



# STATE OF NEVADA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

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Spring / Summer 2010

## Inside this issue:

## Your Board at Work!

### Governor Makes Board Appointments!

Governor Gibbons has appointed Occupational Therapist **Eric Gerken** and Public Member **Allison Stephens** to the Board of Occupational Therapy!



**Eric Gerken**, OTR/L, CEAS, was raised in Kansas City, MO, and moved to Reno to live near the mountains and Lake Tahoe. Professionally, he worked for several years in corporate America, before seeking a more rewarding career as an Occupational Therapist. He earned his MOT from Texas Woman's University in 1999. He has worked primarily in out-patient therapy clinics, with specialties in hand therapy, FCE's, and driving evaluations. He is also certified as an Ergonomic Assessment Specialist. He currently works

in home health care with Gentiva Health Services in Reno, and performs ergonomics consulting.

**Allison A. Stephens** is a health care professional based in Las Vegas, NV. Her areas of expertise include: planning, implementing and evaluating health education programming, public speaking, technical writing, managed care operations, lobbying/advocacy, strategic planning and business development. Ms. Stephens holds a Master of Education (MEd) in Health Promotion and a Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration, both from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Her additional training includes: medical anthropology, grant writing, legal studies and health economics. Currently, Ms. Stephens is taking a hiatus from her doctoral studies and intends to resume in Fall 2010.



Board Sponsored Seminars	2
Personal Care Services Program	2
Important Contacts	2
License Renewal	3
Solicitation for Professional Reviewers	3
Monitoring Compliance Reviews	3
Board Contact Mission Statement	4
Continuing Competency Resources	4

### Board Members

Elizabeth Straughan, OTR/L  
David Tanabe, OTR/L  
Eric Gerken, OTR/L  
Allison Stephens, Public  
Ronald Tulak, COTA/L

### Staff

Loretta L. Ponton,  
Executive Director  
Henna Rasul, DAG

## Licensure Statistics

December 31, 2009

Licenses	OTR	COTA	Total
Active Licenses	513	137	650
Inactive Licenses	7	5	12
Temporary Licenses	3	0	3
Provisional Licenses	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>
<b>Total Licensees</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>670</b>



Seminars Coming  
October 2010  
Check our Website  
For Updates



**The Profession's Essential Credential  
Organization**

**Presented by: Paul Grace, MS, CAE—President/CEO**

Don't Miss this Exciting Opportunity!—No Charge for Licensed Practitioners!

**Personal Care Services Program  
State of Nevada, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy**

The State of Nevada Division of Health Care Financing and Policy is currently seeking **Occupational Therapists** to assist with the **Personal Care Services Program**. Therapists are needed to complete the functional assessment, which determines, within program parameters, the personal care services the client is eligible to receive. The program currently utilizes an interview format to determine the amount of assistance and time allocated for self care, activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living services provided to Medicaid recipients. Through quality assurance processes, including post service reviews and reports from external individuals it has been shown this method does not produce an accurate assessment of actual need. It has been determined many persons receiving services can complete the care themselves, have natural supports able to assist with the task, do not have the appropriate services they need or do not have the proper home equipment to assist in their care.

To be good stewards of State and federal funding and at the same time preserve services for those who truly need them to remain living in the community, the State is transitioning the assessment of need process for this program to a hands on therapy assessment. The State needs OTs experienced in functional skill assessment to assist in this "hands on" assessment to provide an accurate determination of the assistance an individual qualifies for. This is not an employment position with the State, but can be done by licensed OTs, eligible hospitals, clinics and agencies enrolled as Medicaid providers.

The Nevada Medicaid Personal Care Service Program is a care giving program versus a therapy program. The goal is to provide quality, time efficient care to enable persons who need assistance with self care to remain in the community and not be forced to live in an institution to receive necessary self care.

If interested in assisting with these functional needs assessments, please contact the Personal Care Services Program at 775-684-3757 or [lbowman@dncfp.nv.gov](mailto:lbowman@dncfp.nv.gov) for information on how to become a Medicaid provider and receive training in program policy and assessments.

**IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy	<b>NBCOT:</b>	301-990-7979	<a href="http://www.nbcot.org">www.nbcot.org</a>
American Occupational Therapy Association	<b>AOTA:</b>	301-652-2862	<a href="http://www.aota.org">www.aota.org</a>
Nevada Occupational Therapy Association	<b>NOTA:</b>	not available	<a href="http://www.nvota.org">www.nvota.org</a>



## • **Your License Renewal Notice to be Sent by E-mail!**

### **RENEW YOUR LICENSE ON-LINE—April 1st through May 31st**

Update your Address and Contact Information, Employment, Supervision and Verify Your CE Carry Over Hours through **On-Line Services NOW!** [www.nvot.org](http://www.nvot.org)

## **Solicitation for Professional Reviewers**

### **Background**

The State Board of Occupational is seeking to establish a listing of qualified individuals to serve as Professional Reviewers to assist the Board in confidential informal and formal investigations and hearings into alleged violation(s) of occupational therapy law and regulations, NRS 640A and NAC 640A.

Professional Reviewers will be selected on an as needed basis from the listing established through this solicitation. There is no guarantee of a contract for services as a result of this solicitation.

### **Qualifications for Professional Reviewers**

- An occupational therapy practitioner licensed in the State of Nevada;
- Must have a minimum of 5 years practical experience in OT;
- Must be knowledgeable of Nevada law, regulations, AOTA Scope of Practice and Code of Ethics



### **Compensation for Services**

Individuals will serve under contract as an Independent Contractor at a rate negotiated based upon service needs; travel, if necessary, will be reimbursed at the State of Nevada allowed travel rates. In lieu of compensation, individuals may choose to receive continuing education credit.

**“Skills for the Job of Living”**

### **Submittal Instructions**

Please provide a letter of interest and a detailed resume of qualifications and experience including specialty certifications, if applicable. Identify your preferred practice area and any other areas of expertise. Letters of interest will be accepted through April 30, 2010.

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## **Monitoring and Compliance Audit Reviews**

The Board has completed its first series of monitoring and compliance audit reviews. Audits were conducted of Continuing Competency, OTA Supervisory Documentation and OT Verification of Supervision. The Board determined licensees were in compliance with continuing education requirements, OTA supervision was verified and properly documented by supervisory logs in all but one case and current OT supervisory status was updated as necessary. Additional monitoring and follow up is currently being conducted.



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### Mission Statement

“To protect the public health, safety and welfare by ensuring that only competent occupational therapy practitioners are licensed in the state and that those licensed practitioners maintain the highest standards of professional conduct. This includes ensuring the competency of occupational therapy practitioners by requiring continuing education and to provide the public with a means by which they can pursue administrative legal recourse.”

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### CE WebFind: AOTA's Searchable Database of Approved CE Providers

CE WebFind is a searchable database of live and distance learning continuing education activities offered by AOTA and AOTA Approved Providers. OT practitioners can use this tool to easily locate CE that meets their needs from CE providers that meet Approved Provider Program standards.

CE WebFind can help you to find courses that meet your educational needs by allowing you to search by:

- Provider
  - Topic
  - Date(s)
  - Location
  - Type of activity  
(Live, Interactive Distance Learning, or Independent Distance Learning)
  - Content Level  
(Entry-level to Advanced)
- 

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