WHAT'S COMING UP

2025

Nov. 7 Board Meeting

Nov. 8-9 OTAO Conference

2026

Feb. 6 Board Meeting

April—OT Month

April 23-25 AOTA Aspire

May 8 Board Meeting

Aug. 21 Board Meeting

Nov. 6 Board Meeting

State Holiday Closure Schedule

2025

Sept. 1 Labor Day

Nov. 11 Veterans Day

Nov. 27 Thanksgiving

Nov. 28 Day after TG

Dec. 25 Christmas

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Scam Alert! Please read

A notice to all licensees: The OTLB continues to receive reports from licensees that they are receiving fraudulent calls from scammers claiming to be Board staff. In some cases, the calls appear to be coming from the Board or another official agency because the scammers are "spoofing" telephone numbers. These scammers will pretend that you are under investigation with the Board and will threaten loss of license and will demand payment or personal info. We also have heard from other health boards that their board letterhead is being used so it appears to be an official letter from the board.

There was one report that an OT clinic where the licensee works received an email from someone impersonating them with their credentials (written correctly, but from an email that was not theirs) and asking the clinic to change their bank account info to redirect their direct deposited paycheck. Fortunately, the clinic reached out to the licensee. Licensees should notify their clinics to be aware of this scam.

If you receive any of these calls or a letter and you are unsure if it is legitimate, please hang up and either call the Board at 971-673-0198 or send an Email.

Save the Date!

The annual OTAO conference will be held in-person November 8-9 at Seaside.

For more information, click here

Oregon Licensee Count

As of 8/28/2025

OT's: 2,504 OTA's: 509 Total: 3,013

Licensee Self-reporting Requirement

OAR 339-010-0020 (5)(d)

If you are arrested you must notify the Board within **10 working days** of a conviction of a misdemeanor, or an arrest for or conviction of a felony. Email the <u>Director</u>.

Name Change

OAR 339-010-0018

To change your name: Log into the <u>License Portal</u> and submit a name change request. You can also complete the <u>name change form</u> on the website. <u>Email</u> us or fax us a copy of the legal document showing the name change.

Keep your Contact Info. Current—It's the LawOAR 339-010-0018

Log into the <u>License Portal</u> and update your address, or complete and submit an <u>address change form</u>.

Order a verification to be sent to another state

To order a verification to be sent to another state: click <u>here.</u> (We do not need their form). We will email you when it is done. The fee is \$25.