



## Update from the Ohio Occupational Therapy Board

Understanding the Board and its Rules

## Topics

- ▶ School-Based Practice/Consumer Education
- ▶ Recent & Proposed Rules Changes
- ▶ Case Study Discussions

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## OT Section Vision Statement

- ▶ The OT Section is committed to proactively:
  - ▶ Provide Education to the Consumers of OT Services;
  - ▶ Enforce Practice Standards for the Protection of the Consumer of OT Services;
  - ▶ Regulate the Profession of OT in an Ever-Changing Environment;
  - ▶ Regulate Ethical and Multicultural Competency in the Practice of OT;
  - ▶ Regulate the Practice of OT in all Current and Emerging Areas of Service Delivery.

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## Board Composition – OT Section

Member	City	Term Expires	Term
Jean Halpin, OT	Westerville	2014	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Becky Finni, OT	Amelia	2013	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Beth Ann Ball, OT	Worthington	2015	1 <sup>st</sup>
Mary Lavey, OTA	Fremont	2015	1 <sup>st</sup>
Kim Lawler, OT	Fazeysburg	2013	2 <sup>nd</sup>

All terms expire on Aug. 27 of designated year. Pursuant to ORC 4755.01, members shall not serve for more than three (3) consecutive terms.

To seek appointment to the Board, you need to contact the Governor's Office and download the application (<http://governor.ohio.gov>)

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## Consumer Education

- ▶ Partnership with the Ohio Department of Education
  - ▶ School-based therapy issues
  - ▶ Joint position paper with the PT Section
- ▶ Facebook and Twitter updates
- ▶ Consumer education pages on Board website

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## Caseloads

- ▶ Ohio OT Practice Act does not specify a limit on occupational therapy caseloads
- ▶ Regardless of practice setting, OT must provide adequate supervision and ensure that treatments follow safe and ethical standards
- ▶ Supervising OT is ultimately responsible for all clients (including students in school-based settings) served by the OTA. OTA does not maintain a separate caseload
- ▶ In school-based practice, the Ohio Department of Education has caseload limits (rule 3301-51-09)
  - ▶ 50 school age children w/disabilities; 40 preschool children w/disabilities

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## IEPs and the OT Plan of Care

- ▶ IEP goals and objectives are written by the IEP team
- ▶ These goals do not constitute the OT treatment/intervention plan
- ▶ Therapy services frequently integrated into or support an education goal and are not stand alone therapy goals
- ▶ When OTA is providing services, the OT treatment/intervention plan must indicate portion of the therapy plan to be implemented by the OTA
- ▶ Treatment/intervention plan also includes follow up activities and training for teachers, education aides, and parents

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## IEP Goals vs Therapy Goals

- ▶ Educational Goal – student will demonstrate increased independence in daily routines
  - ▶ Short-term objective might be that student will independently complete the beginning of the day routine 3 of 5 days per week
- ▶ Therapy Goal #1 – student will use both hands to hang backpack on hook with standby assistance for balance 3 of 5 days during 2 different weeks
- ▶ Therapy Goal #2 – while seated, student will remove her jacket with minimal assistance 4 of 5 days during 2 different weeks

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## Additional School-Based Resources

Ohio.gov Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board

Home Occupational Therapy Physical Therapy Athletic Training Consumers Rules Updates

Applications  
Continuing Education  
Laws  
Jurisprudence Exam  
Minutes & Agendas  
FAQ  
Useful Links

Information

- Annual Reports
- Board Members and Staff
- Calendar
- Board Actions/Enforcement
- Expired License Listings
- Fee Listings
- Laws and Rules
- License Lookup/Verification
- Mailing List Requests
- Mission Statement
- Name Change Form
- Address/Employment Change Form
- Out-of-State Certificate Requests
- Directions to the Board Office
- Request Verification for Another State
- On-Line License Renewal
- On-Line Initial License Application

Publications

- "What is Occupational Therapy? A Guide for Consumers"
- OTOA Collaboration Log
- Statement on Tele-rehabilitation
- Determination of Appropriate Caseloads for School-Based OT and PT Practice
- Responses to Questions Concerning Appropriate Caseloads for School-Based OT and PT Practice
- Occupational Therapy Practitioners and Orophage - A position statement from the Occupational Therapy Section on the role of the OT practitioner in the evaluation and treatment of Orophage
- Online Renewal Definitions
- Comparison of Responsibilities of School-Based Occupational Therapy Practitioners
- Required Release of Personal Information

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## Consumer Education

- ▶ Each Section of the Board developed informational guides about the professions and role of the Board for consumers
- ▶ Documents available under "Consumer" section of the website
- ▶ Licensees are permitted **AND ENCOURAGED** to print copies to make available to clients

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Consumer Information

Ohio.gov State Agencies | Online Services

Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board

Home Occupational Therapy Physical Therapy Athletic Training Consumers Rules Updates

INFORMATION

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- On-Line License Renewal
- On-Line Initial License Application
- Ohio License Center
- Join Board/Staff

CONTACT

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## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY - Consumer Education

**Protecting Ohio's Consumers**

**What is Occupational Therapy?**  
Occupational therapy is a client-oriented approach to the skill development. Occupational therapy practitioners use their skills to help individuals prepare for daily living despite impairment, activity limitations, and the restrictions. Occupations refer to daily activities or tasks that have value and meaning to a person and that are essential to his/her identity. Examples of daily living activities occupational are getting dressed, finding a phone using a computer, writing a check, taking a car, work, leisure, fishing, or watching a movie at the mall.

