

**DISTRICT OF  
COLUMBIA  
MUNICIPAL  
REGULATIONS  
for  
OCCUPATIONAL  
THERAPY**

## **CHAPTER 63      OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

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### **6300            GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 6300.1            This chapter shall apply to applicants for and holders of a license to practice as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant.
- 6300.2            Chapters 40 (Health Occupations: General Rules), 41 (Health Occupations: Administrative Procedures), and 73 (Occupational Therapy Assistants) of this title shall supplement this chapter.

### **6301            TERM OF LICENSE**

- 6301.1            Subject to § 6301.2, a license issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire at 12:00 midnight of September 30 of each odd-numbered year.
- 6301.2            If the Director changes the renewal system pursuant to § 4006.3 of chapter 40 of this title, a license issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire at 12:00 midnight of the last day of the month of the birth date of the holder of the license, or other date established by the Director.

### **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.

### **6303 APPLICANTS EDUCATED IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES**

- 6303.1 The Board may grant a license to practice to an applicant who has his or her exam scores submitted from the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) to the Board and who has completed an educational program in a foreign country whose program is approved by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists.
- 6303.2 The applicant shall be currently certified by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).
- 6303.3 In lieu of meeting the requirements of § 6302.1(a) an applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist shall submit evidence of successful completion of the occupational therapy certification examination developed by NBCOT for occupational therapists, to the Board.
- 6303.4 An applicant shall arrange for the verification of the certification required by § 6303.2 to be sent directly from NBCOT to the Board.

### **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.

**6305 SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS**

6305.1 An occupational therapist shall exercise sound judgment and provide adequate care within the practice when using methods that include but are not exclusive of the following American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) standards for the scope of practice:

- (a) Establishment, remediation or restoration of skill or ability in a client;
- (b) Compensation, modification, or adaptation of activity or environment to enhance performance;
- (c) Maintenance and enhancement of capabilities without which performance in everyday life would decline;
- (d) Health and wellness promotion to enable or enhance performance in everyday life activities; and
- (e) Prevention of barriers to performance, including disability prevention.

6305.2 An occupational therapist shall exercise sound judgment when evaluating factors affecting activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, education, work, play, leisure, and social participation. These factors may include:

- (a) Body functions and body structures;
- (b) Habits, routines, roles, and behavior patterns;
- (c) Cultural, physical, environmental, social, and spiritual contexts and activity demands that affect performance; and
- (d) Performance skills including motor, process, and communication or interaction skills.

6305.3 An occupational therapist shall exercise sound judgment and provide adequate care to a client when administering interventions and procedures to promote or enhance safety and performance in activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, education, work, play, leisure, and social participation, which may include the following:

- (a) Therapeutic use of occupations, exercises, and activities;
- (b) Training in self-care, self management, home management, and community work reintegration;
- (c) Development, remediation, or compensation of physical, cognitive, neuromuscular, sensory functions, and behavioral skills;
- (d) Therapeutic use of self including one's personality, insights, perceptions, and judgments as part of the therapeutic process;

- (e) Education and training of individuals, involved in the care of the client;
- (f) Care coordination, case management, and transition services;
- (g) Consultative services to groups, programs, organizations, or communities;
- (h) Modification of environments and adaptation of processes, including the application of ergonomic principles;
- (i) Assessment, design, fabrication, application, fitting and training in assistive technology, adaptive devices and orthotic devices, and training in the use of prosthetic devices;
- (j) Assessment, recommendation, and training in techniques to enhance mobility including wheelchair management;
- (k) Driver rehabilitation and community mobility;
- (l) Management of feeding, eating, and swallowing to enable eating and feeding performance; and
- (m) Application of physical agent modalities, and use of a range of specific therapeutic procedures to enhance performance skills.

