

TBOTE news

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners

March, 2016

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Previous Newsletters, Forms, and Frequently Asked Questions are on the website: www.ptot.texas.gov.

Next Board Meeting Date

May 6, 2016
Austin, TX

TBOTE BOARD

Stephanie Johnston, OTR, Chair
Todd N. Novosad, OTR, Vice Chair
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Jennifer B. Clark, COTA
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William N. Hale, Public member
Sally Harris, COTA
Pamela D. Nelon, Public member

Notes from the Coordinator

ECPTOTE to Initiate Email Project:

See page 2 for further information.

Adopted Rule Changes: At its February 2016 board meeting, the Board adopted an amendment to §374.4, Code of Ethics, which will go into effect 4/1/16.

An introduction to the adopted amendment and additional information may be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

Proposed Rule Changes and Rule Reviews: At its February 2016 board meeting, the Board proposed rule changes to §362.1, Definitions; Chapter 367, Continuing Education; §370.3, Restoration of a Texas License; Chapter 371, Inactive and Retired Status; §372.1, Provision of Services; §373.1, Supervision of Non-Licensed Personnel; §373.3, Supervision of an Occupational Therapy Assistant; and §376.5, Exemptions to Registration and proposed new rule §372.2, General Purpose Occupation-Based Instruction. Some of the proposed amendments include language related to the proposed addition to the OT Rules of telehealth as a mode of occupational therapy service delivery as well as the proposed addition of provisions related to general purpose occupation-based instruction.

The Board and ECPTOTE have also proposed rule reviews, as required of all agencies every four years.

An introduction to the proposals and information regarding public comment may be found beginning on page 4 of this newsletter.

Updated Downloadable OT Rules Coming Soon:

Soon after the adopted amendment goes into effect on 4/1/2016, an up-to-date PDF version of the current OT rules will be uploaded to reflect these changes. See page 3 for further information.

ECPTOTE to Initiate Email Project

To enhance communication with applicants, licensees, registered facility owners, and other interested stakeholders, the Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners (ECPTOTE) will be implementing a program to mass email notices and documents within the next several months.

Typical items that will be emailed once the program is up and running will include:

- quarterly board newsletters,
- license/registration renewal notices,
- proposed and adopted changes to the rules,
- and other items of interest to the regulated population.

The license and registration renewal email notices will not replace the postcard renewal reminders that are currently being mailed, but will be an additional courtesy reminder to timely renew.

How can you help make the email program a success? Make sure that the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners has your current email address on file.

Occupational Therapy Applicants or Licensees:

Changes to your contact information can be made by following the link below.

http://www.ptot.texas.gov/forms/public/change_contact_info.

OT Registered Facility Applicants or Owners/Designees:

To update your email address, send an email to info@ptot.texas.gov with your email address and name, title/designation, and facility name(s) and registration number(s).

NOT an applicant or licensee of either Board or registered facility applicant or owner/designee:

- An announcement will be placed soon on the website with information regarding how to add your email address. Please monitor www.ptot.texas.gov for updates.

To ensure you receive important email notices:

- add emailOT@ptot.texas.gov to your “safe” email addresses, and
- check your Junk/Spam folders for emails.

Introduction to Adopted Rule Amendment to §374.4. Code of Ethics.

General Introduction to the Adopted Amendment:

At its February board meeting, the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners adopted an amendment to §374.4, Code of Ethics.

The ADOPTED amendment takes effect on 4/1/2016.

To read the text of the amendment with a brief introduction on the website, [click this link](#) and select the “Proposed/Adopted” tab. Notice of the adopted amendment and the complete preamble will be published in the March 11, 2016 issue of the [Texas Register](#).

Please note that the January, 2016 OT Rules PDF as of April 1, 2016 will no longer be the most up-to-date, compiled PDF version of the Rules. On April 1, 2016, the adopted amendment to §374.4, Code of Ethics, will supersede the rule of the same name and number in the January, 2016 PDF.

A new, up-to-date version of the compiled OT Rules will be available for download from the website soon after 4/1/2016.

The introduction that follows represents a general overview. Please read the amendment for further information.

Introduction to Adopted Rule Amendment to §374.4. Code of Ethics.

The amendment will remove the 2010 version of the Occupational Therapy Code of Ethics by the American Occupational Therapy Association from §374.4 and will replace it with the excerpted principles and related standards of conduct from the 2015 version of the American Occupational Therapy Association’s Occupational Therapy Code of Ethics. The amendment includes further clarifications and cleanups, as well.

Introduction to Proposed Rule Changes from the February Board Meeting

These are PROPOSED rule changes. They have NOT been adopted.

