

Our Times

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY NEWSLETTER

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 School Systems
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 Board of Occupational Therapy
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Your Board at Work!

NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 640A - REGULATION REVISIONS

A series of public workshops were held January 25, 26 and February 23, 2008 in Las Vegas and Reno to solicit input by interested parties on proposed revisions of the Occupational Therapy regulations.

A Public Hearing will be held in Las Vegas on May 17, 2008, for final review and consideration of comments received from the public. This will be your last chance to comment on the regulations prior to adoption by the Board.

Check the Board website www.nvot.org for the Public Hearing information and to view the final draft revisions to the Occupational Therapy regulations!

Thank you to the people who made time to attend the public workshops and provide your valuable input during the development of the regulation revisions.

Spring Conference Success! "Ten Easy Ways to Lose Your License or Violate the Occupational Therapy Code of Ethics"

On March 29th and 30th, the Nevada Board of Occupational Therapy sponsored a free continuing education opportunity. The seminar addressed potential ethical issues in the workplace, challenges to the occupational therapy scope of practice; and the roles and functions of the three agencies which regulate the profession. This seminar proved to be a "hot topic" with 99 therapists and therapy assistants attending the program in Las Vegas and 43 in attendance at the program in Reno.

The presenter was Deborah Slater, MS, OT/L, FAOTA who was well qualified to speak on these topics as she holds the position of Liaison to the Ethics Commission and Special Interest Sections at AOTA. There was much lively discussion throughout . . . **Continued on Page 2**

Licensure Statistics

				Total Licensees 3/31/08	668
NORTHERN NEVADA:	OTR:	140	COTA:	22	Total: 162
SOUTHERN NEVADA:	OTR:	316	COTA:	122	Total: 438
OUT OF STATE:	OTR:	<u>57</u>	COTA:	<u>11</u>	Total: <u>68</u>
		513		155	668

UPDATE YOUR BOARD CONTACT LISTINGS

State of Nevada, Board of Occupational Therapy
P. O. Box 34779
Reno, Nevada 89533-4779
Loretta L. Ponton, Executive Director

775-746-4101 or
1-800-431-2659
www.nvot.org

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: My facility is hosting an open house and we would like to announce it to the OTs and OTAs in the area. Can I get a mailing list of practitioners who are licensed in Nevada?

A: Yes, you may order the mailing list on-line through our website nvot.org, Click to Pay for credit card payments; or send a written request to the Board office with payment of the processing fee.

Q: It is time for me to renew my NBCOT certification. Do I need to be NBCOT certified to be licensed in Nevada?

A: NBCOT is the examination agency, which has been approved by the Nevada Board of Occupational Therapy pursuant to the requirements of NRS 640A.150. Certification by NBCOT is required for initial licensure in Nevada and to reinstate an expired license. Continuing certification is not required if your license has not lapsed or expired in Nevada.

Q: I just read AOTA's current **Model State Regulations for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services**. Can an occupational therapist assistant supervise an occupational therapy aide in Nevada?

A: No, only an occupational therapist is authorized to supervise an aide or technician in Nevada.

Nevada Revised Statute 640A.230 states "A licensed occupational therapist shall directly supervise the work of any person who assists him as an aide or technician." The Nevada Revised Statute is the state law and cannot be changed without legislative action.

Q: Why doesn't my Nevada license say OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, REGISTERED or CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT?

A: The Nevada Board of Occupational Therapy regulates the occupational therapy practice. The terms Registered and Certified are trademarked and owned by NBCOT. The Board has authority to license "Occupational Therapists" and "Occupational Therapy Assistants"; the Board may not issuance a license in a title other than that authorized under law.

The use of the "R" and "C" designation is authorized when presenting your professional qualifications if you are currently certified by NBCOT.

NAC 640A.200 Use of professional title.

1. A licensed occupational therapist may use the words "occupational therapist/licensed" or occupational therapist registered/license, or corresponding initials for the words in connection with his professional practice.

2. A licensed occupational therapy assistant may use the words "certified occupational therapy assistant/licensed" or "occupational therapy assistant/licensed" or corresponding initials for the words in connection with his professional practice.

3. An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant that is not currently certified by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy shall not use the words "registered" or "certified" or corresponding initials for those words in their professional title.

Your Board At Work

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her presentation. The case studies were just a stepping off point for the situations brought up by the audience. No matter what you knew about ethics, by the end of the day you had a greater understanding of what ethical behavior entails.

Scopes of Practice issues become especially important when protecting against encroachment. AOTA continues to offer support to states that are attempting to strengthen their state regulations or are seeking licensure legislation.

The Board will be sponsoring other programs in the future. We would like suggestions for topics related to Occupational Therapy that would have a broad range of interest. Please contact us at www.nvot.org.

Important Numbers to Remember: Clip and Save

State of Nevada, Board of Occupational Therapy
P. O. Box 34779
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National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy

301-990-7979

American Occupational Therapy Association

www.nbcot.org
301-652-2862 or
800-SAY-AOTA

Nevada Occupational Therapy Association

www.aota.org
www.nvota.org

Renew Your License By May 31st

The State Board is again providing on-line renewal of your occupational therapy license for the 2008-2009 license year. You may also pay by credit card if you prefer to mail your renewal application. Remember, all renewal applications must be **RECEIVED** in the Board office by May 31st. Licenses will not be renewed or issued until a complete application, continuing education competency documentation and payment has been received.



DON'T LET YOUR LICENSE EXPIRE – IT'S EXPENSIVE!

All active licenses expire on June 30th. Your license is not eligible for RENEWAL after it has expired. Practitioners will be required to REINSTATE their license if not renewed prior to expiration. Reinstatement is more expensive and requires current NBCOT Certification! In addition, you may not practice with an expired license.



CONTINUING EDUCATION DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Documentation is required to be submitted to the Board with your license renewal application to verify completion of the continuing education requirements.

“An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant must complete a minimum of 10 hours of continuing education within the 12 months immediately preceding the request for renewal of his/her license.

Q: How do you calculate the 12 month period?

A: The 12 month look-back period is calculated from the date the application for renewal is submitted to the Board.

Q: Can I submit only one Continuing Education Form and attach all my certificates?

A: No – a separate Continuing Education Form must be completed for each continuing competency activity listed on the renewal application. Simply stating “see attached” or listing each activity on one form will not be accepted.

The continuing competency education form must describe how the activity broadens your knowledge of occupational therapy roles, or relates to your current or anticipated roles and responsibilities.



OurTimes

State of Nevada
Board of Occupational Therapy
P. O. Box 34779
Reno, Nevada 89533-4779

Make sure we have your current address!

Change of Address Form. Please tear off and return this form to:

State of Nevada
Board of Occupational Therapy
P.O. Box 34779
Reno, Nevada 89533-4779

Name _____ Title _____ License # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # (Home) _____ (Work) _____
