

# Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Pre-licensure disclosure

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Indiana Wesleyan University seeks to prepare the program graduate for licensure/certification and service in the occupational therapy profession. Licensure/certification procedures vary by state. The <a href="American Occupational Therapy Association">American Occupational Therapy Association</a> (AOTA) has collected the licensure processes for each of the states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico (appended to this document). The procedure in the state of Indiana is:

Following successful completion of the IWU OTA program, the program graduate achieves Indiana state licensure by the following steps.

- 1. Apply for, pass the NBCOT (<u>National Board for Certification in Occupational</u> Therapy) Certification Examination.
- 2. <u>Apply for licensure</u> through the Occupational Therapy Committee of the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency.

States for which the IWU curriculum meets the State educational requirements for licensure or certification

All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

States for which the IWU curriculum does not meet the State educational requirements for licensure or certification

none

States for which it has not yet been determined whether the IWU curriculum meets the State educational requirements for licensure or certification

none

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## **OT Qualifications and Licensure Requirements**

State	Statute or Regulation <sup>1</sup>
Alabama	Statute: Code of Alabama §34-39-8 Application for license; requirements
	An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall be a citizen of the United States or, if not a citizen of the United States, a person who is legally present in the United States with appropriate documentation from the federal government, and shall file a written application on forms provided by the board, showing to the satisfaction of the board fulfillment of all of the following requirements:
	(1) Applicant shall present evidence satisfactory to the board of having successfully completed all of the academic requirements for degree or certificate conferral from an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board. The program shall be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Incorporated.
	(2) Applicant shall pass an examination as provided for in Section 34-39-9.
	Regulation: Alabama Administrative Code Chapter 625-X-1 LICENSE REQUIRED/APPLICATION
	Except as provided in Code of Alabama 1975, §34-39-5, any individual desiring to practice as an Occupational Therapist or an Occupational Therapy Assistant in the State of Alabama shall, prior to practicing occupational therapy, apply to the Board for a license, pay the requisite fees, and pass a written examination as approved by the Board. Any person practicing occupational therapy or engaging in occupational therapy treatment without a valid active license in good standing, and who does not qualify for an exemption under Code of Alabama 1975, §34-39-5, shall be subject to the penalties prescribed at §34-39-15.
	<b>625-X-101 Forms.</b> All applicants for licensure shall submit to the Board the information requested on the official forms as approved by the Board, which at a minimum shall provide for:
	(a) The name, permanent address and telephone number of the applicant;
	(b) The business name, business address, phone number, and name of supervisor. The supervisor for an Occupational Therapy Assistant must be a currently licensed Occupational Therapist in the State of Alabama;
	(c) A statement as to whether the applicant has been convicted of any felony offense denominated as such in any state or has been convicted of a misdemeanor or civil violation denominated as such involving an offense of moral turpitude in any state;  (d) A statement as to whether the applicant has been adjudged in a civil suit in a court in competent jurisdiction of malpractice or
	negligence in the practice of occupational therapy;
	(e) A statement as to whether the applicant has previously been licensed as an Occupational Therapist or an Occupational Therapy Assistant, and whether said license as issued by another state has ever been revoked, suspended, probated, or otherwise voided.
	<b>625-X-102 Completion Of Forms.</b> Applications for licensure shall be personally completed by the applicant and signed by the applicant under oath with an acknowledgment that the making of a material false statement is subject to denial (and/or revocation) of a license. The form and information must be submitted to the Board prior to the commencement of practice.

<sup>1</sup> DISCLAIMER: This chart is provided for informational and educational purposes only and is not a substitute for legal advice or the professional judgment of health care professionals in evaluating and treating patients. Contact your state licensing board, committee, or agency with any questions regarding this information or to verify the accuracy of this information.

**625-X-1-.04 Letter Of Verification.** Each applicant must request that a letter of verification be issued by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, stating that the individual has met the requirements for certification as an Occupational Therapist or as an Occupational Therapy Assistant and that the applicant has not been censured, put on probation, suspended or revoked by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy. Said verification shall be sent directly to the Alabama State Board of Occupational Therapy.

**625-X-1-.05 Letter(s) of Good Standing.** Each applicant must request that a letter of good standing be issued by each state that has previously issued said applicant a license. Letter(s) must state that applicant's license has/has not been suspended, revoked, probated, or otherwise voided. Said letter of good standing shall be sent directly to the Alabama State Board of Occupational Therapy.

#### **Alaska**

# Statute: Alaska Statutes §08.84.030 Qualifications for licensing.

To be eligible for licensure by the board as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, an applicant, unless a graduate of a foreign school of occupational therapy located outside the United States, shall

- (1) have successfully completed a curriculum of occupational therapy approved by the Committee of Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the American Medical Association or the American Occupational Therapy Association;
- (2) submit proof of successful completion and supervised field work approved by the board
  - (A) for an occupational therapist, a minimum of six months of supervised field work;
  - (B) for an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two months of supervised field work;
- (3) pass, to the satisfaction of the board, an examination prepared by a national testing service approved by the board or an examination recognized by the American Occupational Therapy Association to determine the applicant's fitness for practice as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant, or be entitled to licensure without examination under AS 08.84.060; and (4) meet qualifications for licensure established in regulations adopted by the board under AS 08.84.010(b).

# Regulation: Alaska Administrative Code Title 12, Chapter 54, Section 600 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

An applicant for an occupational therapist license or occupational therapy assistant license, other than an applicant who is a graduate of a school of occupational therapy that is located outside the United States, shall submit

- (1) a completed application on the form prescribed by the board;
- (2) the fees established in 12 AAC 02.320;
- (3) verification of the applicant's licensure status sent directly to the department from each jurisdiction where the applicant holds or has ever held a license to practice occupational therapy, one of which must indicate a current license in good standing; each verification from each jurisdiction where the applicant holds or has ever held a license must include an explanation of any disciplinary actions taken against the licensee:
- (4) a signed letter of professional reference sent directly to the department on a form provided by the department from a physician, instructor, supervisor, or official of the applicant's occupational therapy school;
- (5) proof of initial certification sent directly to the department from the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) as evidence of having met the requirements of AS 08.84.030(b);
- (6) verification that, during the 24 months immediately before the date the application is received by the department, the applicant
  - (A) performed at least 60 hours of occupational therapy service; the verification of at least 60 hours of occupational therapy service must be sent directly to the department on a form provided by the department from the agency or source;
  - (B) passed the NBCOT examination; or
  - (C) satisfactorily completed an internship of 150 hours approved by the board; the verification must be sent directly to the department on a form provided by the department from the agency or source; and

(7) the jurisprudence questionnaire prepared by the board covering the provisions of AS 08.84 and this chapter.

### **Arizona**

## **Statute:** Arizona Revised Statutes §32-3423

## **Application for licensure; qualifications**

- A. An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall:
  - 1. Be of good moral character.
  - 2. Successfully complete the academic and fieldwork requirements of an educational program subject to board review and standards prescribed by the board. The board shall require:
    - (a) For an occupational therapist, a minimum of nine hundred twenty-eight hours of supervised fieldwork experience as determined by the supervising institution, organization or sponsor.
    - (b) For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of six hundred eight hours of supervised fieldwork experience as determined by the supervising institution, organization or sponsor.
  - 3. Pass an examination administered pursuant to section 32-3424.
  - 4. Complete the application process and pay all fees required pursuant to this chapter.
- B. The board may deny a license to an applicant who:
  - 1. Commits a felony, whether or not involving moral turpitude, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. In either case conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction is conclusive evidence of the commission.
  - 2. Engages in any conduct that violates section 32-3401.
- C. An applicant who is denied a license may request a hearing pursuant to title 41, chapter 6, article 10.

# Regulation: Arizona Administrative Code R4-43-201 Initial Application

A. An applicant for an initial license to practice as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant shall submit an application form provided by the Board to the Board's office. The application and all supporting documentation shall be received by the Board at least 7 days before a Board meeting to be considered at that Board meeting.

- B. The initial application form shall be signed by an applicant and include the following information on the applicant:
  - 1. Applicant's last name, 1st name, and middle name;
  - 2. How applicant's name is to be shown on the licensure certificate;
  - 3. Other names used;
  - 4. Social security number;
  - 5. Residence address;
  - 6. Alternate mailing address if the residential address is to remain confidential;
  - 7. The type of license for which applying;
  - 8. The amount of the application and license fee to be submitted;
  - 9. Applicant's American Occupational Therapy Certification Board or National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. certification number, date of certification, and the number of times the applicant has taken the national examination;
  - 10. Education:
  - 11. Professional experience, field work, or both within the last 5 years;
  - 12. Employer's name, address, and telephone number;
  - 13. Current and previous occupational therapy or other professional license or certification numbers from other states and foreign countries and the status of the license or certification;
  - 14. Current and previous disciplinary actions;
  - 15. Affidavit of applicant.
- C. An applicant shall submit or cause to be submitted on the applicant's behalf the following:

- 1. Application fee;
- 2. Written verification received from:
  - a. The National Board For Certification In Occupational Therapy, Incorporated or the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board of a passing score on the examination administered by these entities; or
  - b. Certified letters of good standing issued by each state that has previously issued the applicant an occupational therapy license, provided at least 1 of the states requires standards for licensure equivalent to the requirements for licensure in this Chapter and A.R.S. §§ 32-3401 et seq.
- 3. Recommendation of good moral character from 2 health care professionals on a form that shall include the following:
  - a. Applicant's last name, 1st name, and middle initial, and other names used by applicant;
  - b. Applicant's mailing address;
  - c. Applicant's American Occupational Therapy Certification Board or the National Board For Certification In Occupational Therapy certification number;
  - d. Period of time the health care professional has known the applicant;
  - e. Period of time the health care professional has worked with the applicant;
  - f. A statement that the health care professional considers the applicant to be of good moral character;
  - g. Address, city, state, and zip code where the health care professional worked with the applicant;
  - h. A description of the professional relationship or professional experience with the applicant and why the health care professional recommends the applicant for an occupational therapy license;
  - i. Name, address, and telephone number of the health care professional;
  - j. The professional license or certification number and issuing agency of the health care professional;
  - k. The health care professional's signature and date.

#### **Arkansas**

# Statute: Arkansas Code §17-88-302 Qualifications of applicants.

Each applicant must meet the following conditions:

- (1) The applicant must be an individual at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- (2) The applicant must be of good moral character;
- (3) (A) The applicant must have successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy with concentration in biologic or physical science, psychology, and sociology, and with education in selected manual skills.
  - (B) For an occupational therapist, the program shall be accredited by the American Medical Association in collaboration with the American Occupational Therapy Association and shall lead to the awarding of a bachelor's or master's level degree or advanced standing certificate in occupational therapy.
  - (C) For an occupational therapy assistant, the program shall be approved by the American Occupational Therapy Association and shall lead to the awarding of an associate level degree in occupational therapy;
- (4) The applicant must have successfully completed a period of supervised field work experience at a recognized educational institution where he or she met the following academic requirements:
  - (A) For an occupational therapist, a minimum of six (6) months of supervised field work experience is required;
  - (B) For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two (2) months of supervised field work experience at an approved facility other than the one at which the person was previously employed, if applicable, is required; and
- (5) The applicant must have passed an examination conducted by the Arkansas State Medical Board as provided in § 17-88-304.

# Regulations: Arkansas State Medical Board Regulation Number 6 REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE LICENSING AND PRACTICE OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

- 1. APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE. Any person who plans to practice as a licensed occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant in the state of Arkansas shall, in addition to demonstrating his or her eligibility in accordance with the requirements of Section 7 of Act 381 of 1977, apply for licensure to the Board, on forms and in such a manner as the Board shall prescribe.
- 2. EXAMINATION. All occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants are required to pass an examination, approved by the Board, for licensure to practice the profession in Arkansas, except as otherwise provided in Arkansas Code 17-88-103. The Board has adopted for this purpose the examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy for the certification of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants. For this purpose the Board shall follow the schedule, format and acceptable passing scores set by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy and its designated agent. Applicants may obtain their examination scores in accordance with such rules as the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy may establish.

## California Statute: California Business and Professions Code §2570.6

An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file with the board a written application provided by the board, showing to the satisfaction of the board that he or she meets all of the following requirements:

- (a) That the applicant is in good standing and has not committed acts or crimes constituting grounds for denial of a license under Section 480.
- (b) (1) That the applicant has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program for occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants that is approved by the board and accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), or accredited or approved by the American Occupational Therapy Association's (AOTA) predecessor organization, or approved by AOTA's Career Mobility Program.
  - (2) The curriculum of an educational program for occupational therapists shall contain the content required by the ACOTE accreditation standards, or as approved by AOTA's predecessor organization, or as approved by AOTA's Career Mobility Program.
- (c) (1) For an applicant who is a graduate of an occupational therapy or occupational therapy assistant educational program who is unable to provide evidence of having met the requirements of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b), he or she may demonstrate passage of the examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board, or the American Occupational Therapy Association, as evidence of having successfully satisfied the requirements of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b).
  - (2) For an applicant who completed AOTA's Career Mobility Program, he or she shall demonstrate participation in the program and passage of the examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board, or the American Occupational Therapy Association, as evidence of having successfully satisfied the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (b).
- (d) That the applicant has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience approved by the board and arranged by a recognized educational institution where he or she met the academic requirements of subdivision (b) or (c) or arranged by a nationally recognized professional association. The fieldwork requirements for applicants applying for licensure as an occupational therapist or certification as an occupational therapy assistant shall be consistent with the requirements of the ACOTE accreditation standards, or AOTA's predecessor organization, or AOTA's Career Mobility Program, that were in effect when the applicant completed his or her educational program.
- (e) That the applicant has passed an examination as provided in Section 2570.7.
- (f) That the applicant, at the time of application, is a person over 18 years of age, is not addicted to alcohol or any controlled substance, and has not committed acts or crimes constituting grounds for denial of licensure under Section 480.

