

TBOTE news

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners

November 2022

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Previous newsletters, forms, and FAQs are available from the website: ptot.texas.gov.

Next Board Meeting

February 3, 2023*

* Subject to change

TBOTE BOARD

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Notes from the Coordinator

Proposed and Adopted Rules

The Board adopted rule changes at its last meeting; the Board did not propose changes. Please see further information in this newsletter.

Renewal Requirement Reminder: HHSC Approved Training Concerning the Prevention of Human Trafficking Required each Renewal Period

As part of the minimum hours of required continuing education for each renewal, OTs and OTAs must complete a training course on human trafficking that is approved by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).

Only human trafficking training courses that are approved by HHSC pursuant to HB 2059 of the 86th Legislative Session may be used to meet this requirement; no other courses may be used to satisfy this requirement.

Remember that approval by AOTA or TOTA does not in any way suggest and/or ensure that a course is approved by HHSC or indicate that completion of the course will satisfy the training requirement. If the course is not approved by HHSC, as previously noted, it will not meet the human trafficking training requirement, regardless of whether it has been approved or offered by AOTA or TOTA.

When selecting a human trafficking training course to meet the requirement, ensure that the course is approved by HHSC pursuant to HB 2059. Refer to HHSC's list of approved courses to confirm this.

The link to access HHSC's related webpage and list of approved courses is available from the Human Trafficking Training tab on the [Continuing Education](#) page.

Remember that documentation of completion of a training course is a certificate of completion or letter of verification indicating credit awarded. Refer to Chapter 367, Continuing Education, of the OT Rules for further CE regulations, including regarding CE documentation.

Agency Address/Mail Update

The Agency has recently learned that USPS does not recognize the “N” in the street address previously provided to us by the Texas Facilities Commission.

Correspondence sent via USPS or any other carrier should be mailed to the address shown below.

ECPTOTE
1801 Congress Ave Ste 10.900
Austin, TX 78701

The Consumer Information Sign has also been updated to reflect the agency’s new address. Refer to the OT Forms page, accessible from the link below, to access the updated sign, which should replace any signs with a previous address.

<https://ptot.texas.gov/ot-forms/>

Remember that as per §363.1, Consumer/Licensee Information, of the OT Rules, “The sign, or a reasonable facsimile of the sign, must be displayed in a location of public access at the place(s) of business of any board licensee.”

Introduction to Adopted Rule Changes from the November Board Meeting
The rule changes noted below will take effect December 1, 2022. Until then, the [current rules](#) are in effect.

At its recent meeting, the Board adopted amendments to §374.3, Complaint Process.

As of December 1, 2022, the “June, 2022” compiled PDF version of the OT Rules will no longer be up to date as it will not contain the adopted changes. An up-to-date version of the compiled rules will be available from the [Act and Rules](#) page soon after the amendments take effect and will have “December, 2022” on the cover.

Notice of the adoption was published in the November 18, 2022, issue of the [Texas Register](#), and notice of the rule amendments as proposed, which includes the text of the proposal, was published in the September 9, 2022, issue of the [Texas Register](#). The amendments were adopted without changes to the text as proposed.

PDFs of the notices of proposal and adoption may be found on the [Act and Rules](#) page.

A brief introduction to the adopted rule amendments appears below; refer to the [Act and Rules](#) page for further information.

Adopted Rule Changes

§374.3. Complaint Process.

The amendments are adopted to remove certified mail and notarized signatures requirements with regard to agreed orders. The changes will allow orders and notices to be sent by all the methods listed in Texas Government Code section 2001.054(c), and will not limit delivery to certified mail, return receipt requested.

Changes to the section include the removal of requirements concerning the Board’s use of certified mail when sending agreed orders to the respondent to a complaint. The amendments will also remove the requirement that respondents have their signatures notarized on agreed orders.

These changes will streamline both board processes regarding mailing and requirements for respondents concerning agreed orders. The Board anticipates that these changes will increase the efficiency of investigative mailing processes and reduce the possible complications respondents to a complaint may encounter when responding to agreed orders.

The amendments also include a revision to correct a reference in the section to Texas Government Code section 2001.054(c). The change is adopted to increase the accuracy of the board rules.

Categories of Continuing Education: Many ways to earn CE, including for Free

Did you know that there are many ways to earn CE, including for free?

Chapter 367, Continuing Education, of the OT Rules includes §367.2, Categories of Education.

Continuing education activities completed by the licensee for license renewal shall be acceptable if falling under one or more of the categories in that section and meeting further requirements in the chapter.

If you have not opened §367.2 for some time, you may wish to reread such to learn more about these activities, which include categories concerning the supervision of OT and OTA students, presentations by licensees, and the mentorship of another OT or OTA (including serving as a mentor or participating as a mentee).

Many of the categories of continuing education included in that section may be completed for free and may benefit not only the licensee (and by extension, the licensee's clients), but also others in the OT community, such as fieldwork students and their ACOTE-accredited programs, presentation attendees, fellow licensees, etc.

Refer to the section for further regulations regarding these categories, including with regard to the maximum amount of CE that may be earned from each.

Remember that with regard to the human trafficking training requirement, HHSC must approve at least one course that is available without charge. (Refer to further information in this newsletter regarding the human trafficking training requirement.)

Consequently, the human trafficking training requirement could be satisfied at no charge.

Likewise, all of the CE remaining after completing the required human trafficking training may be earned for free, as noted above.

This means that a licensee could earn all of the CE for the renewal period for free.

Visit the [Act and Rules](#) page to access the OT Rules, including Chapter 367, Continuing Education, for further CE regulations.

The [Continuing Education](#) page includes further resources regarding CE.



OCTOBER 28, 2022 BOARD MEETING
FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN

- (1) **Katrina Johnson, OTA #209900 (Arlington)** - failed to properly renew license during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required (10) hours of community service.**
- (2) **Araceli Barrera, OTA #213377 (San Juan)** - failed to properly renew license during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required (10) hours of community service.**
- (3) **Sarita Page, OTA #214479 (Columbus)** - failed to properly renew license during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required (10) hours of community service.**
- (4) **Wendy Goff, OTA #215618 (Waco)** - failed to properly renew license during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order required (10) hours of community service.**
- (5) **Aaron Lopez, OT #118455 (El Paso)** - failed to properly renew license during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (30) days.**
- (6) **Linda Montes, OTA #213157 (Laredo)** - failed to properly renew license during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (30) days.**
- (7) **Catherine Klemowits, OTA #210920 (El Lago)** - failed to properly renew license during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (30) days.**
- (8) **Abbas Naqui, OT #113801 (Sugar Land)** - failed to properly renew license during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (60) days.**
- (9) **Ashley Peoples, OT #106668 (Killeen)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing an approved required course prior to renewal. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.**
- (10) **Martavius Collins, OT #122933 (Benton, MS)** - failed to disclose criminal history on application for licensure. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order required (30) hours of community service.**
- (11) **Ilene Diaz De Leon, OTA #217413 (El Paso)** - failed to disclose criminal history on application for licensure. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.**

- (12) **Kristina Gerken, OT #119934 (New Braunfels)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to accurately document each intervention session. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (60) days.***
- (13) **M. Awuor Dondo, OT #108976 (Waco)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by intentionally making or filing a false or misleading report. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order required (45) hours of community service.***
- (14) **Terrance Woodard, OT #116288 (Rosenberg)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by intentionally making or filing a false or misleading report. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (45) days.***
- (15) **Jennifer Goforth, OTA #212183 (Brenham)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by intentionally making or filing a false or misleading report. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (60) days.***