**An Occupational Therapist is...**  
An Occupational Therapist (OT) is a health care professional who evaluates and treats activity limitations in all age groups. All occupational therapists practicing in the State of Ohio must hold a valid Ohio occupational therapy license.

**An Occupational Therapy Assistant is...**  
An Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) is a health care provider who works and trains in collaboration with and under the supervision of an occupational therapist. All occupational therapy assistants must hold a valid Ohio occupational therapy assistant license.

**Choosing an Occupational Therapist**  
You have the freedom to choose your own occupational therapist. You may go directly to an occupational therapist without a physician's referral OR your insurance may require a visit to a physician first or both prior access to only preferred providers. To find an occupational therapist please contact your health care professional, insurance carrier, or another trusted source.

**Will My Insurance Cover Occupational Therapy?**  
Private Insurance: Most private insurance plans cover occupational therapy services. Contact your insurer for specific regarding your insurance coverage.  
Medicaid/Medicare: Not all occupational therapists are covered by Medicaid or Medicare. To make an appointment, ask if the occupational therapist participates in the Medicaid/Medicare program. Also, obtain information about any copayment that you may be required to pay.

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## How Rules Are Changed

- ▶ Rule review is a **public** process.
  - ▶ Board seeks input on initial draft **before** rule language is filed.
  - ▶ Information on proposed changes sent to listserv and posted on the Board's website.
  - ▶ Once filed, full text of the rules is available at: <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us>
  - ▶ Public hearing on proposed changes required.
- ▶ Board's goal is new rules go into effect on May 1.

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## Rules Changes Effective May 1, 2012

- ▶ Standardization of the Additional Requirements for Applicants Out of Practice > 5 Years
  - ▶ No changes to the list of requirements, just reordering
  - ▶ List is same for licensure by exam, endorsement, reinstatement, and restoration
- ▶ Reinstatement Application Fee
  - ▶ Fee reduced from \$150 to \$100
- ▶ Continuing Education
  - ▶ Unofficial transcript is acceptable proof of completion for CE

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## Rule Change Effective July 1, 2012

- ▶ Escrow Renewals
  - ▶ Licensee may renew in escrow for no more than 2 consecutive renewal periods
  - ▶ At the 3<sup>rd</sup> renewal period, licensee must:
    - ▶ Restore to active status, or
    - ▶ Let the license expire & reinstate when ready to return to active practice

OT License in Escrow on 7/1/12	OTA License in Escrow on 7/1/12	
Renew in escrow on 7/1/13	Renew in escrow on 7/1/14	1 <sup>st</sup> escrow renewal
Renew in escrow on 7/1/15	Renew in escrow on 7/1/16	2 <sup>nd</sup> escrow renewal
Make decision on 7/1/17	Make decision on 7/1/18	Restore or expire

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## Proposed 2013 Rules Changes

- ▶ Only one substantive change proposed
- ▶ Amends the CE rule (4755-9-01)
- ▶ Instead of completing 1 hour of ethics each renewal...
  - ▶ Licensees must complete one hour of ethics, jurisprudence, or cultural competence

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## OT/OTA Supervisory Ratio Rule

- ▶ Section started process to review the current ratio rule
- ▶ Surveyed OT and OTA licensees
- ▶ Reviewed supervision rules from other state OT Boards

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## Don't Wait Until June 30 to Renew

More than 345,000 central Ohio residents still without power after last night's storms



An OhioHealth billboard along Rt. 315 near Riverside Methodist Hospital took a beating. © AMON QUENEY | DISPATCH

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By Randy Ludlow

The Columbus Dispatch · Saturday June 30, 2012 11:37 AM

Comments: 0 Recommend 393 Tweet 56 Share This

### UPDATE:

More than 345,000 AEP customers in central Ohio were still without power as of 11 a.m., the utility reported. About 200,000 of them were in Franklin County. Throughout AEP Ohio's territory, 633,000 people were without power.

Hurricane-force winds knocked out utility lines, downed trees and damaged homes and cars last night. Today, homeowners started the process of cleaning up -- many of them without the benefit of electricity and air conditioners.

AEP said it could take five to seven days to restore power to everyone. Temperatures for the next five days are forecast to be in the low to mid 90s.

On its website, the utility company called the storm a "catastrophic event" and said it was a larger event than the storm that hit during Hurricane Ike in 2008, when high winds knocked out power to many residents for days. There were more than 4,700 reports of downed lines.