# **Regulation:** California Code of Regulations 4110 Application

- (a) An application for a license or limited permit shall be submitted on the form entitled Initial Application for Licensure, Form ILA, (Rev. 7/2016), hereby incorporated by reference, or by providing the same information via on-line submission, if available, and shall contain the information required by sections 30, 144, 851, 2570.5, 2570.6, 2570.7, 2570.8, 2570.9, 2570.14, and 2570.16 of the Code and Family Code section 17520, accompanied by the appropriate fees.
- (b) For an applicant applying for licensure pursuant to section 2570.15 of the Code, "substantially equal" means that the applicant has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program, including the educational program and supervised fieldwork requirements, for an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant that are approved by the board and approved by the foreign credentialing review process of the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT), the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board, or the American Occupational Therapy Association.

#### Colorado

### Statute: Colorado Revised Statutes §12-40.5-106

### Licensure of occupational therapists - application - qualifications - rules

- (1) Educational and experiential requirements. Every applicant for a license as an occupational therapist must have:
  - (a) Successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program for occupational therapists that is offered by an institution of higher education and accredited by a national, regional, or state agency recognized by the United States secretary of education, or another such program accredited thereby and approved by the director.
  - (b) Successfully completed a minimum period of supervised fieldwork experience required by the recognized educational institution where the applicant met the academic requirements described in paragraph (a) of this subsection (1). The minimum period of fieldwork experience for an occupational therapist is twenty-four weeks of supervised fieldwork experience or satisfaction of any generally recognized past standards that identified minimum fieldwork requirements at the time of graduation.
- (2) Application.
  - (a) When an applicant has fulfilled the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, the applicant may apply for examination and licensure upon payment of a fee in an amount determined by the director. A person who fails an examination may apply for reexamination upon payment of a fee in an amount determined by the director.
  - (b) The application shall be in the form and manner designated by the director.
- (3) Examination. Each applicant shall pass a nationally recognized examination approved by the director that measures the minimum level of competence necessary for public health, safety, and welfare.

# Regulation: Colorado Revised Code 3 CCR 715-1 Rule 1 Occupational Therapist Licensure by Examination

- A. Criteria for application.
  - 1. An applicant must submit to the Director a completed application for licensure, all fees, and all supporting documentation required by the Director in order for the Director to review the application for licensure.
  - 2. An applicant for licensure must pass the required examination, meet the requirements and become licensed within one (1) year of the application receipt date. If the applicant fails to become licensed within this time period, he/she must submit a new application and fee and meet the requirements in effect at the time of the new application. Licensure applicants have a continuing obligation to update their application with information of changes from the original application at any time prior to licensure.
- B. Education requirements.
  - 1. An applicant for licensure must meet the educational requirements outlined in § 12-40.5-106(1), C.R.S.
  - 2. An applicant for licensure must have successfully completed an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupation Therapy Education (ACOTE®) [all references to ACOTE in these rules include its predecessor] or education approved by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT), or other educational program as approved by the Director.

- 3. An applicant for licensure must have successfully completed supervised fieldwork required by the education program where the applicant met the educational requirements outlined in this Rule. The minimum period of supervised fieldwork is twenty-four (24) weeks, or completion of fieldwork that met generally recognized past accreditation standards in effect at the time of the applicant's graduation.
- 4. An applicant who has been certified as an Occupational Therapist by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) [all references to NBCOT in these rules include its predecessors], shall be deemed to have met the educational and experiential requirements for licensure set forth in sections 1(b)(2) and (3), above.

### C. Examination

1. The examination developed by NBCOT is approved. An applicant must achieve at least the passing score as determined by NBCOT in order to be eligible for licensure.

### D. Licensure.

1. An applicant who has complied with the requirements in this rule and who achieved a passing score on the NBCOT examination within two (2) years immediately preceding submission of an application for licensure is eligible licensure by examination.

### Connecticut

# <u>Statute:</u> Connecticut General Statutes §20-74b Licensing examination.

Any person who (1) if an applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist, has attained a bachelor's degree and has graduated from an educational program accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association, or has completed educational preparation deemed equivalent by the commissioner, or if an applicant for licensure as an occupational therapy assistant, has attained an associate's degree or its equivalent and has graduated from an educational program approved by the American Occupational Therapy Association, or has completed educational preparation deemed equivalent by the commissioner, and (2) has successfully completed not less than twenty-four weeks of supervised field work experience in the case of an occupational therapy applicant or eight weeks of such field work in the case of an occupational therapy assistant applicant at a recognized educational institution or a training program approved by the educational institution where he met the academic requirements, and (3) has successfully completed an examination prescribed by the commissioner shall be eligible for licensure as an occupational therapist or assistant. An applicant who has practiced as an occupational therapy assistant for four years with a minimum of twenty-four weeks of supervised field experience and has earned a bachelor's degree shall be eligible for licensure as an occupational therapist, provided such applicant has successfully completed the examination for licensure not later than January 1, 1988. The department shall prescribe examinations for licensure and their passing scores.

### **Delaware**

## Statute: Delaware Code §24-20-2008

## Qualifications of applicant; report to Attorney General; judicial review.

- (a) An applicant who is applying for licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant under this chapter shall submit evidence, verified by oath and satisfactory to the Board, that such person:
  - (1) Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the Board; and
    - a. The occupational therapy educational program shall be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE):
    - b. The occupational therapy assistant educational program shall be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE);
  - (2) Has successfully completed a period of supervised field work experience arranged by the recognized educational institution where the person has met the academic requirements, or by the nationally recognized professional association;
  - (3) Has achieved the passing score on the written standardized examination developed by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc., or its successor;
  - (4) Shall not have been the recipient of any administrative penalties regarding that person's practice of occupational therapy, including but not limited to fines, formal reprimands, license suspensions or revocation (except for license revocations for

nonpayment of license renewal fees), probationary limitations and/or has not entered into any "consent agreements" which contain conditions placed by a Board on that person's professional conduct and practice, including any voluntary surrender of a license. The Board may determine, after a hearing, whether such administrative penalty is grounds to deny licensure;

- (5) Shall not have any impairment related to drugs, alcohol or a finding of mental incompetence by a physician that would limit the applicant's ability to undertake the practice of occupational therapy in a manner consistent with the safety of the public;
- (6) Shall not have a criminal conviction record, nor pending criminal charge relating to an offense, the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice of occupational therapy. Applicants who have criminal conviction records or pending criminal charges shall require appropriate authorities to provide information about the record or charge directly to the Board in sufficient specificity to enable the Board to make a determination whether the record or charge is substantially related to the practice of occupational therapy. However, after a hearing or review of documentation demonstrating that the applicant meets the specified criteria for a waiver, the Board, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum, may waive this paragraph (a)(6), if it finds all of the following:
  - a. For waiver of a felony conviction, more than 5 years have elapsed since the date of the conviction. At the time of the application the applicant may not be incarcerated, on work release, on probation, on parole or serving any part of a suspended sentence and must be in substantial compliance with all court orders pertaining to fines, restitution and community service.
  - b. For waiver of a misdemeanor conviction or violation, at the time of the application the applicant may not be incarcerated, on work release, on probation, on parole or serving any part of a suspended sentence and must be in substantial compliance with all court orders pertaining to fines, restitution and community service.
  - c. The applicant is capable of practicing occupational therapy in a competent and professional manner.
  - d. The granting of the waiver will not endanger the public health, safety or welfare;
- (7) Shall not have been convicted of a felony sexual offense;
- (8) Has submitted, at the applicant's expense, fingerprints and other necessary information in order to obtain the following:
  - a. A report of the applicant's entire criminal history record from the State Bureau of Identification or a statement from the State Bureau of Identification that the State Central Repository contains no such information relating to that person;
  - b. A report of the applicant's entire federal criminal history record pursuant to the Federal Bureau of Investigation appropriation of Title II of Public Law 92-544 (28 U.S.C. § 534). The State Bureau of Identification shall be the intermediary for purposes of this section and the Board of Occupational Therapy Practice shall be the screening point for the receipt of said federal criminal history records;
  - c. An applicant may not be licensed to practice occupational therapy until the applicant's criminal history reports have been produced. An applicant whose record shows a prior criminal conviction may not be licensed by the Board unless a waiver is granted pursuant to paragraph (a)(6) of this section.
- (b) Where the Board has found to its satisfaction that an application has been intentionally fraudulent, or that false information has been intentionally supplied, it shall report its findings to the Attorney General for further action.
- (c) Where the application of a person has been refused or rejected and such applicant feels that the Board has acted without justification; has imposed higher or different standards for that applicant than for other applicants or licensees; or has in some other manner contributed to or caused the failure of such application, the applicant may appeal to the Superior Court.
- (d) All individuals licensed to practice occupational therapy in this State shall be required to be fingerprinted by the State Bureau of Identification, at the licensee's expense, for the purposes of performing subsequent criminal background checks. Licensees shall submit by January 1, 2016, at the applicant's expense, fingerprints and other necessary information in order to obtain a criminal background check.

# <u>Regulation:</u> Delaware Administrative Code Title 24, Regulation 2000 Licensure Procedures

- 2.1 To apply for an initial license, including relicensure after expiration, an applicant shall submit to the Board:
  - 2.1.1 A completed notarized application on the form approved by the Board;
  - 2.1.2 Verification of a passing score on the NBCOT standardized exam submitted by the exam service or NBCOT;
    - 2.1.2.1 If the date of application for licensure is more than three years following the successful completion of the NBCOT exam, the applicant shall submit proof of twenty (20) hours of continuing education in the two years preceding the application in accordance with Section 5.0 of these rules and regulations.
  - 2.1.3 Official transcript and proof of successful completion of field work submitted by the school directly to the Board office;
  - 2.1.4 Fee payable to the State of Delaware.

# District of Columbia

## Statute: DC Code §3-1205.03

### General qualifications of applicants

- (a) An individual applying for a license under this chapter shall establish to the satisfaction of the board regulating the health occupation that the individual:
  - (1) Has not been convicted of an offense which bears directly on the fitness of the individual to be licensed;
  - (2) Is at least 18 years of age;
  - (3) Has successfully completed the additional requirements set forth in § 3-1205.04 and subchapters VI, VII, VIII and VIII-A of this chapter, as applicable;
  - (4) Has passed an examination, administered by the board or recognized by the Mayor pursuant to § 3-1205.06, to practice the health occupation; and
  - (5) Meets any other requirements established by the Mayor by rule to assure that the applicant has had the proper training, experience, and qualifications to practice the health occupation.
- (b) The board may grant a license to an applicant whose education and training in the health occupation has been successfully completed in a foreign school, college, university, or training program if the applicant otherwise qualifies for licensure and if the board determines, in accordance with rules issued by the Mayor, that the education and training are substantially equivalent to the requirements of this chapter in assuring that the applicant has the proper training, experience, and qualifications to practice the health occupation.
- (c) The board may deny a license to an applicant whose license to practice a health occupation was revoked or suspended in another state if the basis of the license revocation or suspension would have caused a similar result in the District, or if the applicant is the subject of pending disciplinary action regarding his or her right to practice in another state.
- (d) The references in § 3-1205.04 and subchapters VI, VII, VIII and VIII-A of this chapter to named professional organizations and governmental entities for purposes of accreditation or the administration of national examinations shall be considered to refer to successor organizations or entities upon a determination by the Mayor that the successor is substantially equivalent in standards and purposes as the organization or entity named in this chapter.

# Regulation: DC Municipal Regulations Title 17, Chapter 6302 EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- 6302.1 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, an applicant for a license to practice occupational therapy shall furnish proof satisfactory to the Board, in accordance with § 504(g)(1) of the Act, D.C. Official Code § 3-1205.04(g)(1), that the applicant has done the following:
  - (a) Successfully completed an educational program for occupational therapists that is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE); and
  - (b) Successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience required by the recognized educational institution where the applicant fulfilled his or her academic requirements.

# Regulation: DC Municipal Regulations Title 17, Chapter 6304 NATIONAL EXAMINATION

- 6304.1 To qualify for licensure as an occupational therapist or occupation therapy assistant, the applicant shall pass the certification examination as developed by the NBCOT.
- 6304.2 The passing score on the national examinations shall be the passing score established by NBCOT.
- 6304.3 An applicant shall submit a completed application to the Board and arrange for examination results to be sent by NBCOT, directly to the Board.
- 6304.4 An applicant who is working under a supervised practice letter and who has failed the national examination shall immediately cease working as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant.

### Florida

## Statute: Florida Statutes §468.209

### Requirements for licensure.

- (1) An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application, accompanied by the application for licensure fee prescribed in s. 468.221, on forms provided by the department, showing to the satisfaction of the board that she or he:
  - (a) Is of good moral character.
  - (b) Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board, with concentration in biologic or physical science, psychology, and sociology, and with education in selected manual skills. Such a program shall be accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, or its successor.
  - (c) Has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience at a recognized educational institution or a training program approved by the educational institution where she or he met the academic requirements. For an occupational therapist, a minimum of 6 months of supervised fieldwork experience is required. For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of 2 months of supervised fieldwork experience is required.
  - (d) Has passed an examination conducted or adopted by the board as provided in s. 468.211.
- (2) An applicant who has practiced as a state-licensed or American Occupational Therapy Association-certified occupational therapy assistant for 4 years and who, prior to January 24, 1988, completed a minimum of 6 months of supervised occupational-therapist-level fieldwork experience may take the examination to be licensed as an occupational therapist without meeting the educational requirements for occupational therapists made otherwise applicable under paragraph (1)(b).
- (3) If the board determines that an applicant is qualified to be licensed by endorsement under s. 468.213, the board may issue the applicant a temporary permit to practice occupational therapy until the next board meeting at which license applications are to be considered, but not for a longer period of time. Only one temporary permit by endorsement shall be issued to an applicant, and it shall not be renewable.