The current rules are in effect.

At its February board meeting, the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners proposed rule changes to §362.1, Definitions; Chapter 367, Continuing Education; §370.3, Restoration of a Texas License; Chapter 371, Inactive and Retired Status; §372.1, Provision of Services; §373.1, Supervision of Non-Licensed Personnel; §373.3, Supervision of an Occupational Therapy Assistant; and §376.5, Exemptions to Registration and proposed new rule §372.2, General Purpose Occupation-Based Instruction.

The proposals (which include the preambles) will be published in the March 18, 2016, issue of the [Texas Register](#). A PDF of the proposed rule changes as published will be uploaded to the Board's [Act and Rules](#) page, as well.

Please note that the information that follows is just a brief introduction to the proposed amendments; additional changes appear in the full proposals.

Comments: Comments on the proposed amendments and proposed new rule may be submitted to Lea Weiss, Occupational Therapy Coordinator, Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners, 333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 2-510, Austin, Texas 78701-3942 or to lea@ptot.texas.gov no later than 30 days from the date that these proposals are published in the *Texas Register*.

If sending comments, please include the rule number in your comment and please also write "OT Public Comment – Proposed Rules" in the subject line if sending an email.

Introduction to Proposed Rule Amendments to:

§362.1. Definitions.

The amendment will clarify existing definitions with regard to and add a definition for telehealth. Proposed amendments to §372.1, concerning provision of services, and §373.1, concerning supervision of non-licensed personnel, have also been submitted to the *Texas Register* for publication regarding the inclusion in the Board Rules of telehealth as a mode of occupational therapy service delivery. The definitions in §362.1 for "direct contact" and "first available examination" have also been removed. The definitions have been renumbered when necessary so that they appear in alphabetical order; general clarifications, cleanups, and grammatical revisions have been made to the section, as well.

§367.1. Continuing Education.

§367.2. Categories of Education.

§367.3. Continuing Education Audit.

The amendments would remove the Type 1 and Type 2 continuing education designations and the requirement that licensees earn a minimum of fifteen contact hours of continuing education in Type 2 activities. The proposed amendments instead would require that all of the 30 hours of continuing education taken for license renewal fit the new definition for continuing education, defined in the amendment to §367.1 as professional development activities that are directly relevant to the profession of occupational therapy. Proposed amendments to §370.3, concerning restoration of a Texas license, and §371.2, concerning retired status, have also been submitted for publication in the *Texas Register* and include proposed changes to reflect the changes in the proposed amendment to §§367.1 - 367.3.

The amendment to §367.2 would also add the NBCOT Navigator™ activities of Case Simulations, Balloon Match Games, Mini Practice Quizzes, and the PICO Game as acceptable continuing education activities. In addition, the amendments would allow for grant writing, general cooking classes, and geriatric anthology to be taken for continuing education if meeting the requirements for continuing education in Chapter 367. The amendments would add first aid as an unacceptable activity that may not be completed for continuing education.

§370.3. Restoration of a Texas License.

The amendment would clarify requirements for restoration of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant license expired one year or more. The amendment would also remove the requirement that an individual whose license has been expired two or more years must also complete forty-five hours of continuing education if choosing the method of restoration requiring that the individual take and pass the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam for licensure purposes only. The amendment also removes from a provision related to expedited services for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses, necessitated by Senate Bill 1307 from the 84th Legislative session, the requirement that to be eligible for such services, the military service member, military veteran, or military spouse, as defined in Chapter 55, Occupations Code, §55.001, must have within the five years preceding the restoration application date held a license in Texas. The amendment, in addition, clarifies that restoration requirements are based on the length of time the license has been expired and whether the individual has a current license or occupational therapy employment as specified in this section at the time of the license's restoration. Any reference to Type 2 Continuing Education has also been removed as part of the proposal in accordance with proposed amendments to §§367.1 - 367.3. The amendment includes further cleanups, as well.

§371.1. Inactive Status.

§371.2. Retired Status.

The amendment to §371.1 would clarify requirements regarding inactive status and specifies that inactive status fees for an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant license are nonrefundable. The amendment would specify that if the inactive status license has been expired one year or more, in order to return to active status, the individual must follow the procedures to restore the license according to §370.3, concerning restoration of a Texas license, an amendment to which has also been submitted for publication in the *Texas Register*. The amendment would also add the provision that licensees on inactive status are subject to the audit of continuing education as described in §367.3, concerning continuing education audit. The amendment to §371.2 would clarify requirements regarding retired status and specifies that retired status fees for an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant license are nonrefundable. The amendment would also add the provision that licensees on retired status may provide occupational therapy services according to the terms of the license upon online verification of current licensure and license expiration date from the Board's license verification web page. Any reference to Type 2 continuing education has also been removed as part of the proposal in accordance with proposed amendments to §§367.1 - 367.3. The proposed amendments to §371.1 and §371.2 also include cleanups and grammatical revisions.

