



MD. BOARD OF O.T. NEWS



Practice Act Revisions

The Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice is proposing changes to the Practice Act. Listed to the right are the changes which may impact the delivery of care. PLEASE READ OVER THESE CHANGES AND MAIL THE ENCLOSED STATEMENT OF SUPPORT BEFORE OCTOBER 8, 1999.

You are also invited to attend the October 15th O.T. Board Meeting at 4201 Patterson Avenue, or attend the Board's presentation during the morning session of the MOTA conference on November 6, 1999.

OPEN MEETING DATE

10/15/99

9:00 - 11:00



Details of the Revisions

§10-101 DEFINITIONS

Aide - "Aide" means any paraprofessional who is not licensed by the board to perform occupational therapy or limited occupational therapy, but provides supportive services to the occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant.

Practice limited occupational therapy - (1) Means to participate in the screening and evaluation process under the periodic supervision of a licensed occupational therapist and to carry out a treatment program that applies the principles and procedures of the practice of occupational therapy.

(2) Does not include:

(I) Initiation and interpretation of evaluation data; and

(II) Initiation of a treatment program until the client has been evaluated, and treatment planned by the licensed occupational therapist.

Practice occupational therapy - means the therapeutic use of purposeful and meaningful occupations (goal-directed activities) to evaluate, consult and treat individuals who:

(A) Have a disease or disorder, impairment, activity limitation, or participation restriction.

(B) Would benefit from the prevention of impairments and activity limitations.

Occupational therapy includes, but is not limited to:

(I) Use of therapeutic activities which promote independence in daily life role;

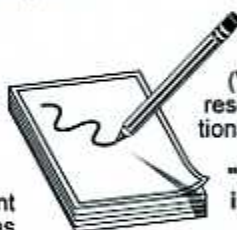
(II) Remediation or restoration of performance abilities that are limited due to impairment in biological, physiological, psychological or neurological processes;

(III) Adaptation of task, process or the environment, or the teaching of compensatory techniques, in order to enhance performance;

(IV) Disability prevention methods and techniques which facilitate the development or safe application of performance skills;

(V) Health promotion strategies and practices which enhance performance abilities; and

(VI) Education, instruction and research in the practice of occupational therapy.



"Practice occupational therapy" includes, but is not limited to:

(I) Developing, improving, sustaining or restoring skills in activities of daily living (adl), work or productive activities, including instrumental activities of daily living (iadl), and play and leisure activities;

(II) Developing, remediating, or restoring sensorimotor, perceptual, cognitive, or psychosocial components of performance;

(III) Designing, fabricating, applying, or training in the use of assistive technology, splinting or orthotic devices, and training in the use of prosthetic devices;

(IV) Adapting environments and processes, including the application of ergonomic principles, to enhance performance and safety in daily life roles;

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Definitions - Cont'd.

(V) Educating the client in appropriate body mechanics to enhance performance in daily life roles;

(VI) Applying physical agent modalities as adjuncts to or in preparation for engagement in occupations.

(VII) Promoting safe functional mobility in daily life tasks;

(VIII) Developing coping strategies for pain management to enhance performance in functional activities;

(IX) Increasing aerobic capacity and endurance through purposeful activities for improved performance in daily life tasks;

(X) Providing intervention in collaboration with the client, family, caregiver, or others;

(XI) Educating the client, family, caregiver, or others in carrying out appropriate nonskilled interventions; and

(XII) Consulting with groups, programs, organizations, or communities to provide population-based services;

§10-308 Issuance of license.

Added in language concerning displaying the O.T. license.

§10-313 Temporary licenses.

Added on-site supervision for the O.T.A. and O.T.

Added in three reason when temporary licenses are no longer valid:

- notification of failure to complete the exam;
- notification of suspension for failure to submit exam results to the Board; and
- notification of permanent licensure.

This is the end of the changes which may impact the delivery of care.



Board Procedures & Terminology

The following is a summary of proposed changes to clarify board procedures and terminology:

§10-102 Scope of Title.

Deleted (b) which specifically referred to an orthotist or a prosthetist.

§10-203 Officers.

Added in annual election language.

§10-204 Quorum; meetings; compensation; staff.

Added in language where the Board shall appoint a Board Executive Director. Also added the ability to hire experts and consultants.

§10-205 Miscellaneous powers and duties.

Added language to promulgate rules and regulations for advance practice skills.

§10-301 License required; exceptions.

Added aide and assistant language where they do not need to be licensed if under supervision or in a supervised course of study.

Changed out-of-state licensee time limits on practice. Revision leaves it up to the Board on a case-by-case basis.

§10-302 Qualifications of applicants.

Changed "completed successfully" to "graduated from" an accredited nationally recognized program.

Also increased initial supervision time from 2 months to 4 months.

§10-304 Applications for licenses.

Reworded for clarity.

§10-310 Scope of occupational therapy assistant license.

Deleted (b) which allowed licensed O.T. assistants to practice under supervision of an O.T., leaving only (a) where licensed O.T. assistants may practice only while their license is effective.

§10-311 Term and renewal of licenses.

Changed "reinstatement" language to "renewal" language.

§10-312 Inactive status; reinstatement of expired licenses.

Renamed this section to be **Reinstatement of expired licenses**. Deleted inactive status section. Added in continuing education requirement.

§10-319 Occupational therapist rehabilitation committees.

Changed name of this section to **Occupational therapist impaired professional committees**. Changed terms throughout for consistency.

§10-402 and 403 Misrepresentation - O.T. and O.T.A.

Added "any credentialing" to information that can not be used to misrepresent a license.



REMINDER!!

Please call the Board office at 410-764-4728 if you would like a complete copy of the changes or access the MOTA website at www.mdota.org.

IN ORDER TO SUCCESSFULLY PASS THIS LEGISLATION, WE NEED YOUR STATEMENT OF SUPPORT ON THE ENCLOSED FORM. PLEASE RETURN THESE FORMS BY OCTOBER 8, 1999.

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