

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

OTLB News

Occupational Therapy Licensing Board



BOARD MEMBERS

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

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- Nancy Schuberg
Executive Director
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August 2026

Don't Miss the 2026 OTAO Conference!

Courtesy of the OTAO Conference Committee



The 2026 Annual OTAO Conference will be held at the Riverhouse Lodge in Bend on October 16th & 17th. The theme this year is *Cultivating Belonging and Community Through Occupational Therapy*.

[Register today](#) and enjoy up to 13 contact hours of continuing education with a variety of [cultural competency courses](#), poster session, and [Conversations that Matter](#) with OTAO Community of Practice Liaisons. Registration also includes breakfast, lunch, and a special community gathering Friday evening to celebrate OTPs in Oregon and honor students through scholarship and fundraising.

Conference registration ends October 10th. Don't forget to [nominate](#) an Oregonian OT practitioner who has contributed to our profession and clients. Being an OTAO member gives you the best savings for conference registration. [Join today!](#) We will see you there!

Join the OTLB at the Conference! Saturday am, Oct, 17th.

"Demystifying the Board: Inside the OTLB"

Ever wonder what actually happens behind the scenes of the Occupational Therapy Licensing Board? Join us for an inside look at the board's vital role in protecting the public and upholding the integrity of our profession. In this transparent and informative session, board representatives will break down how the board operates—from its core mission to the lifecycle of a case—clarify what falls within the board's jurisdiction (and what does not), and share recent disciplinary trends to help you better protect your license.

We look forward to seeing you there!

2026 Renewals Done! Thank you!!

122 more licensees renewed than in 2024.

2026

	2/28/26 Total Licensees Before Renewals Started	Total Renewed	Difference
OT's	2,607	2,050	557
OTA's	534	415	119
TOTAL	3,141	2,465	676

22% did not renew.

2,147 NBCOT Certified, 87% / 318 Not NBCOT Certified, 13%

2024

	2/29/24 Total Licensees Before Renewals Started	Total Renewed	Difference
OT's	2,531	1,952	579
OTA's	535	391	144
TOTAL	3,066	2,343	723

24% did not renew.

2,033 NBCOT Certified, 86% / 321 Not NBCOT Certified, 14%

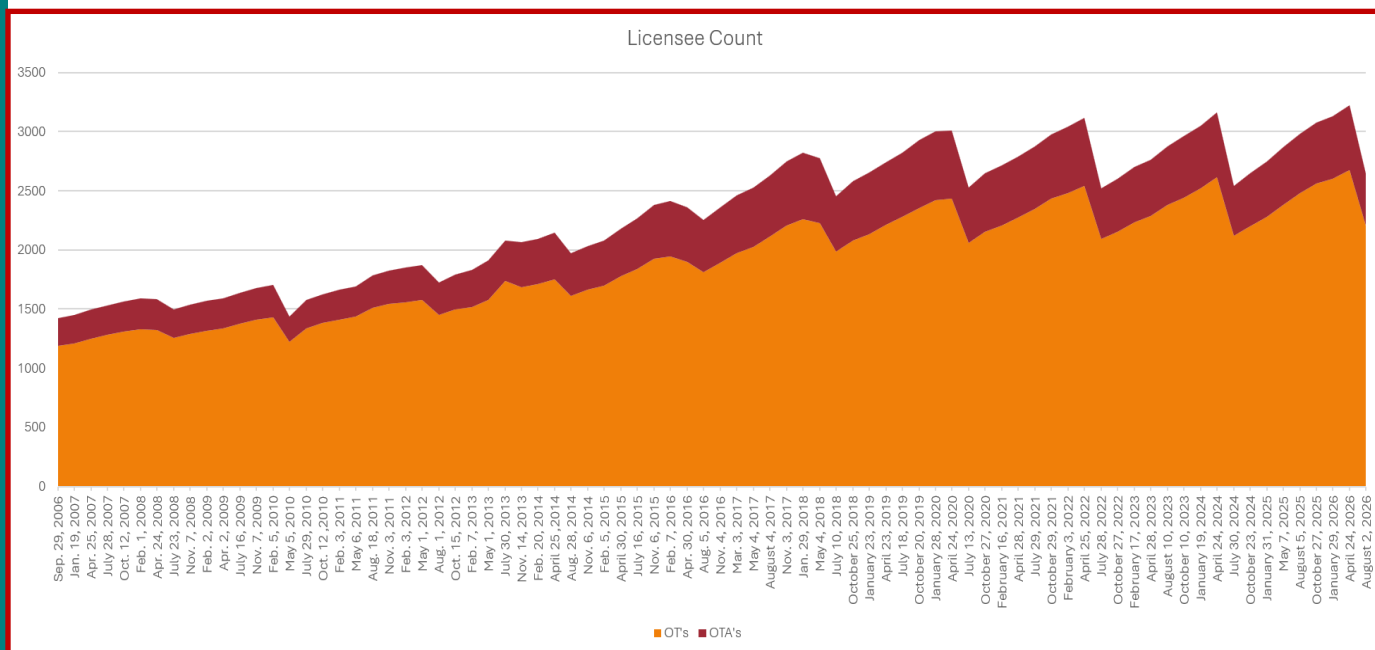
2022

	2/28/22 Total Licensees Before Renewals Started	Total Renewed	Difference
OT's	2,482	1,935	547
OTA's	568	390	178
TOTAL	3,050	2,325	725

24% did not renew. (31% of OTAs did not renew).

1,933 NBCOT certified, 86% / 333 Not NBCOT certified, 14%

Licensing Board Sees 5% Growth in 2026 Renewals



Founded in 1977 with only a few hundred licensees, the Licensing Board now oversees nearly 2,700 active licenses, including 457 Occupational Therapy Assistants.

As license renewals occur biennially in even-numbered years (2020, 2022, 2024, 2026), the board has experienced a distinct "zigzag" pattern in total licensing numbers:

- Total active licenses climb to approximately 3,000 right before a renewal deadline.
- The board experiences a 22–24% drop immediately following the deadline as unrenewed licenses lapse.
- Active numbers steadily rebuild back toward 3,000 over the next two-year cycle.

The OTLB saw positive growth in 2026, receiving 122 more renewals than in 2024, a 5% increase that signals a strong trajectory heading in the right direction.

Important News from the NBCOT

Beginning January 1, 2027, if you have let your NBCOT certification lapse more than 3 cycles (9 years), and you want to reapply, you have undergo a background check and pass the current entry-level NBCOT certification exam. For more information, click [here](#).

Remember, you cannot use the "R" in OTR or the "C" in COTA, if you are not currently NBCOT certified.

Current Licensee Count (as of August 27, 2026)

OT's: 2,235 OTA's: 457

Total: 2,692



WHAT'S COMING UP

2026

Sept. 9 OTAO Advocacy Day
Oct. 16-17 OTAO Conf. in Bend
Nov. 13 OTLB Board Meeting

State Holiday Closure Schedule

2026

Sep. 7 Labor Day
Nov. 11 Veterans Day
Nov. 26 Thanksgiving
Nov. 27 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](#).

Licensee Self-reporting Requirement

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 [Director](#).

Name Change

[OAR 339-010-0018](tel:5033390108)

To change your name: Log into the [License Portal](#) and submit a name change request. You can also complete the [name change form](#) on the website. [Email](#) us or fax us a copy of the legal document showing the name change.

Keep your Contact Info. Current—It's the Law!

[OAR 339-010-0018](tel:5033390108)

Log into the [License Portal](#) and update your address, or complete and submit an [address change form](#).

Order a verification to be sent to another state

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