§372.1. Provision of Services.

The amendment includes clarifications regarding the provision of services and would add telehealth as a mode of occupational therapy service delivery. The amendment would add language specifying that the occupational therapist is responsible for determining whether any aspect of the provision of services may be conducted via telehealth or must be conducted in person. The amendment would also add the provision that the initial evaluation for a medical condition must be conducted in person and may not be conducted via telehealth. The amendment would add language allowing for the evaluation for a non-medical condition and for the intervention for a medical or non-medical condition to be provided via telehealth. The amendment would, furthermore, add the provision that devices that are in sustained skin contact with the client (including but not limited to wheelchair positioning devices, splints, hot/cold packs, and therapeutic tape) require the on-site and attending presence of the occupational therapy practitioner for any initial applications and that the occupational therapy practitioner is responsible for determining the need to be on-site and attending for subsequent applications or modifications. The proposed amendment, in addition, clarifies that occupational therapists may provide consultation or monitored services, or screen or evaluate the client to determine the need for occupational therapy services without a referral and that a screening, consultation, or monitored services may be performed by an occupational therapy practitioner. The amendment, in addition, clarifies that an occupational therapist must exercise professional judgment to determine cessation or continuation of intervention without a receipt of the written referral. The amendment contains further cleanups and grammatical revisions, as well.

§373.1. Supervision of Non-Licensed Personnel.

§373.3. Supervision of an Occupational Therapy Assistant.

The amendment to §373.1 would clarify the supervision requirements for non-licensed personnel in general and with regard to the use of non-licensed personnel during the provision of occupational therapy services via telehealth. The amendment would remove language that close personal supervision implies direct, on-site contact whereby the supervising occupational therapy licensee is able to respond immediately to the needs of the patient. The amendment would add language that supervision for occupational therapy aides as defined by the Practice Act, §454.002, concerning definitions, is on-site contact whereby the supervising occupational therapy practitioner is able to respond immediately to the needs of the client. The amendment would also add the provision that supervision of other non-licensed personnel either on-site or via telehealth requires that the occupational therapy practitioner maintain line of sight.

The proposed amendment to §373.3 includes language adding that up to half of the required interactive supervision hours for an occupational therapy assistant may be completed via visual and auditory, synchronous, real time, interactive electronic information or communications technologies. The amendment also includes revisions to the required supervision hours for occupational therapy assistants, adding a category pertaining to those working twenty or fewer hours during a given month. With regard to the requirement that the occupational therapy assistant must include the name of a supervising OT in each intervention note, language has been added in the proposal that this requirement is not applicable to instruction provided pursuant to proposed new §372.2, concerning general purpose occupation-based instruction. The amendment, in addition, includes the provision that when general purpose occupation-based instruction is being provided pursuant to

proposed new §372.2, the OT must approve the curricular goals/program prior to the OTA's initiating instruction. The proposed amendments to §373.1 and §373.3 include cleanups and grammatical revisions, as well.

§376.5. Exemptions to Registration.

The amendment would add language specifying that if a facility only offers services pursuant to proposed new §372.2, concerning general purpose occupation-based instruction, then the facility is exempted from the requirement to register the facility with the Board.

Introduction to Proposed New Rule:

§372.2. General Purpose Occupation-Based Instruction.

The new section would specify that occupational therapy practitioners may develop or facilitate general purpose, occupation-based groups or classes and that these services do not require individualized evaluation and plan of care services but practitioners may develop goals or curriculums for the group as a whole. The new rule would add that if a participant requires individualized occupational therapy services, a referral must be made to an occupational therapist for the provision of occupational therapy services in accordance with §372.1, concerning provision of services. The new section would note that supervision requirements for services provided pursuant to this section shall be completed in accordance with §373.3, concerning supervision of an occupational therapy assistant. Proposed amendments to §373.3 and to §376.5, concerning exemptions to registration, with regard to facilities registered with the Board, have also been submitted for publication in the *Texas Register* with regard to proposed new §372.2.

Proposed Rule Reviews by TBOTE and ECPTOTE

According to §2001.39 of the Texas Government Code, an agency is required to review and consider for re-adoption each of its rules every four years and to assess whether the reasons for initially adopting the rules continue to exist.

An assessment will be made by the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners regarding TBOTE's rules and the Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners regarding ECPTOTE's rules. Each rule will be reviewed to determine whether it is obsolete, whether the rule reflects current legal and policy considerations, and whether the rule reflects current TBOTE or ECPTOTE procedures, respectively.

