

OREGON Occupational Therapy Licensing Board

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www.oregon.gov/otlb Director: Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us April, 2014

NEWSLETTER

OTLB BOARD MEMBERS:

Robert Bond, Public Member, Chair
Mashelle Painter, COTA/L, Vice-Chair
Linda Smith, OTR/L
Juanita Shepherd, Public Member
Sybil Hedrick, OTR/L, CHT

Staff: **Felicia Holgate**, Executive Director
Nancy Schuberg, Office Specialist

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Renewals continue until May 2014
Secretary of State Audit completed
EXAM on law/ethics for new applicants

Please update your email, which is kept confidential, and contact information to keep current with important news. You can also provide a public e-mail.

Mission Statement: To protect the public by supervising occupational therapy practice. The Board is charged with assuring safe & ethical delivery of occupational therapy services

The next board meeting will be held on April 28, 2014 in Room 445, Portland State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon Street. Contact the Director for the Agenda.

Be sure to renew by May 1, 2014

Renewals are due May 1st. A paper notice was sent to the last known address we have. Almost 100 letters were returned because addresses were not current. The link for renewals is on the home page and is <https://hrlb.oregon.gov/otlb/renewals/> License fees are \$100 for two year OT Assistant license and \$150 for a two year OT license. After May 1 you can still renew until May 31 but you must pay the **\$50 late fee**. Fees are non refundable. You can pay by credit card or send the confirmation page with a check.

CE Requirements: You will need to have the required 30 points of CE in the last two years, **unless you are a new graduate**. The [CE categories and credits](#) are found on the web site. If you are picked for **random CE Audit**, you will need to send in a [log form](#) and your certificates.

Pain Management CE is a one-time requirement. New applicants have 2 years from when they got their license to complete it. Go to <http://www.oregon.gov/oha/OHPR/Pages/pmc/index.aspx> for the mandatory 1-hour free module. If the renewal system does not let you proceed click yes and type in "Not due until 2015".

The **Pain Commission** updated the **one-hour free online module**. The Board will allow one **free hour of CE** for retaking the module: <http://www.oregon.gov/oha/OHPR/Pages/pmc/index.aspx>

Supervision: All OT Assistants must have a **licensing OT supervisor** if they are working in Oregon. We cross-check with who the supervising OT list as who they are supervising. This is the licensing supervisor, not a work supervisor or other therapists with whom you might work. Make sure you are current with your supervision form. You do not send in another one if it is already filed with the office. You just type in who you are continuing supervision.

Oregon Ethics Law exam: This is a new requirement for all applicants after January 2014. You do not need it if you are renewing. Go to the web site under Applications for the links at [http://www.oregon.gov/otlb/Pages/Application_Forms.aspx#NEW: ETHICS AND LAW EXAM](http://www.oregon.gov/otlb/Pages/Application_Forms.aspx#NEW:ETHICS_AND_LAW_EXAM) For any questions send an e-mail to Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us or Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us Current licensees can receive **one hour free CE** for taking the exam.

Greetings from OTAO!

During renewals a number of Oregon occupational therapists reach retirement age and do not maintain their license. The Licensing Board does not have an honorary or retired license. Your state Association OTAO's Bylaws include an **Honorary OT/OTA membership classification**, along with Rights and Privileges, which include participation in all regular/called meetings of OTAO, voting on all issues pertaining to bylaws, elections and other matters presented by the board, serving on committees, receiving information, and holding office.

OTAO is looking at the Bylaws to better clarify and identify active retirees and honored OT's (members who have been active OTAO members during their careers who are able to have their association fees waived). We are also working on a better system for tracking all of our retirees and we are working with the licensing Board to identify who has retired. Finally, we are also looking at having more retiree representation on our board.

If you, or a retiree that you know, would like more information or if you would like to be involved in any of the above, please feel free to contact me at janhc@easystreet.net As a professional organization, we are allowing a valuable resource to slip right through our fingers. A wasted resource – never! **Jan Cuciti**, OTR/L, OTAO Treasurer & President-elect.

CHECK THE WEB SITE www.oregon.gov/otlb FIRST FOR INFORMATION

For an **address** and/or **name change** there is a link on the web site at www.oregon.gov/otlb. You can also send an e-mail to Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us. Be sure to FAX or scan and e-mail a copy of the legal document to 971-673-0226. Make sure it shows exactly how the name reads and changes to address, e-mail, and telephone

If you need a **license verification** sent to another state please e-mail Nancy.Schuberg@state.or.us or Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us and give the exact address where it needs to be sent. There is No charge. We do not need their form - we use our own form printed off your data base file. It confirms whether there has been discipline, is signed and has a seal. We will e-mail you back when it is done.

Secretary of State Audit of Health Boards

The summary of the Secretary of state Audit states:

“In general, boards have policies and procedures in place to address their core functions and appear to be actively engaged in promoting quality health services through their efforts. We verified that activities were performed and processes were in place at the 17 autonomous boards, but because of the broad scale of the audit, we did not evaluate how well each process was carried out”.

A concern found about the Occupational Therapy Licensing Board was that the OTLB does not perform fingerprint checks on every new applicant. However, the Board was denied the approval by the legislature to charge for fingerprints in 2011. In addition the Board did a LEDS (Law Enforcement Data System) check on all licensees in 2013 prior to the 2014 renewals.

The audit continues:

“We also examined the governance structures and processes of health professional regulatory boards. Studies indicate there is no single most effective governance model to achieve a board’s objectives. A third of states have governance structures where boards operate as autonomous agencies. Other states have structures with varying degrees of board collaboration with a central agency and several states have centralized licensing agencies that limit boards to an advisory capacity.

“Health professional regulatory boards are responsible for developing policy and enforcing regulations. We found that board members were actively engaged on key matters such as licensing, complaint investigations and discipline, and practice-related issues. In addition, boards delegate many functions to the executive director and staff to carry out, and provide feedback on their efforts” . . .

“We found that the boards made reasonable efforts to demonstrate transparency through website content, newsletters, and outreach efforts. This content informs licensing applicants, practitioners, and the public”.

Their **recommendations** were that:

. . . boards give further consideration to background check policies for professionals who handle drugs or interact with vulnerable populations. In addition, we recommend the Governor consider providing more operational support and board member training on roles and responsibilities.

For a full copy go to this link: <http://sos.oregon.gov/audits/Documents/2014-06.pdf>

Please check the **web site** at www.oregon.gov/otlb for answers to your questions. There is a section on **Information Requests and Issues, Questions and Topics**.

Proposed new rules on Telehealth, Mental Health, and Cultural Competency

The proposed rules have been published with the Secretary of State and can be found on the web site home page at www.oregon.gov/otlb If you have comments please send them to us and we will review them with the committee and then present them to the Board and hold a hearing at the August 1, Board meeting to finalize them. They were published in the last newsletter. Thank you.
Felicia.M.Holgate@state.or.us



The Oregon Patient Safety commission has an Early Discussion and Resolution, created by Senate bill 483. In the aftermath of adverse healthcare incident, it advances and promotes a structured approach to notification, discussion, and mediation of serious healthcare incidents and promotes appropriate treatment and communication for patients and families. An adverse healthcare incident is “an objective, definable, and unanticipated consequence of patient care that is usually preventable and results in the death of or serious physical injury to the patient.”

Rules are being written and can be found at:

<http://oregonpatientsafety.org/discussion-resolution/administrative-rules/>

Occupational Therapy: Living life to Its Fullest