

TBOTE news

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners

February 2008

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The 2007 Rules are on the website

<http://www.ecptote.state.tx.us/ot/rules.html>

Previous newsletters are also on the website, along with Frequently Asked Questions. Download a COTA/LOTA Supervision Form from the Forms page of the website.

Board meetings for 2008

April 25, 2008

August 1, 2008

November 21, 2008

TBOTE Board

Michael Carreon, COTA
Judith Ann Chambers, public member
Dely De Guia Cruz, public member
Cecilia Fierro, OTR, Presiding Officer
Stephanie Johnston, OTR
Joseph Messmer, COTA, Secretary
Clarissa Meyers, OTR, Vice-Chair
Pamela Nelon, public member
Bobby James Vasquez, OTR

Board telephone: (512) 305-6900

Email: info@ecptote.state.tx.us

Fax: (512) 305-6970

Website: www.ecptote.state.tx.us

Three Rule Amendments Adopted

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners held their quarterly board meeting on February 1, 2008, at which time they adopted the three rules which had been proposed at their October board meeting. Please get the wording on the Act/Rules page of the website.

The amendments were to:

1. **§367.1 Continuing Education**, which removed the reference to AOTA's CE categories. The amendment added a new rule which states: "Licensees are responsible for choosing Type 1 or Type 2 CE according to the definitions in this section."

Licensees may choose their continuing education without needing to have the course pre-approved. The courses may be online or in person, in Texas or elsewhere, taught by an occupational therapy practitioner or not. This has always been the case. There are only two limitations:

That the course meet the definition for Type 1 or Type 2; and that it not be a part of the Unacceptable Continuing Education Activities listed in §367.2 (b)(1-7).

2. **§372.1, Provision of Services**, which adds "It is a violation of the OT Practice for a COTA to dictate, or attempt to dictate, when occupational therapy services should or should not be provided, the nature and frequency of services that are provided, when the patient should be discharged, or any other aspect of the provision of occupational therapy as set out in the OT Act and Rules."

Also in (e) Plan of Care: "Revision to the plan of care and goals must be documented by the OTR and/or COTA to reflect revision at the time of the change."

Amended §372.1 (e) (4) Only occupational therapy practitioners licensed by Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners (TBOTE) may implement the plan of care once it is established.

Also, "Revision to the plan of care and goals must be documented by the OTR and/or COTA to reflect revision at the time of the change."

3. **§373.3 Supervision of a Licensed Occupational Therapy Assistant.** A new (a) was inserted which says: A COTA/LOTA shall provide occupational therapy only under the supervision of a licensed occupational therapist.

Also: "These (supervision) hours shall be documented on a COTA/LOTA Supervision Log for each employer. The OTR/LOT or employer may request a copy of the COTA/LOTA Supervision Log. The COTA/LOTA Supervision Log is kept by the COTA/LOTA and signed by an OTR/LOT when supervision is given.



OT Board Formal Disciplinary Actions

OT BOARD FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN FEBRUARY 1, 2008 BOARD MEETING:

- (1) **Diana Ramos, OTR #101381 (San Antonio)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (2) **Carol Fuentes, OTR #103501 (Boerne)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended her license for sixty (60) days.**

ECPTOTE Online Services

Change your Address: On the homepage, www.ecptote.state.tx.us is a link that says Change your Address. No stamp, no fax, just click on the link and enter your new home and/or work address and we will change the information in the database.

Verify a License: <http://www.ecptote.state.tx.us/license/index.html>

Read proposed or adopted rules, Act/Rules page: <http://www.ecptote.state.tx.us/ot/rules.html>

Sign up for Board e-news: From the home page: <http://www.ecptote.state.tx.us/lists/subscribe.php>

For OT Forms, CE Submission Form, COTA Supervision Log, etc: OT Forms page: <http://www.ecptote.state.tx.us/ot/forms>

Unethical or Unlicensed Practice Hotline: 800-821-3205 or 512/305-6900
Online complaint form on the home page: www.ecptote.state.tx.us

Frequently Requested Numbers



Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners (TBOTE)

Act & Rules, complaints, and practice of OT in Texas

512/305-6900 telephone

512/305-6970 fax

Website: www.ecptote.state.tx.us

Email: info@ecptote.state.tx.us

Texas Occupational Therapy Association (TOTA)

512/454-8682 telephone

512/450-1777 fax

www.tota.org

American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)

Specialty certification, student fieldwork, national issues, etc.

301/652-2682 telephone

www.aota.org

National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)

National certification exam, and score reports

301/990-7979 telephone

301/869-8492 fax

www.nbcot.org

Dept. of Assistive and Rehab. Services (DARS)

Division of Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

512/424-6790 telephone

512/424-6799 fax

www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/

Medicare and Medicaid

www.medicare.gov

Medicare Part A

888/763-9836 (Rehab Dept, Hospital)

Medicare Part B

903/463-0720 (independent practitioners)

Medicaid provider fraud, or abuse of a

Medicaid recipient: 512/463-2011 or email

mfcu@aog.state.tx.us

Medicaid: 800/252-8263

SHARS

www.tea.state.tx/interagency/shars.html

Texas Dept. Aging and Disability Services (DADS)

800/458-9858 Long term care & complaints about nursing home, home health agency, or assisted living facility.

800/252-8016 Nursing homes

512/719-3521 Licensing boards

800/228-1570 Home health agency

Elderly or disabled abuse, neglect call 911 or local law enforcement or Department of Family & Protective Services' hot line: 800/252-5400.

www.dads.state.tx.us

Texas Dept. of State Health Services (TDSH)

512/834-6650 Hospital licensing

www.tshs.state.tx.us

TBOTE Statistics

New occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistants who took the NBCOT national exam for licensure purposes passed with 92.31%

The Board issued 608 new licenses this past year: September 1 to August 31st for both in state and out of state applicants.

The total number of licensees as of August 31, 2007 was 8,364: 6,107 occupational therapists and 2,257 assistants. Even with the tremendous growth; the need for occupational therapy practitioners is not satisfied.

The percentage of those applying online for a Texas license was 75.25% for OTRs and 79.35% for COTAs. For those renewing their Texas license online the percentage was 90.47% for OTRs and 89.75% for COTAs.