Once published, a PDF of each of the notices as published in the *Texas Register* will be uploaded to the Board's [Act and Rules](#) page, as well.

TBOTE:

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners has filed a notice with the *Texas Register* of its intent to review the following chapters: Chapter 361, concerning statutory authority; Chapter 362, concerning definitions; Chapter 363, concerning consumer/licensee information; Chapter 364, concerning requirements for licensure; Chapter 367, concerning continuing education; Chapter 368, concerning open records; Chapter 369, concerning display of licenses; Chapter 370, concerning license renewal; Chapter 371, concerning inactive and retired status; Chapter 372, concerning provision of services; Chapter 373, concerning supervision; Chapter 374, concerning disciplinary actions/detrimental practice/complaint process/ code of ethics; Chapter 375, concerning fees; and Chapter 376, concerning registration of facilities.

The proposed rule review will be published in the March 11, 2016 issue of the [Texas Register](#).

Comments on the review may be submitted to Lea Weiss, Occupational Therapy Coordinator, Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners, 333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 2-510, Austin, Texas 78701-3942 or to lea@ptot.texas.gov no later than 30 days from the date that this notice is published in the *Texas Register*.

ECPTOTE:

The Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners has filed a notice of its intent to review Chapter 651, concerning fees, in accordance with Texas Government Code §2001.039.

The proposed rule review will be published in the March 18, 2016 issue of the [Texas Register](#).

Comments on the review may be submitted to Jennifer Jones, Business Manager, Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners, 333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 2-510, Austin, Texas 78701-3942 or to jennifer@ptot.texas.gov no later than 30 days from the date that this notice is published in the *Texas Register*.

Sunset Process Continues for ECPTOTE

Note: The Sunset Staff's report will be published in April. Please monitor the Sunset Commission's website for updates.

The Sunset Review of the Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners

The mission and performance of the Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners (executive council), Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (physical therapy board), and Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners (occupational therapy board) are under review by the Legislature as required under the Texas Sunset Act. The Act provides that the Sunset Commission, composed of legislators and public members, periodically evaluate a state agency to determine if the agency is still needed and to explore ways to ensure that the agency's funds are well spent. Based on the recommendations of the Sunset Commission, the Texas Legislature ultimately decides whether an agency continues to operate into the future.

The Sunset review involves three steps. First, Sunset Commission staff will evaluate the Executive Council and the Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy boards and issue a report in April 2016 recommending solutions to problems found. A month or so later, the Sunset Commission will meet to hear public testimony on the agency and the recommendations of the Sunset staff. Based on public input and the Sunset staff report, the Sunset Commission will adopt recommendations for the full Legislature to consider when it convenes in January 2017. Please refer to the Sunset Commission website or call the office for updated information on specific dates for these meetings.

Through the Sunset review, every Texan has the opportunity to suggest ways in which the mission and operations of the Executive Council and the Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy boards can be strengthened; suggestions from individuals other than Texans may also be sent. If you would like to share your ideas about the Executive Council and these two boards, please send an email to the address below, use the comment form on the Sunset Commission website, or contact Erick Fajardo of the Sunset staff. Suggestions are preferred by **December 14, 2015**, so they can be fully considered by the Commission staff.

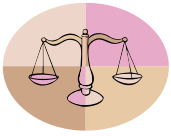
Sunset Advisory Commission
P.O. Box 13066
Austin, Texas 78711
512/463-1300
Fax: 512/463-0705
Email: sunset@sunset.state.tx.us

Information about the Sunset process, Sunset Commission meetings, and how to receive
Sunset Commission email updates is available at: www.sunset.texas.gov

Additional Links:

Further information regarding how to participate is available at: <https://www.sunset.texas.gov/how-sunset-works/how-participate>.

You may also follow this link to submit comment to the Sunset Commission:
<https://www.sunset.texas.gov/input-form>.



