

TBOTE news

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners

January 2012

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Those who subscribe to Board e-news will receive notices of proposed rules, adopted rules, newsletters, etc.

Previous newsletters, Forms and Frequently Asked Questions are on the **website**.

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Email: info@ecptote.state.tx.us
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Board E-News: www.ecptote.state.tx.us

*Board meetings scheduled
May 18, 2012*

New Rules Adopted: Effective January 9, 2012

1. **§364.2 and §364.3**, Requirements for Licensure by Examination has been amended to require a copy of the NBCOT receipt that shows that a score report was ordered for Texas. Applicants should print out their receipt for the items they order from NBCOT and fax or mail a copy to the Board, which shows that a score report has been ordered for Texas.
2. **§369.3**, Use of Titles was further amended to make an exception to allow those working in academia or publishing to use their PhD before the OT.
3. **§370.3**, Restoration of a Texas License was further amended to clarify the difference between late renewal and restoration.
4. **§372.1, Provision of Services** had the most changes. The rule amendment makes it clear that the OT is responsible for writing the discharge. Signing the last OTA treatment note is not a discharge. A new part of the rule was added entitled **Documentation**, which outlines what is required.
5. **§373.3**, Supervision of a Licensed Occupational Therapy Assistant, was amended to allow the Board to audit the OTA Supervision Log.

[Read the Adopted Rules Here](#)

Happy New Year 2012

Online Applicant Status Check

A new feature has been added to our website since the last newsletter. Once new applicants apply for a license and we receive their email address, we send them an email informing them of their applicant password. With the password the applicant can view their required items online and see the date each has been received, how their application is progressing. The status check also records the date the license is issued, mailed to what address. Applicants should find the system easy and fast to use.

Changes to the Online CE Submission Form **Good News!**

A new website is under construction and should go live in a month or so. At that time, licensees will see a new CE Submission Form with these improved features:

- i The CE Submission Form on the new website allows you to enter Type 1 and Type 2 on the same line.
- i The new Form allows you to keep adding classes until you say you are ready to take the JP Exam. This means if you have more than 30 hours, you can continue to add them to the list.
- i You can enter your courses starting approximately 90 days before you are due to renew and continue to return to the CE Submission page and add courses until you click to take the JP exam. The courses will be saved on the form.
- i The new form allows you to enter courses that are 3.75 hours, and not just one decimal point, such as 5.5.
- i The new form keep a running total as you add courses, so you can see the Type 1 and Type courses adding up.

- i You can print out the new form for your records with your courses listed before you leave the page for your JP exam.

The Last Issue of the Newsletter, the October, 2011 issue has an article on **Abandonment**, another on **Changes at ECI**, and the **Criminal History Evaluation Letter** Click here to read the last issue: <http://www.ecptote.state.tx.us/ot/newsletter.html>

Proposed Rule Amendments

The Board voted to proposed amendments to rules which require the Board to print out and mail the renewal cards/certificates. Instead the certificates will available online at the Board's website, under Verifications. You will have to use the look-up which require that you enter the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number and your date of birth.

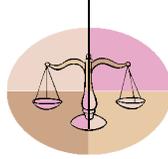
There are 3 ways to look-up licensees online:

1. By name, even by first initials
2. By License Number
3. By the last 4 digits of the SSN and date of birth.

The Rules affected by this change are:

§369.1 Display of License
§370.1 License Renewal
§371.1 Inactive Status
§371.2 Retired Status
§376.6 Renewal of Facility Registration
§376.8 Restoration of a Facility Registration
§376.10 Change in Facility Ownership

in accordance with State Government Code §2001.039, The Board voted to review all OT Rules to consider whether they continue to exist or some chapters can be removed. Public comment may be sent to info@ptot.texas.gov and write OT Public Comment in the Subject Line.



**OT Board Formal
Disciplinary Actions
September 2, 2011**

**File a complaint
or notify authorities
if you see violations or patient abuse.
The Code of Ethics requires that you
report violations**

- (1) Melanie Brown, OTR #110715 (Denton)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license for fifteen (15) days.***
- (2) Melissa Shiramizu, OTR #109822 (Georgetown)** – practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license for twenty-one (21) days.***
- (3) Susan Zint, OTR #110046 (Amarillo)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by refusing to take a drug test requested by her employer, resulting in her termination/resignation. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license for thirty (30) days.***
- (4) Emily Alonzo, OTR #106966 (San Antonio)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by resigning her position without sufficient prior notice. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license for seven (7) days.***
- (5) Kelli Chaput, COTA #210339 (San Antonio)** – failed the CE audit; taking all the hours after the renewal period in question, yet documenting those hours as timely taken. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license for ninety (90) days.***



Frequently Requested Numbers

Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners (TBOTE)

Act & Rules, complaints, and practice of OT in Texas

512/305-6900 telephone

512/305-6970 fax

Website: www.ecptote.state.tx.us

Email: info@ecptote.state.tx.us

Texas Occupational Therapy Association (TOTA)

512/454-8682 telephone

512/450-1777 fax

www.tota.org

American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)

Specialty certification, student fieldwork, national issues, etc.

301/652-2682 telephone

www.aota.org

National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)

National certification exam, and score reports

301/990-7979 telephone

301/869-8492 fax

www.nbcot.org

Dept. of Assistive and Rehab. Services (DARS)

Division of Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

512/424-6790 telephone

512/424-6799 fax

www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/

Early Childhood Education DARS, ECI

4900 N Lamar

Austin, TX 78751-2399

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/index.shtml>

Medicare and Medicaid

<http://www.cms.gov>

www.medicare.gov

Medicare Part A

888/763-9836 (Rehab Dept, Hospital)

Medicare Part B

903/463-0720 (independent practitioners)

Medicare fraud, or abuse of a Medicare: 800-447-8477.

Medicaid: 800/252-8263

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/>

Medicaid provider fraud, or abuse of a Medicaid recipient: 512/463-2011 or email

mfcu@aog.state.tx.us

School Health and Related Services (SHARS)

www.tea.state.tx.com/interagency/shars.html

Texas Dept. Aging and Disability Services (DADS)

800/458-9858 Long term care & complaints about nursing home, home health agency, or assisted living facility.

800/252-8016 Nursing homes

512/719-3521 Licensing Boards

800/228-1570 Home health agency

Elderly or disabled abuse, neglect call

800/252-5400.

www.dads.state.tx.us

Texas Dept. of State Health Services (TDSH)

512/834-6650 Hospital licensing

www.tshs.state.tx.us

Texas Online Services

License applications, renewals, profile

TxServiceDesk@egov.com

877-452-9060 Help desk