Ohio Gov. John Kasich declared a state of emergency and said the Emergency Management Agency is monitoring cleanup efforts.

In Marysville, the female statue of Justice atop the Union County Courthouse lost an arm to the high winds.

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### Ethical Case Study 1

- ▶ An OTA in a school-based setting is told by her manager that the supervising OT has left her position and has not yet been replaced.
- ▶ The manager assures the OTA “we will find someone by October, just go ahead and get the students started.”
  - ▶ What should the OTA do?
  - ▶ Whose responsibility is it to ensure there is supervision?

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### Ethical Case Study 2

- ▶ An OT is assigned 4 clients for treatment on Tuesday, all of whom were treated by another OT the day before.
- ▶ She notes each client was documented as receiving 60 minutes of individual treatment on Monday, but the treating therapist was only in the building for 2 hours.
  - ▶ Is this a problem?
  - ▶ How should the OT handle the situation?

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### Ethical Case Study 3

- ▶ A colleague from your clinic Tweets a picture from their office and you realize a client’s chart (and identifying information) is partially visible in the photo.
  - ▶ Is this a problem?
  - ▶ How should you handle the situation?

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### Ethical Case Study 4

- ▶ Your employer has repeatedly increased your productivity expectations.
- ▶ The level of productivity now required has exceeded the level at which you feel you can competently and effectively perform your job.
  - ▶ Is this a problem?
  - ▶ How should you handle the situation?

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### Ethical Case Study 5

- ▶ A client is preparing for discharge home from a skilled nursing facility rehab stay.
- ▶ The family requests a home safety assessment prior to discharge.
  - ▶ Can the OTA perform the home assessment?
  - ▶ What (if any) follow-up/documentation is needed from the OT?

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### Ethical Case Study 6

- ▶ An OTA prepares to treat a client for the first time.
- ▶ In reviewing the chart, he notices the evaluation is not completed, and no goals are listed on the plan of care, although the other OTA has been treating this client for several days.
  - ▶ How should the OTA handle this situation?

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### Ethical Case Study 7

- ▶ A Level II OT student is very excited to try out a new physical agent modality on one of her clients.
- ▶ The Fieldwork Educator/Supervisor is not familiar with the modality.
  - ▶ Can the student perform the modality?
  - ▶ What if it was a licensed OTA instead of a Level II OT student?
  - ▶ Why or why not?

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### Ethical Case Study 8

- ▶ An OTA wishes to accept a Level II OTA student for fieldwork but her supervising OT is a new grad with less than 1 year of experience.
  - ▶ Can the OTA accept the student?
  - ▶ What are some alternate solutions to this situation?

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### Ethical Case Study 9

- ▶ An OT lives in Ohio, but receives a referral for a home health client living in Kentucky.
- ▶ Can he provide services to this client via Skype without holding a Kentucky license?

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### Ethical Case Study 10

- ▶ A female client has expressed that she has cultural preferences to only see female clinicians.
- ▶ Your department is staffed by 2 male therapists and 1 female therapist, but the female therapist is on maternity leave.
- ▶ How should you handle the situation?
- ▶ What are your options?

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### Ethical Case Study 11

- ▶ A client asks about “friending” you on Facebook.
- ▶ How do you respond...
  - ▶ If they are a current client?
  - ▶ If they are a former client?
  - ▶ If they are a family member of a current/former client?
- ▶ How could this affect you professionally?

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The screenshot shows the Ohio OTPTAT Board website. The page title is "Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board". The navigation menu includes Home, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Athletic Training, Consumers, and Rules Updates. The main content area is titled "FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS" and lists several questions. Question 7 is highlighted: "7. What are the supervisory ratios for occupational therapy assistants (OTAs)? Are the ratios different in school-based therapy?" The answer states: "The Ohio Occupational Therapy Practice Act does not regulate caseload levels. It is the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) that establishes the number of students that an occupational therapy practitioner may serve. Under the ODE rules, OT personnel may serve no more than 50 school age children with disabilities or no more than 40 preschool children with disabilities. An occupational therapy assistant who provides occupational therapy techniques must do so under the general supervision of an occupational therapist as required in Chapter 4756-7 of the Ohio Administrative Code."

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## Board Communications

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- ▶ Each Section has its own listserv
  - ▶ To join, go to Board's website and select "Join a Board Liserv" link on the homepage
- ▶ "Like" the Board on Facebook at  <https://www.facebook.com/OhioOTPTATBoard>
- ▶ Follow the Board's Twitter feed at  <http://twitter.com/OhioOTPTATBd>

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## Contacting the Board

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- ▶ Email: [board@otptat.ohio.gov](mailto:board@otptat.ohio.gov)
- ▶ Internet: <http://otptat.ohio.gov>
- ▶ Phone: 614-466-3774
- ▶ Fax: 614-995-0816
- ▶ Mail:  
Ohio OTPTAT Board  
77 S. High Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-6108

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