  (4) If the board determines that the applicant has not passed an examination, which examination is recognized by the board, to determine competence to practice occupational therapy and is not qualified to be licensed by endorsement, but has otherwise met all the requirements of this section and has made application for the next scheduled examination, the board may issue the applicant a temporary permit allowing her or him to practice occupational therapy under the supervision of a licensed occupational therapist until notification of the results of the examination. An individual who has passed the examination may continue to practice occupational therapy under her or his temporary permit; and such permit shall be deemed revoked upon notification to the board of the examination results and the subsequent, immediate notification by the board to the applicant of the revocation. Only one temporary permit by examination shall be issued to an applicant, and it shall not be renewable. However, applicants enrolled in a full-time advanced master's occupational therapy education program who have completed all requirements for licensure except examination shall, upon written request, be granted a temporary permit valid for 6 months even if that period extends beyond the next examination, provided the applicant has not failed the examination. This permit

shall remain valid only while the applicant remains a full-time student and, upon written request, shall be renewed once for an additional 6 months.

(5) An applicant seeking reentry into the profession who has not been in active practice within the last 5 years must, prior to applying for licensure, submit to the board documentation of continuing education as prescribed by rule.

# Regulation: Florida Administrative Code 64B11-2 2.006 Examination: Passing Grade.

The examination to be used for licensure by examination shall be that examination developed by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy Practice (NBCOT). Every applicant for licensure by examination shall obtain at least the passing score as determined by NBCOT. Every applicant shall request the scores be sent to the Board by the professional examination service. Licensure shall not be granted without proof of passing score. Applicants approved for licensure contingent upon passage of the examination shall have twelve months from the date of approval by the Board to take the examination and submit proof of scores. Any requests for information concerning examination results (areas of weakness, if failed, etc.) should be sent directly to the professional examination service.

### Georgia

### Statute: Code of Georgia §43-28-9

### Qualifications of license applicants; waiver

- (a) An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file an application, on forms provided by the board, showing to the satisfaction of the board that such applicant:
  - (1) Is of good moral character;
  - (2) Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an accredited educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board, with concentration in biological or physical science, psychology, and sociology and with education in selected manual skills. For an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, such a program shall be accredited by a recognized accrediting agency acceptable to the board. Other comparable educational programs such as those approved by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists may be recognized by the board upon evaluation of detailed program and course content. An applicant who is foreign trained shall complete an academic program that is recognized or approved by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists or such other credentialing entity recognized by the board;
  - (3) Has successfully completed a period of supervised field work experience approved by the board; and
  - (4) Has passed an examination approved by the board as provided for in Code Section 43-28-10.
- (b) An applicant not meeting the requirements of subsection (a) of this Code section must indicate to the board that he or she has obtained a waiver of such requirements pursuant to Code Section 43-28-11.

# Regulation: Georgia Regulations Chapter 671-3 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

## Rule 671-3-.01 Application.

- 1. Any occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant who plans to practice as a licensed occupational therapist or licensed occupational therapy assistant in the State of Georgia shall apply for licensure to the Board, on forms provided by the Board.
- 2. In order to meet the Georgia requirements for licensure, an applicant must submit an affidavit stating that the applicant is a U.S. citizen or an affidavit stating that the applicant is lawfully present in the U.S. under federal immigration law and O.C.G.A.
- 3. Lawful presence in the U.S. must be documented by:
  - a) submitting an identification document listed as a secure and verifiable document on the list maintained by the Office of the Georgia Attorney General under O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1; and,
  - b) an affidavit of citizenship that complies with the provisions of federal immigration law and O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1(f)(1)(B).
- 4. Both the secure and verifiable document and affidavit of citizenship must be submitted to the Board to complete the licensure application.

5. Applicants for occupational therapy or occupational therapy assistant licensure in Georgia must meet all requirements for licensure as defined within the statute and Board Rules prior to issuance of a license.

Rule 671-3-.02 References.

Three references will be required on forms provided by the Board from individuals who have knowledge of the applicant's professional training or experience within the last five years. At least one professional reference must be from certified or licensed occupational therapy practitioner. The second professional reference may be from another certified or licensed occupational therapy practitioner or any other licensed healthcare professional. The third and final reference must be a personal reference.

### Rule 671-3-.03 Examination

All applicants for licensure as occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants are required to pass a written examination, approved by the Board, for license to practice the profession in Georgia, except as otherwise provided in Section 43-28-9 of the Law.

## Rule 671-3-.04 Passing Score

Passing score of the examination will be determined by the Board Prior to administration of the examination

# Hawaii Statute: Hawaii Revised Statutes §457G-2 Qualifications of occupational therapists.

- (a) To qualify for licensure in this state, occupational therapists shall have completed the educational requirements and supervised field work experience required for certification by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, and shall have passed a national certification examination administered by that association.
- (b) In the case of foreign-trained persons, the applicant for an occupational therapy license shall have completed the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy eligibility determination process for occupational therapists and shall have passed a national certification examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy.

# Idaho Statute: Idaho Statutes §54-3706 REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE.

A person applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application provided by the board showing to the satisfaction of the board that such person meets the following requirements:

- (1) Education: Applicant shall present evidence satisfactory to the board of having successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy that is accredited by the American occupational therapy association's accreditation council for occupational therapy education (ACOTE) or predecessor or a successor organization as established in rule and approved by the licensure board.
- (2) Experience: Applicant shall submit to the licensure board evidence of having successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience acceptable to the board, which period of fieldwork experience shall be:
  - (a) For an occupational therapist, a minimum of six (6) months of supervised fieldwork experience; or
  - (b) For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of four (4) months of supervised fieldwork experience.
- (3) Examination: An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall pass an examination as provided for in section 54-3708, Idaho Code.
- (4) Is in good standing.

Regulations: Idaho Administrative Code 24.06.01 020. GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE.

- 01. Applicant. An applicant must be of good moral character. The Board may refuse licensure if it finds the applicant has engaged in conduct prohibited by Section 54-3713, Idaho Code; provided, the Board shall take into consideration the rehabilitation of the applicant and other mitigating circumstances.
- 02. Education. Each applicant shall provide evidence of successful completion of the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy that is accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), or by a predecessor or successor organization recognized by the United States Secretary of Education, the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, or both.
- 03. Experience. Each applicant shall submit evidence of having successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience acceptable to the board, which fieldwork shall be: a. For an occupational therapist, a minimum of six (6) months of supervised fieldwork experience; or b. For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of four (4) months of supervised fieldwork experience.
- 04. Examination. Each applicant shall either pass an examination required by the Board or shall be entitled to apply for licensure by endorsement or limited permit.
  - a. The written examination shall be the examination conducted by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT) and the passing score shall be the passing score established by the NBCOT.
  - b. An applicant for licensure by examination who fails to pass the examination on two (2) attempts must submit a new application as specified in Subsection 021.01.
- 05. Good Standing. An applicant must be in good standing as defined in these rules. (3-29-10) 06. Application Expiration. An application upon which the applicant takes no further action will be held for no longer than one (1) year.

## Illinois Statute: Illinois Consolidated Statutes §225 ILCS 75/8

Sec. 8. A person shall be qualified for licensure as an occupational therapist if that person:

- (1) has applied in writing in form and substance to the Department;
- (2) (blank);
- (3) has completed an occupational therapy program leading to a masters or doctoral degree, or its equivalent, approved by the Department; and
- (4) has successfully completed the examination authorized by the Department within the past 5 years.

# Regulation: Illinois Administrative Code, Section 1315.110 Application for Licensure

- a) Any person seeking licensure as a registered occupational therapist shall file an application with the Division, on forms supplied by the Division, along with the following:
  - 1) Certification that the applicant has completed an approved program of occupational therapy as set forth in Section 1315.100;
  - 2) Verification of the successful completion of the Certification Examination for Occupational Therapist, which shall be received directly from the designated testing service;
  - 3) Verification of approval to sit for the examination if an applicant wishes to practice prior to passing the examination pursuant to Section 3(6) of the Illinois Occupational Therapy Act [225 ILCS 75] (Act);
  - 4) The required fee set forth in Section 1315.130(a) of this Part; and
  - 5) Certification, on forms provided by the Division, from the jurisdiction in which the applicant was originally licensed and is currently licensed, if applicable, stating:
    - A) The time during which the applicant was licensed in that jurisdiction, including the date of the original issuance of the license:
    - B) A description of the examination in that jurisdiction; and
    - C) Whether the file on the applicant contains any record of disciplinary actions taken or pending.

## Indiana Statute: Indiana Code §25-23.5-5

### Application; contents

- Sec. 1. (a) A person who applies for a license as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant must present satisfactory evidence to the committee that the person:
  - (1) does not have a conviction for a crime that has a direct bearing on the person's ability to practice competently;
  - (2) has not been the subject of a disciplinary action by a licensing or certification agency of another state or jurisdiction on the grounds that the person was not able to practice as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant without endangering the public;
  - (3) has:
    - (A) before July 1, 2006, graduated from a school or program of occupational therapy or a program for occupational therapy assistants approved by the board; or
    - (B) after June 30, 2006, graduated:
      - (i) with a master's degree or its equivalent from a school or program of occupational therapy; or
      - (ii) from a program for occupational therapy assistants; approved by the board;
  - (4) has passed an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant licensing examination approved by the board under section 4.5 of this chapter; and
  - (5) has met the clinical experience requirements established by the board.
- (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), an occupational therapist who received an initial license in occupational therapy before July 1, 2006, is not required to meet the requirements under subsection (a)(3)(B) or (a)(5).

### Application; supervised fieldwork experience

Sec. 2. (a) The board may require a person who applies for a license as an occupational therapist to have successfully completed supervised fieldwork experience arranged and approved by the school or program from which the person graduated. (b) The board may require a person who applies for a license as an occupational therapy assistant to have successfully completed supervised fieldwork experience arranged and approved by the program from which the person graduated.

## Regulation: Indiana Administrative Code §884 IAC 10-3-2

## Licensure by examination

- Sec. 2. The committee shall issue a license by examination to an applicant who completes the following:
  - (1) Applies in the form and manner prescribed by the committee.
  - (2) Submits the fees specified in 844 IAC 10-2-1.
  - (3) Successfully completes the examination required by the committee for licensure as an occupational therapist.
  - (4) Successfully completes the examination required by the committee for licensure as an occupational therapy assistant.
  - (5) Submits two (2) recent passport-quality photographs of the applicant, approximately two (2) inches by two (2) inches in size, signed by the applicant, shall be submitted with each application.
  - (6) Submits an official transcript of grades from which the applicant obtained the applicant's degree that shows that all requirements for graduation have been met.
  - (7) Submits a certified copy of a diploma to the committee of the applicant's graduation from a school or program of occupational therapy or a program of occupational therapy assistants approved by the board that meets the standards set by the board under 844 IAC 10-1-2.
  - (8) Otherwise meets the requirements of IC 25-23.5-5.

Iowa Statute: Iowa Code §148B.5
Requirements for licensure.

An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant must file a written application on forms provided by the board, showing to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant meets the following requirements:

- 1. Successful completion of the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board.
  - a. For an occupational therapist, the program must be one accredited by the accreditation council for occupational therapy education of the American occupational therapy association.
  - b. For an occupational therapy assistant, the program must be one approved by the American occupational therapy association.
- 2. Successful completion of a period of supervised field work experience at a recognized educational institution or a training program approved by the educational institution where the applicant met the academic requirements.
  - a. For an occupational therapist, a minimum of six months of supervised field work experience is required.
  - b. For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two months of supervised field work experience is required.
- 3. Pass an examination, either in electronic or written form, satisfactory to the board and in accordance with rules.

# Regulation: Iowa Administrative Code 645.206.2 Requirements for Licensure

The following criteria shall apply to licensure:

**206.2(1)** The applicant shall complete a board-approved application packet. Application forms may be obtained from the board's Web site (http://www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure) or directly from the board office. All applications shall be sent to Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy, Professional Licensure Division, Fifth Floor, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075.

**206.2(2)** The applicant shall complete the application form according to the instructions contained in the application. If the application is not completed according to the instructions, the application will not be reviewed by the board.

**206.2(3)** Each application shall be accompanied by the appropriate fees payable by check or money order to the Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy. The fees are nonrefundable.

**206.2(4)** No application will be considered by the board until official copies of academic transcripts sent directly from the school to the board have been received by the board.

**206.2(5)** The applicant shall provide a notarized copy of the certificate or diploma indicating the degree awarded to the applicant, if the degree is not indicated on the official transcript.

**206.2(6)** The licensure examination score shall be sent directly from the examination service to the board to confirm a passing score on the examination.

#### Kansas

# Statute: Kansas Statutes §65-5406 Application for licensure; requirements

- (a) An applicant applying for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application on forms provided by the board, showing to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant meets the following requirements:
  - (1) Education: The applicant shall present evidence satisfactory to the board of having successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board.
  - (2) Experience: The applicant shall submit to the board evidence of having successfully completed a period of supervised field work at a minimum recognized by the board.
  - (3) Examination: The applicant shall pass an examination as provided for in K.S.A. 65-5407 and amendments thereto.
  - (4) Fees: The applicants shall pay to the board all applicable fees established under K.S.A. 65-5409 and amendments thereto.
- (b) The board shall adopt rules and regulations establishing the criteria which an educational program in occupational therapy shall satisfy to be recognized by the board under paragraph (1) of subsection (a). The board may send a questionnaire developed by the board to any school or other entity conducting an educational program in occupational therapy for which the board does not have sufficient information to determine whether the program should be recognized by the board and whether the program meets the rules and regulations adopted under

this section. The questionnaire providing the necessary information shall be completed and returned to the board in order for the program to be considered for recognition. The board may contract with investigative agencies, commissions or consultants to assist the board in obtaining information about an educational program in occupational therapy. In entering such contracts the authority to recognize an educational program in occupational therapy shall remain solely with the board.