OT BOARD FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN

FEBRUARY 19, 2016 BOARD MEETING:

- (1) **Nathan De Hoyos, OTR #114403 (San Antonio)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by practicing with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (2) **Mary Balconi-Broome, OTR #108777 (Irving)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by practicing with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (3) **Debbie Pylant, COTA #210804 (San Antonio)** – failed to properly renew her license to practice; lacked sufficient number or type of hours required for license renewal. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (4) **April Franklin, COTA #210150 (San Antonio)** – failed to properly renew her license to practice; lacked sufficient number or type of hours required for license renewal. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (5) **Rebecca Aleman, OTR #108956 (San Antonio)** – practiced in a detrimental manner by leaving an OT student not properly supervised when leaving the facility during the student’s treatment of a patient. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 373 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (6) **Cesar Cespedes, OTR #109528 (Harlingen)** – practiced in a facility not properly registered with the board. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (7) **Laura Ruiz, OTR #115134 (Pharr)** – practiced in a detrimental manner failing to properly renew the facility registration for a facility in which she was the designated OT-in-charge, and occupational therapy services were provided during the period of expiration. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (8) **Linda Zach, OTR #104742 (Richardson)** – practiced in a facility not properly registered with the board. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (9) **Gloria Rodriguez, OTR #110390 (McAllen)** – practiced in a facility not properly registered with the board. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service.**
- (10) **Gloria Rodriguez, OTR #110390 (McAllen)** – practiced in a detrimental manner failing to properly renew the facility registration for a facility in which she was the designated OT-in-charge, and occupational

therapy services were provided during the period of expiration. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service.***

(11) Denise Beggs, COTA #210422 (Hillsboro) – practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license to practice for thirty (30) days.***

(12) Rebecca Martin, COTA #212589 (Tyler) – practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license to practice for thirty (30) days.***

(13) Christine O’Dell, OTR #112184 (River Oaks) – practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license to practice for thirty (30) days.***

(14) Claudia Jennings, COTA #208107 (Hurst) – practiced in a detrimental manner by resigning her position without sufficient prior notice – thereby abandoning the patients she was scheduled to treat. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license to practice for thirty (30) days.***

(15) Jessica Misty Luevano, COTA #212675 (El Paso) – practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to timely remove a hot pack from a patient – resulting in injury to that patient. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended her license to practice for thirty (30) days; required completion of six (6) hours of continuing education on the use of heat as a modality.***

Rule Reminder: CE Documentation and Contact Hours

Note: This is just an overview. See Chapter 367 and the full OT Rules and Act for further information and regulations.

Each licensee must complete a minimum of 30 contact hours of continuing education that meet the OT Rules and Act each renewal period. All of the CE taken for license renewal must be directly relevant to the occupational therapy profession. A minimum of 15 contact hours of CE must be in Type 2 CE, although all of your CE may be Type 2.

To access the full OT Rules and Act for additional information and regulations, please visit the [OT Act and Rules page](#). Chapter 367 of the OT Rules details CE and the Board's [Continuing Education page](#) and [FAQ section](#) offer further resources.

Please note that for activities such as in-service educational programs, training programs, institutes, seminars, workshops, facility based courses, conferences in occupational therapy, home study courses, educational teleconferences, Internet-based courses, and video instruction, the CE documentation must list the contact hours that the licensee completed for the activity. See the [Continuing Education page](#) for a sample course certificate and §367.2(b) for information regarding activities not eligible for contact hours.

Please note that if your documentation lists PDUs, for example, such are not contact hours, nor are learning credits, CEUs, other units, etc. When you are attesting to the CE you have taken for license renewal, regardless of the provider, you must report your hours in terms of contact hours. Be sure your documentation lists contact hours; if it does not, as per §367.3(e) of the OT Rules, such must be accompanied by documentation from the CE provider noting the equivalence of the units or credits in terms of contact hours.

For certificates for AOTA approved activities, it is acceptable if the certificate lists AOTA CEUs instead of contact hours (and in such cases, you do not need documentation from the provider noting the equivalence of AOTA CEUs in terms of contact hours); however, if you are unsure of what an AOTA CEU represents in contact hours, contact the provider.

CE Reminder:

Please remember that all GSC/Western Schools courses are only eligible for Type 1 CE credit.



Frequently Requested Contact Information

<http://www.ptot.texas.gov/page/ot-useful-contacts>

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.ptot.texas.gov

Email: info@ptot.texas.gov

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/

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)

To report Medicare fraud or abuse:

<http://www.medicarefraudcenter.org/>

800/252-8263

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

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

mfcu@aog.state.tx.us

School Based Practice

www.txspot.org

School Health and Related Services (SHARS)

[http://www.hpsc.state.tx.us/rad/acute-](http://www.hpsc.state.tx.us/rad/acute-care/shars/)

[care/shars/](http://www.hpsc.state.tx.us/rad/acute-care/shars/)

Texas Dept. Aging and Disability Services (DADS)

800/458-9858 Long term care & complaints about nursing homes, home health agencies, or assisted living facilities

800/252-8016 Nursing homes

512/719-3521 Licensing Boards

800/228-1570 Home health agencies

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

<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/>

Texas Online Services

License and facility applications and renewals

TxServiceDesk@egov.com

877-452-9060 Help desk