# Regulation: Kansas Administrative Code 100-54-2 Education requirements.

- (a) An educational program for licensure as an occupational therapist shall be recognized by the board if the program meets the "standards for an accredited educational program for the occupational therapist," adopted December 1998 by the accreditation council for occupational therapy education and hereby adopted by reference.
- (b) An educational program for licensure as an occupational therapy assistant shall be recognized by the board if the program meets the "standards for an accredited educational program for the occupational therapy assistant," adopted December 1998 by the accreditation council for occupational therapy education and hereby adopted by reference.

# Regulation: Kansas Administrative Code 100-54-3 Examinations.

(a) Each applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall submit proof of having passed a nationally administered, standardized examination. This examination shall be one that is approved by the board and consists of written questions from

the following content areas of occupational therapy:

- (1) Human development and performance;
- (2) principles and strategies in the identification and evaluation of strengths and needs;
- (3) principles and strategies in intervention and treatment planning;
- (4) principles and strategies in intervention;
- (5) the nature of the occupation and occupational performance;
- (6) service management; and
- (7) the individual's responsibilities as a professional.
- (b) In order to qualify as board-approved, the entry-level certification examination for an occupational therapist administered by the national board for certification in occupational therapy, inc. shall meet the standards for an examination established by the board in subsection (a).
- (c) In order to qualify as board-approved, the entry-level certification examination for an occupational therapy assistant administered by the national board for certification in occupational therapy, inc. shall meet the standards for an examination established by the board in subsection (a).
- (d) To qualify for a license, each applicant for a license as an occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant shall obtain a minimum criterion-scaled score of 450 on the required examination.

## Kentucky

# **Statute:** Kentucky Revised Statutes § 319A.110 Application for license.

- (1) An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application on a form provided by the board, showing to the satisfaction of the board that the person:
  - (a) Is of good moral character; and
  - (b) Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy or for occupational therapy assistants accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education or its equivalent.

- (2) An applicant shall submit to the board evidence of successful completion of a period of supervised fieldwork experience arranged by the recognized educational institution where the applicant met the academic requirements. To be considered for licensure, the following minimum amount of supervised fieldwork experience shall have been completed:
  - (a) The equivalent of twenty-four (24) weeks for an occupational therapist; and
  - (b) The equivalent of sixteen (16) weeks for an occupational therapy assistant.
- (3) An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall pass an examination as provided for in KRS 319A.120.

# <u>Regulation:</u> Kentucky Administrative Regulations 201 KAR 28:060 Requirements for licensure

Section 1. Initial Licensure. An applicant for licensure administered by the board who has not previously been licensed, certified, or registered in any state shall submit:

- (1) A completed Application Form, Form OTB-1;
- (2) (a) A certified copy of an official academic transcript from an occupational therapy or occupational therapy assistant program accredited by the ACOTE or its equivalent indicating that the applicant successfully completed educational and fieldwork requirements; or
  - (b) For applicants trained at an educational facility outside the United States, evidence of legal permission, as furnished by the U.S. Department of Immigration and Naturalization, for employment in the United States;
- (3) Electronic verification by the NBCOT that the applicant:
  - (a) Meets the requirements of certification as an OTR or COTA;
  - (b) Is authorized to take the NBCOT or equivalent exam required by KRS 319A.120; or
  - (c) Has requested an official NBCOT Score Transfer Report be sent to the board.
- (4) The appropriate fee for licensure:
  - (a) Fifty (50) dollars for an OT/L; or
  - (b) Thirty-five (35) dollars for an OTA/L; and
- (5) Evidence of successful completion of the jurisprudence exam.

## Louisiana Statute: Louisiana Revised Statutes §3006

## Requirements for licensure

An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application on forms provided by the board, showing to the satisfaction of the board that he:

- (1) Is of good moral character.
- (2) Has successfully completed the academic and supervised field work experience requirements to sit for the "Certification Examination for Occupational Therapist, Registered or the Certification Examination for occupational therapy assistant" and is approved by the board.

# **Statute:** Louisiana Revised Statute §3007 Examination for licensure

A. The board shall use the examination administered by an independent agency under contract with the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. (AOTA), to administer the examinations for licensure under this Chapter.

B. Any person applying for licensure shall, in addition to demonstrating his eligibility in accordance with the requirements of R.S. 37:3006, make application to the board for review of proof of his current certification by the American Occupational Therapy Association Inc. (AOTA), on a form and in such a manner as the board shall prescribe. The application shall be accompanied by the fee fixed in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 37:3013. The board shall determine the criteria for satisfactory performance on the examination, using the

American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc., criteria as a minimum score. A person who fails an examination may reapply. C. Applicants for licensure shall be examined at a time and place established by the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc (AOTA). Examinations shall be given at least twice each year within the state.

# Regulation: Louisiana Administrative Code 46 XLV Medical Professions §1907 Qualifications for License

- A. To be eligible for a license, an applicant shall:
  - 1. be of good moral character as defined by §1903;
  - 2. be a citizen of the United States or possess valid and current legal authority to reside and work in the United States duly issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) of the United States, Department of Homeland Security, under and pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act (66 stat. 163) and the commissioner's regulations thereunder (8 CFR);
  - 3. have successfully completed the academic and supervised field work experience requirements to sit for the "Certification Examination for Occupational Therapist, Registered" or the "Certification Examination for Occupational Therapy Assistant" as administered for or by the NBCOT or such other certifying entity as may be approved by the board;
  - 4. have taken and successfully passed the licensing examination required by the board in accordance with Subchapter D of this Chapter.
  - 5. file an application for licensure in a format prescribed by the board;
  - 6. present proof of current certification by the NBCOT in a manner as prescribed by the board.
- B. The burden of satisfying the board as to the qualifications and eligibility of the applicant for licensure shall be upon the applicant. An applicant shall not be deemed to possess such qualifications unless the applicant demonstrates and evidences such qualifications in the manner prescribed by, and to the satisfaction of, the board.
- C. In addition to the substantive qualifications specified in §1907.A, to be eligible for a license, an applicant shall satisfy the procedures and requirements for application provided by §§1911 to 1915 of this Chapter and the procedures and requirements for examination provided by §§1917 to 1935 of this Chapter.

## Maine Statute: Maine Statutes §32-32-2279

### Qualifications

An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapy practitioner must file a written application showing that the applicant meets the following requirements.

- 1. Residence.
- 2. Character.
  - 2-A. Character references.
- 3. Education. An applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the board of having successfully completed the academic and fieldwork requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy or occupational therapy assisting.
  - A. The occupational therapy or occupational therapy assisting educational program must be accredited by ACOTE.
- 4. Experience.
- 5. Examination. An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapy practitioner must pass an examination as provided for in section 2280-A.
- 6. Licensure. An applicant may be licensed as an occupational therapist if the applicant has practiced as an occupational therapy assistant for 4 years, has completed the level II fieldwork requirements for an occupational therapist before January 1, 1988, and has passed the examination for occupational therapists.
- 7. Certification. An applicant must submit a verification of certification form from NBCOT. The form must be completed and signed by NBCOT. An applicant applying within 3 months of having taken the certification examination who has the examination scores sent directly to the board is exempt from this requirement.

8. Fee. An applicant must pay an application fee and license fee as set under section 2285.

### Regulation: Maine Rule 02-477-3-A

### LICENSURE AS A TEMPORARY LICENSEE, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST OR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

1. Qualifications for Licensure

A person applying for licensure as a temporary licensee, occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall meet the qualifications for licensure set forth in 32 MRSA §2278, "Temporary License," 32 MRSA §2279, "Qualifications" or 32 MRSA §2284, "Foreign-Trained Applicants."

2. Application for Licensure

Application for licensure must be made on forms provided by the board and must be accompanied by the applicable fees prescribed by Chapter 10, Section 5(25) of the rules of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation, entitled "Establishment of License Fees." For issuance of a temporary license, completion of the educational program required by 32 MRSA §2278, 2279(3) or §2284(1) must be demonstrated by completion of a Verification of Education form provided by the board, or an official academic transcript issued under the seal of the educational institution. The official academic transcript must be provided before a permanent license will be issued. The character references required by 32 MRSA §227992-A) may not be from a person related to the applicant by blood or by marriage.

An applicant for a temporary license or licensure as an occupational therapy assistant shall submit documentation of supervision on a form provided by the board. Applicants for all levels of licensure shall also submit, in the form required by the board:

- 1. Verification of licensure from any jurisdiction in which the applicant was at any time licensed as an occupational therapy practitioner;
- 2. Information relating to any criminal or disciplinary history of the applicant; and
- 3. Such other information as the board may require.

### Maryland

# **Statute:** Annotated Code of Maryland §10-302 Qualifications of applicants.

- (a) In general. To qualify for a license, an applicant shall be an individual who meets the requirements of this section.
- (b) Moral character. The applicant shall be of good moral character.
- (c) Age. The applicant shall be at least 18 years old.
- (d) Education and experience. Occupational therapist license. An applicant for an occupational therapist license shall have successfully:
  - (1) Graduated from an educational program in occupational therapy that is recognized by the Board and accredited by ACOTE or any other nationally recognized programmatic accrediting agency; and
  - (2) Completed the equivalent of at least 6 months of supervised, full-time field work experience at a recognized educational institution or in a training program approved by the educational institution where the applicant met the academic requirements.
- (e) Same. Occupational therapy assistant license. An applicant for an occupational therapy assistant license shall have successfully:
  - (1) Graduated from an educational program for occupational therapy assistants that is recognized by the Board and accredited by ACOTE or any other nationally recognized programmatic accrediting agency; and
  - (2) Completed the equivalent of at least 4 months of supervised, full-time field work experience at a recognized educational institution or in a training program approved by the educational institution where the applicant met the academic requirements.
- (f) Examination. The applicant shall pass the appropriate examination given by NBCOT or any other national credentialing organization.

# Regulation: Code of Maryland Regulations 10.46.02 Licensure

- D. Application Procedures for Licensure. To apply for a license, an applicant shall submit the following documentation to the Board within the time frame specified on the application:
  - 1) An application completed in accordance with the directions provided;

- 2) Verification of:
  - a) Initial certification or examination from the NBCOT; or
  - b) Examination score from the testing agency within 60 days of examination;
- 3) Two letters attesting to the applicant's moral character, compliant with forms provided by the Board;
- 4) An approved form of payment in the amount of the application fee established by the Board in COMAR 10.46.05.01;
- 5) If currently, or previously, authorized to practice in any other state or country, or both, documentation from the appropriate authority of that state or country verifying:
  - a) Licensure:
  - b) Registration; or
  - c) Certification;
- 6) Verification of successful completion of the Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Jurisprudence Examination; and
- 7) Documentation certifying:
  - a) Maintenance of Current Certification with the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT); or
  - b) Completion of continuing competency activities, as specified in COMAR 10.46.04.

### Massachusetts

# <u>Statutes:</u> Massachusetts General Law Title XVI, Chapter 112 §23G Occupational therapists; qualifications

An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist shall:

- (a) successfully completed an accredited occupational therapist educational program approved by the board,
- (b) successfully completed the therapist level field work requirements as stipulated in the essentials of an accredited educational program for the occupational therapist or its equivalent,
- (c) successfully passed an examination approved by the board for licensure as an occupational therapist. Such examination shall be written and shall test the applicants' knowledge of the basic and clinical sciences related to the occupational therapy theory and practice, including the applicant's professional skills and judgements in the utilization of occupational therapy techniques and methods, and such other subjects as the board may deem useful to determine the applicant's fitness to act as an occupational therapist. The examination shall be conducted by the board at least twice each year and at times and places to be determined by the board; provided, however, that the board may utilize any existing national examination that meets the requirements in this section.

# Regulation: Massachusetts Code of Regs 259 CMR 2.02 Licensing Process

- (2) Applicants Seeking Licensure by Examination.
  - (a) Applicants seeking licensure in Massachusetts in an allied health profession, who have not previously been issued a license by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in that same profession may apply for licensure by examination. An applicant shall:
    - 1. Submit to the Board:
      - a. proof that he/she has satisfactorily completed an accredited/approved educational program for the applicant's specific discipline;
      - b. a fully completed application with the required documentation;
      - c. the required fee for application and licensure;
      - d. an official transcript indicating successful completion of all academic and field work requirements, graduation date and degree conferred. Until the official transcript is available, an alternate form approved by the school registrar and carrying the official school seal will be accepted; and
      - e. other materials as may be required by the Board.
    - 2. Obtain from the Board:
      - a. M.G.L .c. 112 §§ 23A through 23Q;

	b. 259 CMR 1.00 through 5.00; and
Mishimon	c. the current Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics for the applicant's specific discipline
Michigan	Statute: Michigan Public Health Code §333.18307
	Licensure as occupational therapist; rules.
	The board, in consultation with the department, shall promulgate rules under section 16145 setting forth the minimum standards for licensure as an occupational therapist. For purposes of this section, the professional standards issued by the American occupational therapy association or any other recognized trade association may be adopted by the board. The board shall not promulgate rules under this section that diminish competition or exceed the minimum level of regulation necessary to protect the public.
	Regulation: Michigan Administrative Code R 338.1223
	Application for occupational therapist license; requirements.
	Rule 23. An applicant for an occupational therapist license shall submit the required fee and a completed application on a form provided by
	the department. In addition to meeting the requirements of the code and these rules, an applicant shall meet all of the following requirements:  (a) Graduate from an occupational therapist educational program that is accredited by ACOTE or approved by WFOT, or their predecessor organizations, and meets the standards adopted by the board under R 338.1222 or meet the requirements of R 338.1225.
	(b) Within 3 years preceding the application for licensure, the applicant shall pass the occupational therapist licensure examination adopted in R 338.1224.
	(c) Within 3 years preceding the application for licensure, the applicant shall pass the examination on laws and rules related to the practice of occupational therapy in this state which is developed and administered by the department or an entity approved by the department.
	(d) Meet the requirements of R 338.1213 if the applicant's occupational therapist educational program was taught in a language other than English.
Minnesota	Statute: Minnesota Statutes §148.6408
	QUALIFICATIONS FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST.
	Subdivision 1. Education required.
	(a) An applicant who has received professional education in the United States or its possessions or territories must successfully complete all academic and fieldwork requirements of an educational program for occupational therapists approved or accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education.
	(b) An applicant who has received professional education outside the United States or its possessions or territories must successfully complete all academic and fieldwork requirements of an educational program for occupational therapists approved by a member association of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists.
	Subdivision 2. Qualifying examination score required.
	(a) An applicant must achieve a qualifying score on the credentialing examination for occupational therapist.
	(b) The commissioner shall determine the qualifying score for the credentialing examination for occupational therapist. In determining
	the qualifying score, the commissioner shall consider the cut score recommended by the National Board for Certification in
	Occupational Therapy, or other national credentialing organization approved by the commissioner, using the modified Angoff method
	for determining cut score or another method for determining cut score that is recognized as appropriate and acceptable by industry
	standards.
	(c) The applicant is responsible for:
	(1) making arrangements to take the credentialing examination for occupational therapist;
	<ul><li>(2) bearing all expenses associated with taking the examination; and</li><li>(3) having the examination scores sent directly to the commissioner from the testing service that administers the examination</li></ul>

### Mississippi

### Statute: Mississippi Code Annotated §73-24-19

### Licensing requirements; examinations

- (1) An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application on forms provided by the board, showing to the satisfaction of the board that he meets the following requirements:
  - (a) Is of good moral character;
  - (b) Has been awarded a degree from an education program in occupational therapy recognized by the board, with a concentration of instruction in basic human sciences, the human development process, occupational tasks and activities, the health-illness-health continuum, and occupational therapy theory and practice:
    - (i) For an occupational therapist, such program shall be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education of the American Occupational Therapy Association or the board-recognized accrediting body;
    - (ii) For an occupational therapy assistant, such a program shall be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education of the American Occupational Therapy Association or the board-recognized accrediting body;
  - (c) Has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience at a recognized educational institution or a training program approved by the educational institution where he or she met the academic requirements:
    - (i) For an occupational therapist, the required supervised fieldwork experience shall meet current national standards that are published annually by the board:
    - (ii) For an occupational therapy assistant, the required supervised fieldwork experience shall meet national standards that are published annually by the board.
- (2) The board shall approve an examination for occupational therapists and an examination for occupational therapy assistants that will be used as the examination for licensure.
- (3) Any person applying for licensure shall, in addition to demonstrating his eligibility in accordance with the requirements of this section, make application to the board for review of proof of his eligibility for certification by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT), or its successor organization, on a form and in such a manner as the board shall prescribe. The application shall be accompanied by the fee fixed in accordance with the provisions of Section 73-24-29. The board shall establish standards for acceptable performance on the examination. A person who fails an examination may apply for reexamination upon payment of the prescribed fee.
- (4) Applicants for licensure shall be examined at a time and place and under such supervision as the board may require. The board shall give reasonable public notice of these examinations in accordance with its rules and regulations.
- (5) An applicant may be licensed as an occupational therapist if he or she: (a) has practiced as an occupational therapy assistant for four (4) years, (b) has completed the requirements of a period of six (6) months of supervised fieldwork experience at a recognized educational institution or a training program approved by a recognized accredited educational institution before January 1, 1988, and (c) has passed the
- examination for occupational therapists.

  (6) Each application or filing made under this section shall include the social security number(s) of the applicant in accordance with Section 93-11-64, Mississippi Code of 1972.

## Regulation: Mississippi Regulations 15-19-60 Rule 8.4.1

## Licensure Requirements

An applicant for a regular license as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall submit to the Department, verified by oath, written evidence in form and content satisfactory to the Department that the applicant:

- 1. is of good moral character;
- 2. has been awarded a degree from an education program recognized by the Board;

- 3. has successfully completed a supervised field experience;
  - a. for an occupational therapist, as reflected in the current accrediting standards;
  - b. for an occupational therapy assistant, as reflected in the current accrediting standards;
- 4. has passed an examination approved by the Department; and
- 5. has paid the required fee(s).
- 6. For an occupational therapist, the program shall be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education of the American Occupational Therapy Association or the board-recognized accrediting body.
- 7. For an occupational therapy assistant, the program shall be approved by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education of the American Occupational Therapy Association or the board-recognized accrediting body.

#### Missouri

# Statute: Missouri Revised Statutes §324.071

### Application for a license--certification, when.

- 1. The applicant applying for a license to practice occupational therapy shall provide evidence of being initially certified by a certifying entity and has completed an application for licensure and all applicable fees have been paid.
- 2. The certification requirement shall be waived for those persons who hold a current registration by the board as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant on August 28, 1997, provided that this application is made on or before October 31, 1997, and all applicable fees have been paid. All other requirements of sections 324.050 to 324.089 must be satisfied.
- 3. The person shall have no violations, suspensions, revocation or pending complaints for violation of regulations from a certifying entity or any governmental regulatory agency in the past five years.
- 4. The board may negotiate reciprocal contracts with other states, the District of Columbia, or territories of the United States which require standards for licensure, registration or certification considered to be equivalent or more stringent than the requirements for licensure pursuant to sections 324.050 to 324.089.

# Regulation: Missouri Code of State Regulations, 20 CSR 2205-3.010 Application for Licensure as an Occupational Therapist

PURPOSE: This rule outlines the procedure for application for licensure as an occupational therapist.

- (1) Application for licensure shall be submitted on the forms provided by the board. A limited permit holder may submit an addendum to his/her original application on forms provided by the board. Forms may be obtained by contacting the Missouri Board of Occupational Therapy. All original applications shall include proof of submission of fingerprints to the Missouri State Highway Patrol's approved vendor for both a Missouri State Highway Patrol and Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint background check. Any fees due for fingerprint background checks shall be paid by the applicant directly to the Missouri State Highway Patrol or its approved vendor. If a background check for the purposes of obtaining a license through the board has been completed within the last six (6) months, then no additional background check needs to be completed.
- (2) An application is not considered officially filed with the board until it has been determined by the board or division staff to be complete. Application forms provided by the board must be completed, signed, notarized, and accompanied by the application fee. All information should be received by the board within ninety (90) days of the date of the application.
- (3) The applicant shall request that the certifying entity approved by the division send a letter directly to the board verifying the applicant's certification from the certifying entity. The applicant is responsible for the payment of any fees required by the certifying entity for the issuance of a verification letter.
- (4) The applicant shall request that each state, United States territory, province, or country regulatory entity in which a license, certificate, registration, or permit is held or has ever been held submit verification of licensure, certification, registration, or permit directly to the board. The verification shall include the license, registration, certification, or permit issued; the number; status; issue and expiration dates; information regarding any disciplinary action; method of licensure, registration, or certification; the name and title of person verifying information; the date; and the entity's seal.

	(5) Applicants who are approved for licensure will receive one (1) license. Duplicate licenses may be provided upon payment of the
	appropriate fee.
Montana	Statute: Montana Code Annotated §37-24-303
	Requirements for Licensure
	(1) To be eligible for licensure by the board as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant, the applicant shall:  (a) present evidence of having successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program recognized by the board for the license sought;
	(b) submit evidence of having successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience arranged by the recognized educational institution where the person completed the academic requirements or by a nationally recognized professional association;
	(c) submit evidence of having been certified by the national board for certification in occupational therapy, inc. (NBCOT); and (d) pass an examination prescribed by the board.
	(2) The supervised fieldwork experience requirement for an occupational therapist is a minimum of 6 months. The supervised fieldwork experience requirement for an occupational therapy assistant is a minimum of 2 months.
	Regulation: Administrative Rules of Montana 24.165.404 APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE
	(1) Applications for an original license or temporary practice permit must be made on forms provided by the department and completed and signed by the applicant.
	(2) The application must be typed or legibly written in ink, accompanied by the appropriate fee(s), and contain sufficient evidence that the applicant possesses the qualifications set forth in Title 37, chapter 24, MCA, and rules promulgated thereunder.
	(3) The board shall require the applicant to submit a photocopy of the applicant's driver license or other form of signed, photographic identification.
	(4) Fully-completed applications will be reviewed for compliance with board laws and rules. The board may request such additional information or clarification of information provided in the application as it deems reasonably necessary. Incomplete applications shall be returned to the applicant with a statement regarding incomplete portions.
	(5) The applicant shall correct any deficiencies and resubmit the application. Failure to resubmit the application within 60 days shall be treated as a voluntary withdrawal of the application. After voluntary withdrawal, an applicant will be required to submit an entirely new
	application to begin the process again.  (6) The board shall notify the applicant, in writing, of the results of the evaluation of a completed application.
	(7) All requests for reasonable accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) must be made on forms provided by the board and submitted in advance of the requested accommodation.
Nebraska	Statute: Nebraska Code §38-2518
	Occupational therapist; license; application; requirements.
	(1) An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist shall show to the satisfaction of the department that he or she:
	(a) Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the
	department and accredited by a nationally recognized medical association or nationally recognized occupational therapy association;
	(b) Has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience at an educational institution approved by the department and where the applicant's academic work was completed or which is part of a training program approved by such educational
	institution. A minimum of six months of supervised fieldwork experience shall be required for an occupational therapist; and
	(c) Has passed an examination as provided in section 38-2520.
	(2) Residency in this state shall not be a requirement of licensure. A corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or association shall not
	be licensed as an occupational therapist pursuant to the Occupational Therapy Practice Act.

### Regulation: Nebraska Administrative Code 117 NAC 114-003.01

Qualifications: To receive a credential to practice as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant, an individual must meet the following qualifications:

- 1. Age and Good Character: Be at least 19 years old and of good character;
- 2. Citizenship/Resident Information: For purposes of Neb. Rev. Stat. §§4-108 to 4-114, a citizen of the United States or qualified alien under the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act. For purposes of Neb. Rev. Stat. §38-129, a citizen of the United States, an alien lawfully admitted into the United States who is eligible for a credential under the Uniform Credentialing Act, or a nonimmigrant lawfully present in the United States who is eligible for a credential under the Uniform Credentialing Act;
- 3. Education: Have successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy for an occupational therapy assistant;
- 4. Field Experience: Have successfully completed an approved supervised fieldwork experience for an occupational therapist or for an occupational therapy assistant; and
- 5. Examination: Have passed the licensure examination with a scaled score of 450 or above for the applicable credential.

#### Nevada

# <u>Statute:</u> Nevada Revised Statutes 640A.120 Qualifications for license.

Except as otherwise provided in NRS 640A.165 and 640A.166, to be eligible for licensing by the Board as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, an applicant must:

- 1. Be a natural person of good moral character.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 640A.130, have satisfied the academic requirements of an educational program approved by the Board. The Board shall not approve an educational program designed to qualify a person to practice as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant unless the program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc., or its successor organization.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 640A.130, have successfully completed:
  - (a) If the application is for licensing as an occupational therapist, 24 weeks, or
  - (b) If the application is for licensing as an occupational therapy assistant, 16 weeks, of supervised fieldwork experience approved by the Board. The Board shall not approve any supervised experience unless the experience was sponsored by the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc., or its successor organization, or the educational institution at which the applicant satisfied the requirements of subsection 2.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 640A.160 and 640A.170, pass an examination approved by the Board.

# Regulation: Nevada Administrative Code NAC 640A.041 Eligibility to obtain active license.

In addition to the requirements set forth in NAC 640A.030, to be eligible to obtain an active license, a person must:

- 1. Have graduated from:
  - (a) An educational program which is accredited by an agency approved by the Board and which includes a fieldwork program; or
  - (b) An educational program in another country;
- 2. Have achieved a passing score on an examination provided by an agency approved by the Board; and
- 3. Have current certification as an occupational therapist registered or certified occupational therapy assistant.

### New Hampshire

# <u>Statute:</u> New Hampshire Revised Statutes Title 30 §326-C:5 Eligibility for Licensure.

I. An applicant shall possess the following qualifications to be licensed:

- (a) Be at least 17 years of age.
- (b) Be of good moral character.
- (c) Successfully complete an academic program in occupational therapy accredited by the American Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) or its successor organization or be certified by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc., or its successor organization.
- (d) Successfully complete a period, as specified in paragraph II, of supervised field work experience approved by the educational institution where the applicant met his or her academic requirements, or be certified by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc., or its successor organization.
- (e) Successfully complete the entry level certification examination for occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants approved by the board, such as the examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. or by another nationally recognized credentialing body.
- (f) If passing the required examination more than one year before submitting the application for licensure, meet the continuing competency requirements established by the board in rules adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A.
  - II. A minimum of 6 months of supervised fieldwork experience is required for licensure as an occupational therapist, and a minimum of 2 months of supervised fieldwork experience is required for licensure as an occupational therapy assistant.

    III. The board may, upon notice and opportunity for a hearing, deny an application for initial licensure or issue a conditional license. The board may, upon notice and opportunity for a hearing, deny an application for reinstatement of a license or reinstate the license with conditions. Conditions imposed may include a requirement for continuing education, practice under the supervision of a licensed occupational therapist, or any other condition set forth in the section addressing conditional licenses in RSA 328-F.

# Regulation: New Hampshire Administrative Rules Occ 300 §303.01 Eligibility Requirements.

- (a) Applicants for initial licensure as occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants shall:
  - (1) Be at least 17 years of age;
  - (2) Be of good moral and professional character, as evidenced by:
    - a. The answers to questions (f)(1)-(f)(6) and questions (i)(1)-(i)(5) on the application form described in Occ 302.02;
    - b. Any reports submitted pursuant to Occ 302.04(b) and (c);
    - c. Any verification information as described in Occ 302.04(d); and
    - d. Any criminal offender record report(s) submitted in accordance with Occ 302.04(k);
  - (3) Be or have been NBCOT certified or have met the educational, supervised field work and examination requirements set forth in
  - (b) below;
  - (4) Have complied with the continuing competence requirements set forth in Occ 303.02, if they are applicable; and
  - (5) If licensed in another state, be active in the profession as defined in Occ 301.02.
- (b) Applicants not previously NBCOT certified shall have:
  - (1) Successfully completed an ACOTE-accredited academic program in occupational therapy;
  - (2) If applying for licensure as occupational therapists, successfully completed 6 months of supervised field work approved by the institutions providing their academic programs;
  - (3) If applying for licensure as occupational therapy assistants, successfully completed 2 months of supervised field work approved by the institutions providing their academic programs; and
  - (4) Passed the entry level examination for occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants, as applicable, developed by NBCOT.

	(c) Applicants for initial licensure as occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants who are licensed in another state but are not
	active in the profession shall be issued conditional licenses as further set forth in Occ 304.
	(d) "Based on the board's determination pursuant to RSA 332-G:7 no military experience is applicable to the education of occupational
	therapists or occupational therapy assistants. Military experience shall not be considered when determining whether an applicant meets the
	educational requirements for licensure.
New Jersey	Statute: New Jersey Revised Statutes 45:9-37.61
	Requirements for licensure as occupational therapist
	11. To be eligible for licensure as an occupational therapist, an applicant shall fulfill the following requirements:
	a. Be at least 18 years of age;
	b. Be of good moral character;
	c. Present evidence to the director of having successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in
	occupational therapy approved by the director, in consultation with the council, and accredited by the American Occupational
	Therapy Association, the World Federation of Occupational Therapy or other nationally recognized programmatic accrediting agency;
	d. Submit to the director evidence of having successfully completed at least 24 weeks of supervised fieldwork experience approved
	by the educational institution at which the applicant completed the occupational therapy educational program; and
	e. Successfully complete an examination administered or approved by the director, in consultation with the council, to determine the
	applicant's competence to practice occupational therapy.
	Regulation: New Jersey Administrative Code 13:44K-2.1
	ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS; OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST; OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT
	a) To be eligible for licensure as an occupational therapist, an applicant shall:
	1) Be at least 18 years of age;
	2) Be of good moral character;
	3) Except as provided in (d) below, have successfully completed:
	i) A master's degree or its equivalent in occupational therapy from an accredited college or university approved by the
	Commission on Higher Education or its successor; or
	ii) A master's degree or its equivalent in any field other than occupational therapy from an accredited college or university
	approved by the Commission on Higher Education or its successor and have fulfilled the academic requirements of an
	educational program in occupational therapy accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education
	(ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association, the World Federation of Occupational Therapy (WFOT) or
	other nationally recognized programmatic accrediting agency;
	4) Have successfully completed at least 24 weeks of supervised fieldwork experience approved by the educational institution at which
	the applicant completed the occupational therapy education program in accordance with (a)3i and ii above, or, if applicable, (d)
	below; and
	5) Have successfully passed the certification examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational
Nam Marias	Therapy (NBCOT), or its predecessors and/or its successors.
New Mexico	Statute: New Mexico Revised Statutes §61-12A-11
	Requirements for licensure.
	A. An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application provided by
	the board, accompanied by the required fees and documentation, and demonstrating to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant has:
	(1) successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy that is either:
	(a) accredited by the American occupational therapy association's accreditation council for occupational therapy education;
	or

- (b) in the case of a foreign educational program, accepted by the national board for certification in occupational therapy when the therapist applies to take that board's examination;
- (2) successfully completed a period of supervised field work experience at a recognized educational institution or a training program approved by the educational institution where the occupational therapist or the occupational therapy assistant has met the academic requirements of Paragraph (1) of this subsection; provided that:
  - (a) an occupational therapist shall complete a minimum of twenty-four weeks of supervised fieldwork experience or satisfy any generally recognized past standards that identified minimum fieldwork requirements at the time of graduation; and
  - (b) an occupational therapy assistant shall complete a minimum of sixteen weeks of supervised fieldwork experience or satisfy any generally recognized past standards that identified minimum fieldwork requirements at the time of graduation;
- (3) has passed an examination prescribed by the national board for certification in occupational therapy or the board; and
- (4) has no record of unprofessional conduct or incompetence.
- B. In the case of an occupational therapy assistant or a person practicing on a provisional permit, the applicant shall file with the board a signed, current statement of supervision by the occupational therapist who will be the responsible supervisor.
- C. The board shall verify, as necessary, information contained on the completed application and any supporting documentation required to obtain a license.

# Regulation: New Mexico Administrative Code NMAC 16.15.2.8 EXAMINATION

- A. The examination prescribed by the board is the national board for certification in occupational therapy examination for an occupational therapist registered or certified occupational therapy assistant. All applicants for licensure, pursuant to the Occupational Therapy Act, must obtain a passing grade on the examination, as determined by the national board for certification in occupational therapy (NBCOT), in order to be eligible for licensure.
- B. The board requires each applicant to pass an examination on the state laws, rules and regulations that pertain to the practice of occupational therapy in New Mexico. All applicants for licensure must take the New Mexico jurisprudence exam and have a passing score of 80%, based on a total available score of 100%. Any applicant who fails to pass the jurisprudence examination may retake the exam upon receipt of the required fees.

# <u>Regulation:</u> New Mexico Administrative Code NMAC 16.15.2.9 INITIAL APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE

- A. An application packet may be obtained from the state licensure board office.
- B. The application must be submitted on completed forms as supplied by the board.
- C. A photograph of the applicant taken within six (6) months prior to filing application must be submitted with the application. (Passport size recommended; scanned or computer-generated photographs must be printed on photo quality paper).
- D. Application fees in the form of a check or money order must be submitted in full with the application. Personal checks may delay processing of your application for up to ten (10) days.
- E. Verification of registration or certification may be provided in any of the following ways.
  - (1) Written verification must be received by the board directly from the national board for certification in occupational therapy (NBCOT) certifying that the applicant's certification is active and in good standing.
  - (2) Written verification of initial certification must be received by the board directly from the national board for certification in occupational therapy (NBCOT) and verification of licensure from each state in which the applicant has been licensed. Such proof of licensure must be received by the board directly from the state boards where currently and previously licensed. For applicants who practiced in states that do not require licensure, written verification of employment shall be received by the board office directly from the applicant's previous employers on a verification of employment form to be provided by the board.

- F. An occupational therapy assistant (OTA), shall file with the board a signed, current statement of supervision by the occupational therapist (OT) who will be responsible for the supervision of the occupational therapy assistant (OTA). Both the supervisor and supervisee carry responsibility for notifying the board within ten (10) work days when there is a change of supervisor.
- G. On-line applications will require a notarized signature card be filed with the board office.
- H. All licenses are the property of the board and shall forthwith be returned to the board, if requested.
- I. No license is valid without the official board seal.
- J. Questions of felony convictions or misdemeanors involving moral turpitude have to be satisfactorily resolved. The board may require proof that the person has been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust. Proof of sufficient rehabilitation may include, but not be limited to; certified proof of completion of probation or parole supervision, payment of fees, community service or any other court ordered sanction.

### **New York**

## Statute: New York Education Law Title 8, Article 156, §7904.

### Requirements for a professional license.

To qualify for a license as an occupational therapist, an applicant shall fulfill the following requirements:

- 1. File an application with the department.
- 2. Have satisfactorily completed an approved occupational therapy curriculum in a baccalaureate or masters program, or a certificate program satisfactory to the department which is substantially equivalent to a baccalaureate degree program, in accordance with the commissioner's regulations.
- 3. Have a minimum of six months of supervised occupational therapy experience which supervision and experience shall be satisfactory to the board of occupational therapy and in accordance with the commissioner's regulations.
- 4. Pass an examination satisfactory to the board of occupational therapy and in accordance with the commissioner's regulations.
- 5. Be at least twenty-one years of age.
- 6. Meet no requirements as to United States citizenship.
- 7. Be of good moral character as determined by the department.
- 8. Pay a fee of one hundred forty dollars to the department for admission to a department conducted examination and for an initial license, a fee of seventy dollars for each re-examination, a fee of one hundred fifteen dollars for an initial license for persons not requiring admission to a department conducted examination, and a fee of one hundred fifty-five dollars for each triennial registration period.

## Regulation: 18 New York Comp Codes Rules and Regs, Part 76

## §76.1 Professional study of occupational therapy.

To meet the professional education requirement for licensure in this State, the applicant shall present evidence of:

- a. a bachelor's or master's degree in occupational therapy from a program registered by the department or accredited by a national accreditation agency which is satisfactory to the department; or
- b. a certificate in occupational therapy from a program registered by the department or accredited by a national accreditation agency which is satisfactory to the department following the completion of a bachelor's degree from an institution acceptable to the department; or
- c. completion of a program satisfactory to the department of not less than four years of postsecondary study which includes the professional study of occupational therapy and which culminates in the degree or diploma accepted by the civil authorities of the country in which the studies were completed as preparation in occupational therapy in that country.

## §76.2 Supervised experience.

The six months of full-time supervised experience in occupational therapy may be completed as part of the basic program described in section 76.1 of this Part. Full-time experience not completed as part of an approved program shall be under the supervision of a licensed occupational therapist.

For candidates who have accumulated other than full-time supervised experience, part-time experience may be counted if it is obtained at the rate of at least two full days per week (minimum of 15 hours) and for continuous periods of not less than two months for an accumulated total of six months.

### §76.3 Licensing examinations.

The department may accept grades satisfactory to the State Board for Occupational Therapy on the certificate examination of the American Occupational Therapy Association, which may be used in whole or in part.

### **North Carolina**

## **Statute: North Carolina General Statutes 90-270.70**

### REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE

- (a) Any individual who desires to be licensed as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application with the Board on forms provided by the Board, showing to the satisfaction of the Board that the applicant:
  - (1) Is of good moral character; and
  - (2) Has passed an examination approved by the Board as provided in this Article; and

Applicants for licensure as an occupational therapist must also have successfully completed an accredited occupational therapy educational curriculum and the required supervised fieldwork as determined by the Board. Applicants for licensure as an occupational therapy assistant must also have successfully completed an accredited occupational therapy assistant educational curriculum and the required supervised fieldwork as determined by the Board.

# Regulation: North Carolina Administrative Code 21 NCAC §38.0201 APPLICATION PROCESS

- (a) Each applicant, including those trained outside the United States or its territories, for an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant license shall complete an application form provided by the Board. This form shall be submitted to the Board and shall be accompanied by:
  - (1) one head and shoulders photograph (passport type), taken within the past six months, of the applicant of acceptable quality for identification, two inches by two inches in size;
  - (2) the proper fees, as required by 21 NCAC 38 .0204;
  - (3) evidence from the National Board for Certification of Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) of successful completion of the certification examination administered 18 by it. Evidence of successful completion of the NBCOT certification examination shall be accepted as proof of graduation from an accredited curriculum and successful completion of field work requirements;
  - (4) two signed statements on forms provided by the Board attesting to the applicant's good moral character; and
  - (5) successful completion of a jurisprudence exam administered by the Board.
- (b) An applicant previously licensed in any state re-entering the field of occupational therapy after not practicing occupational therapy for more than 24 months shall complete 90 days of general, supervised, re-entry fieldwork and shall provide to the Board;
  - (1) a written plan for 90 days of general, supervised, re-entry fieldwork within 10 days of securing employment; and
  - (2) monthly documentation confirming that the general, supervised, re-entry fieldwork is being provided.

### **North Dakota**

## Statute: North Dakota Century Code §43-40-08.

### Requirements for licensure.

An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application provided by the board, demonstrating to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant:

- 1. Is competent.
- 2. Will adhere to the code of ethics adopted by the board.
- 3. Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board.

- a. The occupational therapy educational program must be accredited by a national occupational therapy accrediting agency approved by the board.
- b. The occupational therapy assistant educational program must be accredited by a national occupational therapy accrediting agency approved by the board.
- 4. Has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience required by the accredited educational institution where the applicant met the academic requirements required by a national occupational therapy accrediting agency approved by the board.

  5. Has passed an examination approved by the board.

### Regulation: North Dakota Administrative Code 55.5-02-01-01.1.

Requirements for licensure.

- 1. To be licensed as an occupational therapist an applicant must meet all of the following requirements:
  - a. The applicant has a degree from an occupational therapy program accredited by the accreditation council for occupational therapy education or a degree from a foreign occupational therapy program which the national board for certification in occupational therapy deems comparable.
  - b. The applicant has passed the occupational therapist registered certification examination administered by the national board for certification in occupational therapy.
  - c. Grounds for denial of the application under North Dakota Century Code section 43-40-16 do not exist.
  - d. The applicant has completed a self-assessment of the applicant's knowledge of North Dakota laws and rules.

## Ohio Statute: Ohio Revised Code 4755.07

### License qualifications.

No person shall qualify for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant unless the person has shown to the satisfaction of the occupational therapy section of the Ohio occupational therapy, physical therapy, and athletic trainers board that the person:

- (A) Is of good moral character;
- (B) Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program recognized by the section, including a concentration of instruction in basic human sciences, the human development process, occupational tasks and activities, the health-illness-health continuum, and occupational therapy theory and practice:
- (C) Has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience at a recognized educational institution of a training program approved by the educational institution where the person met the academic requirements. For an occupational therapist, a minimum of six months of supervised fieldwork experience is required. For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two months of supervised fieldwork experience is required.
- (D) Has successfully passed a written examination testing the person's knowledge of the basic and clinical sciences relating to occupational therapy, and occupational therapy theory and practice, including the applicant's professional skills and judgment in the utilization of occupational therapy techniques and methods, and such other subjects as the section may consider useful to determine the applicant's fitness to practice. The section may require separate examinations of applicants for licensure as occupational therapy assistants and applicants for licensure as occupational therapists.

Applicants for licensure shall be examined at a time and place and under such supervision as the section determines.

## Regulation: Ohio Administrative Code 4755-3-01

## Applications for initial licensure.

- (C) An applicant for initial licensure by examination shall:
  - (1) Have completed an occupational therapy program accredited by the accreditation council for occupational therapy education (ACOTE) of the American occupational therapy association (AOTA) or submit evidence satisfactory to the section that the applicant

completed an educational program substantially equivalent to the requirements established in rule 4755-3-03 of the administrative code;

- (2) Have passed the certification examination administered by the national board for certification in occupational therapy, inc. (NBCOT); and
- (3) Not be licensed or ever been licensed in any state or territory of the United States as an:
  - (a) Occupational therapist to apply for initial licensure by examination as an occupational therapist; or
  - (b) Occupational therapy assistant to apply for initial licensure by examination as an occupational therapy assistant.

### Oklahoma

### Statute: Oklahoma Statutes, Title 59, Section 888.6

An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file written application on forms provided by the Board, as recommended by the Committee, showing to the satisfaction of the Board that the applicant meets the following requirements:

- 1. Residence: Applicants need not be a resident of this state:
- 2. Character: Applicants shall meet the standards of the Code of Ethics and licensure rules adopted by the Board to safeguard the public;
- 3. Education: Applicants shall present evidence satisfactory to the Board of having successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the Board, with concentration in biological or physical science, psychology and sociology, and with education in selected manual skills. For an occupational therapist the educational program shall be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). For an occupational therapy assistant, such a program shall be approved by ACOTE;
- 4. Experience: Applicants shall submit to the Board evidence of having successfully completed a period of supervised field work experience at a recognized educational institution or a training program approved by the educational institution where he or she met the academic requirements. For an occupational therapist, a minimum of six (6) months of supervised field work experience is required. For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two (2) months of supervised field work experience is required; 5. Examination: Applicants shall submit to the Board evidence of having successfully completed an examination as provided for in

# Regulation: Oklahoma Administrative Code 435:30-1-3

Licensure by examination

Section 888.7 of this title.

Requirements for licensure by examination for Occupational Therapists or Occupational Therapy Assistants are as follows:

- (1) All applicants for licensure by examination must meet the statutory requirements set forth in the Oklahoma Occupational Therapy Practice Act, hereinafter referred to as Act.
- (2) The State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision, hereinafter referred to as Board, recognizes and approves the Examination of the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) as an examination acceptable for licensure of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant.
- (3) In the event the Board administers the examination set forth in (2) of this section or any other examination approved by them, the application for licensure by examination must be on file at the office of the Board at least 30 days prior to the examination. No person shall be admitted to the examination until satisfactory evidence is submitted to the Board of his/her qualifications to be admitted to such examination.
- (4) Submission of proof of scores of a passing grade, as determined by the NBCOT, shall constitute satisfactory evidence of applicant's qualifications for licensure. Applicants must have the scores submitted to this Board through a reporting service approved by this Board.

(5) An applicant who meets academic, clinical and educational requirements for licensure as an Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant may practice under the direct, on-sight supervision of a licensed Occupational Therapist in the status of a graduate Occupational Therapy student or a graduate Occupational Therapy Assistant. (A) Said status will be communicated to the applicant by informal letter from the Board staff. Such status is not tantamount to licensure and does not constitute licensure in any form. A person in this temporary status must identify himself/herself as such and may not hold himself or herself out as a licensed Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant. (B) This temporary status may be valid for up to one year. After one year, the graduate Occupational Therapist student or graduate Occupational Therapy Assistant student may not practice in Oklahoma until a passing score on the exam is received. (6) Upon failure of examination by any applicant for Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant licensure, said applicant may still function as a graduate Occupational Therapist student or a graduate Occupational Therapy Assistant student. The status of said applicant will be reviewed at each meeting of the Occupational Therapy Advisory Committee. (7) The Committee may in its discretion require any applicant to appear in person before the Committee in connection with consideration of said initial licensure. Oregon Oregon: Oregon Revised Statutes 675.240 Qualifications for licensing as occupational therapist; rules. Except as provided in ORS 675.270, an applicant for licensure under ORS 675.210 to 675.340 as an occupational therapist must: (1) Have successfully completed an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the Occupational Therapy Licensing Board, with concentration in biological or physical science, psychology and sociology, and with education in selected manual skills. (2) Pass to the satisfaction of the board an examination adopted by the board to determine the fitness of the applicant for practice as an occupational therapist or be entitled to be licensed as provided in ORS 675.270. (3) Have successfully completed at least six months of supervised field work that complies with rules adopted by the board. (4) Comply with continuing education requirements as adopted by the board by rule. (5) If an applicant has been unlicensed for more than three years, complete a board-approved reentry program or retake the board approved national examination to determine fitness for practice as an occupational therapist. Regulations: Oregon Administrative Rules 339-010-0015 License Examinations Approved by the Board (1) Pursuant to ORS 675.240(1)(b) and (2), the Board adopts the current certification examination and passing score of the National Board For Certification in Occupational Therapy as the examination to determine the fitness of applicants for practice as an occupational therapist. (2) Pursuant to ORS 675.250(3), the Board approves the current certification examination and passing score of the National Board For Certification in Occupational Therapy as the examination to determine the fitness of applicants for practice as an occupational therapy assistant. Pennsylvania Statute: Pennsylvania Unconsolidated Statutes, 1982, P.L. 502, No. 140 Section 8. Requirements for licensure. An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall submit a written application on forms provided by the board evidencing and showing to the satisfaction of the board that he or she: (1) Is of good moral character. (2) Has completed the academic requirements of an approved educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board with the advice and consultation of recognized national accrediting agencies and professional organizations including the American Occupational Therapy Association as follows: (i) For an occupational therapist, a four-year program, or its equivalent as established by the board.

- (ii) For an occupational therapy assistant, a two-year program, or its equivalent as established by the board.
  (3) Has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience at a recognized educational institute or a training program approved by the educational institution where the academic requirements met were as follows:

  (i) For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two months of supervised fieldwork.
  - (4) Has passed an examination approved by the board.

# Regulation: Pennsylvania Code §42.13 Application for licensure.

To apply for licensure, an applicant shall pay the required fee and submit evidence satisfactory to the Board on forms provided by the Board that the applicant meets the following criteria:

- (1) Is of good moral character.
- (2) Has met the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy approved by the Board, or an equivalent program as defined in § 42.1 (relating to definitions).
- (3) Has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience at a recognized educational institute or a training program approved by the educational institution where the academic requirements were met as follows:
  - (i) For an occupational therapist, a minimum of 6 months of supervised fieldwork.
  - (ii) For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of 2 months of supervised fieldwork.
- (4) Has passed the licensure examination or has qualified for a waiver of the licensure examination under § 42.12 (relating to waiver of licensure examination).

### **Puerto Rico**

## Statute: Puerto Rico Laws Annotated § 20 L.P.R.A. sec. 1035

**License application** (English Translation)

Every occupational therapist or assistant in occupational therapy interested in obtaining a license as such to practice his profession in Puerto Rico shall fill in the form provided for such purposes by the Board.

Any applicant for an occupational therapist or assistant in occupational therapy license shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) Be of legal age if applying for an occupational therapist license, or be eighteen (18) years of age or older in the case of an assistant in occupational therapy.
- (2) Have resided in Puerto Rico for the six (6) months prior to the examination application, except for sporadic trips out of the country.
- (3) All occupational therapists shall present before the Board a diploma or graduation certificate, as well as an official academic record transcription, attesting that the applicant has passed or satisfactorily completed a program of studies in an educational institution recognized by the Council on Higher Education of Puerto Rico, or in an educational institution of the United States or abroad that is recognized or accredited by the corresponding authority and that meets, to the satisfaction of the Council on Higher Education, the minimum requirements of an occupational therapy study program.
- (4) All assistants in occupational therapy shall present before the Board a diploma or graduation certificate, as well as an official academic record transcription, attesting that the applicant has passed or satisfactorily completed an assistant in occupational therapy study program in an educational institution recognized by the Council on Higher Education of Puerto Rico, or in an educational institution of the United States or abroad recognized or accredited by the corresponding authority and that meets, to the satisfaction of the Council on Higher Education, the minimum requirements of an assistant in occupational therapy study program.

### Rhode Island

# <u>Statute:</u> Rhode Island General Laws §§ 5-40.1-8 Requirements for licensure.

- (a) Any applicant seeking licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant in this state must:
  - (1) be at least eighteen (18) years of age;

- (2) be of good moral character;
- (3) have successfully completed the academic requirements of an education program in occupational therapy accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education or such other accrediting agency as may be approved by the Board;
- (4) have successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience arranged by the recognized educational institution where he or she met the academic requirements;
  - i. for an occupational therapist, a minimum of twenty-four (24) weeks of supervised fieldwork experience is required;
  - ii. for an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of twelve (12) weeks is required;
- (5) have successfully passed the National Certification Examination for Occupational Therapists, Registered or National Certification Examination for Occupational Therapy Assistants of the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) or other occupational therapy certification examination as approved by the Board.

# <u>Regulation:</u> Rhode Island Rules and Regulations R5-40.1-OCC Section 3.0 Qualifications for Licensure

- 3.1 Any applicant seeking licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant in this state must:
  - a) be at least eighteen (18) years of age;
  - b) be of good moral character;
  - c) have successfully completed the academic requirements of an education program in occupational therapy accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education or such other accrediting agency as may be approved by the Board:
  - d) have successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience arranged by the recognized educational institution where he or she met the academic requirements;
    - i. for an occupational therapist, a minimum of twenty-four (24) weeks of supervised fieldwork experience is required;
    - ii. for an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of twelve (12) weeks is required;
  - e) have successfully passed the National Certification Examination for Occupational Therapists, Registered or National Certification Examination for Occupational Therapy Assistants of the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) or other occupational therapy certification examination as approved by the Board.

#### South Carolina

### **Statute: South Carolina Code 40-36-230**

## Applications for licensure as occupational therapist or assistant; license requirements.

- (A) An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist shall file a written application on forms provided by the board showing to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant:
  - (1) has graduated from an occupational therapy educational program approved by ACOTE or other AOTA endorsed accrediting body for occupational therapy or other educational program which the board considers to be substantially equivalent;
  - (2) has completed successfully a minimum of six months of supervised field work experience at an educational institution approved by the educational institution where the applicant met the academic requirements;
  - (3) has passed a board-approved certification exam for the occupational therapist; and
  - (4) is in good standing with NBCOT or other board-approved certification program.

## **Regulation:** South Carolina Regulations 94–04

## General Licensing Provisions for Occupational Therapists.

An applicant for initial licensure as an occupational therapist must:

- (1) be a graduate of an occupational therapy educational program approved by the Board; and
- (2) submit an application on a form approved by the Board, along with the required fee; and

	(3) pass an examination approved by the Board; and
	(4) submit proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant is in good standing with the National Board for Certification in
	Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) or other Board-approved certification program.
South Dakota	Statute: South Dakota Codified Laws §36-31-6
	Application for licensureRequirements.
	Any applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application provided by the board, showing to the satisfaction of the board that he meets the following requirements:
	(1) Residence: Applicant need not be a resident of this state;
	(2) Character: Applicant shall be of good moral character;
	(3) Education: Applicant shall present evidence satisfactory to the board of having successfully completed the academic
	requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board:
	(a) The occupational therapy educational program shall be accredited by the committee on allied health education and
	accreditation/American Medical Association in collaboration with the American Occupational Therapy Association;
	(b) The occupational therapy assistant educational program shall be approved by the American Occupational Therapy
	Association.
	(4) Experience: Applicant shall submit to the board evidence of having successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork
	experience arranged by the recognized educational institution where he met the academic requirements or by the nationally
	recognized professional association:
	(a) For an occupational therapist, a minimum of six months of supervised fieldwork experience is required;
	(b) For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two months of supervised fieldwork experience is required.
	(5) Examination: An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall pass an
	examination approved by the board upon recommendation by the occupational therapy committee.
	Regulation: South Dakota Administrative Rules 20:64:02:01
	Examination
	The examination approved by the board is the certification examination of the National Board for Certification of Occupational Therapy.
Tennessee	Statute: Tennessee Code 63-13-202
Termessee	Applicants for licensure Qualifications Examinations.
	An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file an application showing, to the
	satisfaction of the board of occupational therapy, that the applicant:
	(1) Is of good moral character;
	(2) Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program accredited by ACOTE or its predecessor
	organization. The accredited program shall be a program for occupational therapists or a program for occupational therapy
	assistants, depending upon the category of licensure for which the applicant is applying;
	(3) Has successfully completed the period of supervised fieldwork experience required by ACOTE; and
	(4) Has made an acceptable score on a written or computerized examination designed to test the applicant's knowledge of the basic
	and clinical services related to occupational therapy, occupational therapy techniques and methods and other subjects that may help
	to determine an applicant's fitness to practice. The board of occupational therapy shall approve an examination for occupational
	therapists and an examination for occupational therapy assistants and shall establish standards for acceptable performance on each
	examination. The board is authorized to use the entry level national examinations prepared and administered by NBCOT as the examinations used to test applicants for licensure as occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants and is authorized to
	use the standards of NBCOT in determining an acceptable score on each examination.
	use the standards of NBOOT in determining an acceptable score on each examination.

### Regulation: Tennessee Rules §1150-02-.04 QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE.

- (1) To qualify for licensure as an occupational therapist, an applicant must:
  - (a) Be of good moral character;
  - (b) Have successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program for occupational therapists accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) or its predecessor organization;
  - (c) Have successfully completed the supervised fieldwork experience required by ACOTE; and
  - (d) Pass the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy Examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy; or be eligible for licensure as provided in T.C.A. § 63-13-213.

#### Statute: Texas Occupations Code §454.203 **Texas**

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST OR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT LICENSE.

- (a) An applicant for an occupational therapist license or an occupational therapy assistant license must present evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant has:
  - (1) successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board, as provided by §454.204;
  - (2) successfully completed a period of supervised field work experience arranged by the recognized educational institution at which the applicant met the academic requirements; and
  - (3) passed an examination as provided by §454.207.
- (b) To satisfy the supervised field work experience required by Subsection (a)(2):
  - (1) an occupational therapist must have completed a period of at least six months; and
  - (2) an occupational therapy assistant must have completed a period of at least two months.

### Statute: Texas Occupations Code §454.204 **EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS.**

To satisfy §454.203(a)(1):

- (1) an applicant applying for an occupational therapist license must have, from a program approved by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, its predecessor organization, or another national credentialing agency approved by the board:
  - (A) a baccalaureate degree in occupational therapy, if the applicant graduated before January 1, 2007;
  - (B) a certificate evidencing successful completion of required undergraduate occupational therapy course work awarded to persons with a baccalaureate degree that is not in occupational therapy, if the applicant graduated before January 1, 2007; or
  - (C) a postbaccalaureate degree in occupational therapy; and
- (2) an applicant applying for an occupational therapy assistant license must have: (A) an associate degree in occupational therapy; or

  - (B) an occupational therapy assistant certificate.

## Regulation: Texas Administrative Code §364.1

## Requirements for Licensure.

- (a) All applicants for initial Texas licensure shall:
  - (1) submit a complete Board application form or online Board application with a recent passport-type color photograph of the
  - (2) submit a non-refundable application fee as set by the Executive Council;

	(3) submit a successfully completed Board jurisprudence examination on the Act and Rules;
	(4) have completed an accredited OT/OTA program;
	(5) have completed supervised fieldwork experience, a minimum of 6 months for OT and 2 months for OTA; and
	(6) either meet the requirements in §364.2 of this title (relating to Initial License by Examination) and apply by examination or meet
	the requirements in §364.4 of this title (relating to Licensure by Endorsement) and apply by endorsement.
	(b) The applicant must also meet the requirements in §364.2 of this title and apply by examination if the applicant:
	(1) has not passed the NBCOT certification examination; or
	(2) has passed the NBCOT certification examination and
	(A) is not currently licensed as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant in another state or territory of the
	U.S.; or
	(B) if not currently licensed in another state or territory of the U.S., is applying from the U.S. military or a non-licensing state
	or territory of the U.S and cannot substantiate occupational therapy employment for at least two years immediately preceding
11, 1	application for a Texas license.
Utah	Statute: Utah Administrative Code, Title 58, Chapter 42a, Part 3, §58-42a-302
	Qualifications for licensure.
	(1) An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist shall:
	(a) submit an application in a form as prescribed by the division;
	(b) pay a fee as determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
	(c) be of good moral character as it relates to the functions and responsibilities of the practice of occupational therapy;
	(d) graduate with a bachelor's or graduate degree for the practice of occupational therapy from an education program accredited by
	the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, a predecessor
	organization, or an equivalent organization as determined by division rule;
	(e) if applying for licensure on or after July 1, 2015, complete a minimum of 24 weeks of supervised fieldwork experience; and
	(f) pass an examination approved by the division in consultation with the board and administered by the National Board for
	Certification in Occupational Therapy, or by another nationally recognized credentialing body as approved by division rule, to
	demonstrate knowledge of the practice, skills, theory, and professional ethics related to occupational therapy.
	Regulation: Utah Administrative Code R156-42a-302
	Qualifications for Licensure – Examination Requirements
	The examination requirements for licensure, in accordance with Section 58-42a-302, are established as follows:
	(1) An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist shall pass the Occupational Therapist Registered (OTR) certification
	examination from the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT), or a predecessor organization.
	(2) An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapy assistant shall pass the Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA)
	certification examination from the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT), or a predecessor organization.
Vermont	Statute: Vermont Statutes Title 26, Chap 71, § 3355
Volinioni	Eligibility
	(a) To be eligible for licensure as an occupational therapist, an applicant:
	(1) shall have successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program for occupational therapists accredited by
	the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) or its
	predecessor or successor organizations;
	(2) shall have successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience required by the recognized educational institution
	where the applicant met the requirements set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection; and
	(3) shall pass an examination as provided in section 3357 of this title.
	עטן אומוו פמאס מוז פאמוזוווזמנוטוז מא פוטיוטפט ווז אפטנוטוז אסטר טו נוווא נונופ.

# Regulation: Vermont Administrative Rules for OT 2.3 LICENSURE AS AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST (BY EXAMINATION)

- (1) Education: The applicant must have a bachelor's or higher degree from an educational program for occupational therapists that is accredited by ACOTE, including the required supervised fieldwork.
- (2) Examination: The applicant must submit proof of having passed the exam approved by the Director. Information on applying for and scheduling the exam is available from the Office or the national examining body. Candidates who fail the exam must retake the exam and are ineligible to practice until its successful completion.
- (3) Application procedure: The instructions for "examination" applicants found on the application form are followed.

### Virginia

# Regulation: Virginia Administrative Code §18VAC85-80-35

Application requirements.

An applicant for licensure shall submit the following on forms provided by the board:

- 1. A completed application and a fee as prescribed in 18VAC85-80-26.
- 2. Verification of professional education in occupational therapy as required in 18VAC85-80-40.
- 3. Verification of practice as required in 18VAC85-80-60 and as specified on the application form.
- 4. Documentation of passage of the national examination as required in 18VAC85-80-50.
- 5. If licensed or certified in any other jurisdiction, verification that there has been no disciplinary action taken or pending in that jurisdiction.

# Regulation: Virginia Administrative Code §18VAC85-80-40 Educational requirements.

- A. An applicant who has received his professional education in the United States, its possessions or territories, shall successfully complete all academic and fieldwork requirements of an accredited educational program as verified by the ACOTE.
- B. An applicant who has received his professional education outside the United States, its possessions or territories, shall successfully complete all academic and clinical fieldwork requirements of a program approved by a member association of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists as verified by the candidate's occupational therapy program director and as required by the NBCOT and submit proof of proficiency in the English language by passing the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score acceptable to the board. TOEFL may be waived upon evidence of English proficiency.
- C. An applicant who does not meet the educational requirements as prescribed in subsection A or B of this section but who has received certification by the NBCOT as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant shall be eligible for licensure in Virginia and shall provide the board verification of his education, training and work experience acceptable to the board.

# Regulation: Virginia Administrative Code §18VAC85-80-50 Examination requirements.

- A. An applicant for licensure to practice as an occupational therapist shall submit evidence to the board that he has passed the certification examination for an occupational therapist and any other examination required for initial certification from the NBCOT.
- B. An applicant for licensure to practice as an occupational therapy assistant shall submit evidence to the board that he has passed the certification examination for an occupational therapy assistant and any other examination required for initial certification from the NBCOT.

## Washington

## Statute: Washington Revised Code §18.59.050

## Licenses—Application—Requirements—Waiver.

(1) An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall file a written application on forms provided by the department showing to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant meets the requirements specified in this subsection.

- (a) The applicant shall be of good moral character.
- (b) The applicant shall present evidence satisfactory to the board of having successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the board, with concentration in biological or physical science, psychology, sociology, and with education in selected manual skills.
  - (i) For an occupational therapist, such a program shall be nationally accredited and approved by rules of the board.
  - (ii) For an occupational therapy assistant, such a program shall be nationally accredited and approved by rules of the board.
- (c) The applicant shall submit to the board evidence of having successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience at a recognized educational institution or a training program approved by the educational institution at which the applicant met the academic requirements.
  - (i) For an occupational therapist, a minimum of six months of supervised fieldwork experience is required.
  - (ii) For an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two months of supervised fieldwork experience is required.
- (d) An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall pass an examination as provided in RCW 18.59.060.
- (2) The board may waive the educational requirements specified under subsection (1)(b)(ii) of this section for an occupational therapy assistant who has met the experience and any other requirements established by the board. Upon successful completion of the examination required of the occupational therapist, the individual shall be granted a license.

# Regulation: Washington Administrative Code WAC 246-847-040 Recognized educational programs—Occupational therapists.

The board recognizes and approves courses of instruction conducted by schools that have obtained accreditation of the program in occupational therapy from the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education as recognized in the current Listing of Educational Programs in Occupational Therapy published by the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc.

# <u>Regulation:</u> Washington Administrative Code WAC 246-847-080 Examinations.

- (1) The examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy or its successor/predecessor organization shall be the official examination for licensure as an occupational therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant.
- (2) To be eligible for a license, applicants must attain a passing score on the examination determined by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy or its successor/predecessor organization.

### West Virginia

# **Statute:** West Virginia Code §30-28-10 Qualifications of applicants for license.

To be eligible for a license to engage in the practice of occupational therapy, the applicant must:

- (1) Be of good moral character;
- (2) Have successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program for Occupational Therapy Assistants that is accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) or its predecessor organizations;
- (3) Have successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience required by the recognized educational institution where he or she met the academic requirements;
- (4) Have passed an examination approved by the board;
- (5) Have filed an application on forms provided by the board; and
- (6) Have paid the applicable fee.

## Regulation: West Virginia CSR §13-1-9 **Issuance of Licenses, Limited Permits, and Temporary Licenses.** 9.1. The Board shall issue a license to an applicant in a timely manner upon receipt of a properly completed application and payment of the appropriate fee if the applicant: 9.1.a. Has successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the Board as described in W. Va. Code §30-28-10: 9.1.b. Has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience required by the recognized educational institution where he or she met the academic requirements; and 9.1.c. Has passed an examination approved by the Board as provided in section 8 of this rule. Wisconsin Statute: Wisconsin Statutes §448.963 Licensure requirements; limited permits (1) An applicant for a license granted under this subchapter shall do each of the following: (a) Submit an application for the license to the department on a form provided by the department. (b) Pay the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1). (2) The affiliated credentialing board shall grant a license as an occupational therapist to a person who does all of the following: (a) Satisfies the requirements under sub. (1). (b) Submits evidence satisfactory to the affiliated credentialing board that he or she has done any of the following: 1. Successfully completed the academic requirements and supervised internship of an educational program in occupational therapy recognized by the affiliated credentialing board and accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education of the American Occupational Therapy Association. 2. Received initial certification as an occupational therapist by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy. 3. Been initially certified as an occupational therapist by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, if the affiliated credentialing board determines that the requirements for the certification are equivalent to the requirements under subds. 1. and 2. (c) Passes an examination under s. 448.964. Regulation: Wisconsin Administrative Code OT 2.02 Applications and credentials. (1) Every applicant for initial licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall submit all of the following: (a) A completed application form. (b) Evidence that the applicant is certified as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant by the national board for certification in occupational therapy; and that the applicant has completed an occupational therapist educational program, or an occupational therapy assistant educational program. (c) Written verification from the national board for certification in occupational therapy that the applicant has passed the examination required by this chapter. (2) Requests for verification from the national board for certification in occupational therapy shall be made by the applicant. (3) An application for licensure is not complete until the board has received both a completed application form and verification of initial certification from the national board for certification in occupational therapy. Wyoming Statute: Wyoming Statutes § 33-40-106

(a) An applicant applying for a license as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall file a specified written

Requirements for licensure; continuing education.

application showing to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant:

- (i) Has a good reputation for honesty, trustworthiness and competence in all matters relevant to practicing the profession of occupational therapy;
- (ii) Has successfully completed the academic requirements in occupational therapy in an approved program that is accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) or a successor organization as established in rule and approved by the licensure board;
- (iii) Has successfully completed a period of supervised fieldwork experience required by the recognized educational institution where the applicant met the academic requirements described in paragraph (ii) of this subsection; and (iv) Has passed a national certification examination as provided in W.S. 33-40-107.

# <u>Regulation:</u> Wyoming Administrative Rules, Occupational Therapy Board, Chapter 2 LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

Section 1. Initial License.

- (a) The applicant shall submit:
  - (i) Completed application and fee;
  - (ii) Verification of passing scores of the national certification examination, administered by NBCOT or current national examination recognized by the board;
  - (iii) Verification of all licenses held, active or inactive, in any healthcare professions; and
  - (iv) Verification of lawful presence in the United States.