## **6306 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

- 6306.1 This section shall not apply to applicants for an initial license by examination, reciprocity, or endorsement, nor shall it apply to applicants for the first renewal of a license granted by examination.
- 6306.2 A continuing education contact hour shall be valid only if it is part of a program or activity that the Board approves in accordance with §§ 6307 and 6308.
- 6306.3 An applicant for license renewal shall complete a minimum of twenty-four (24) contact hours of approved continuing education in accordance with §§ 6307 and 6308 during the two (2)-year period preceding the date the license expires and ten percent (10%) of the total required continuing education shall be in the subjects determined by the Director as public health priorities of the District, which shall be duly published every five (5) years or as deemed appropriate. Beginning with the licensure term starting on October 1, 2017, the continuing education required in this section shall include two (2) hours of LGBTQ continuing education.
- 6306.4 The Board may require proof of completion of the required continuing education. Such proof shall include the following information:
- (a) The name and address of the sponsor of the program;
  - (b) The name of the program, its location, a description of the subject matter

covered, and the names of the instructors;

- (c) The dates on which the licensee attended the program;
- (d) The number of contact hours claimed;
- (e) Verification by the sponsor of the licensee's completion, by signature or stamp of the sponsor; and
- (f) The name of the licensee completing the program.

6306.5 If the license of an occupational therapist expires while serving in the military whenever the United States is engaged in active military operations against any foreign power or hostile force, and the required continuing education hours were not earned during the earning period, the licensee shall be required to complete the required continuing education hours needed no later than six (6) months after discharge from active service, return to inactive military status, or return to the United States from an active war zone.

6306.6 The continuing education contact hours completed to satisfy the requirement of § 6306.5 shall not be counted toward meeting the continuing education requirement for the next licensing period.

6306.7 The credits received for each approved continuing education program shall be applied in full toward meeting the continuing education requirements for each renewal period. The proration of continuing education credits over more than one (1) renewal cycle shall not be allowed.

6306.8 A licensee who is licensed to practice in a jurisdiction other than the District shall meet the requirements of this section in order to be eligible for license renewal in the District.

## **6307 APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

6307.1 The Board may, at its discretion, approve continuing education programs and activities that contribute to the professional competence in the practice of occupational therapy and meet the other requirements of this section.

6307.2 The Board shall approve continuing education programs and activities that are relevant to the practice or education of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants that document the following:

- (a) Current subject matter with course description;

- (b) Content focus;
- (c) Learning outcomes;
- (d) Target audience;
- (e) Satisfactory completion of the course by the course participant; and
- (f) The number of contact hours or continuing education units.

6307.3 The Board may approve the following types of activities provided that they are consistent with the requirements of this chapter:

- (a) Activities sponsored by the state or local occupational therapy organizations;
- (b) Activities sponsored by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), and the American Society of Hand Therapists (ASHT);
- (c) Activities sponsored by AOTA approved providers;
- (d) Activities sponsored by an accredited healthcare facility; or
- (e) Activities sponsored by an accredited college or university.

6307.4 The following activities shall not meet the requirement of § 6307.1 and may not be approved as continuing education required under this Chapter:

- (a) Mandatory non-clinical in-service competency or education programs including, but not limited to, Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS) or Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), first aid, infection control, emergency preparedness, or documentation update; and
- (b) Mandatory organization-specific trainings or programs required as part of job performance or development.

6307.5 The Board may grant continuing education credits for the following activities:

- (a) Serving as an author of self-study article or series;
- (b) Serving as an instructor or speaker at a conference program or an academic course;
- (c) Serving as an instructor at a peer-reviewed or non-peer-reviewed seminar,

workshop, or in-service training, whether in-person or web-based;

- (d) Serving as supervisor for persons authorized to practice pursuant to § 6317.2;
- (e) Serving as a clinical instructor for students of occupational therapy or students of any other health occupation;
- (f) Authoring or editing a published book, a published chapter in a book, or a published article in a professional journal or other nationally recognized publication;
- (g) Participating as a primary clinical fieldwork educator for Level I or Level II fieldwork;
- (h) Participating in board or committee work in connection with an agency or a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and enhance the practice of occupational therapy; or
- (i) Participating in research as a principal investigator or research assistant.

6307.6 The licensee shall bear the burden of establishing to the Board's satisfaction that any supervisory activities, professional volunteer activities, or services as an instructor, speaker, publisher or editor are eligible for continuing education credit and approval in accordance with § 6307.1.

## **6308 CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS**

6308.1 One (1) contact hour of continuing education shall consist of at least fifty (50) minutes of learning time.

6308.2 For approved undergraduate or graduate courses, each semester hour of credit shall constitute fifteen (15) contact hours of continuing education, and each quarter hour of credit shall constitute ten (10) contact hours of continuing education.

6308.3 The Board may grant continuing education credit for the activities described in § 6307.5(a), (b), or (c) subject to the following restrictions:

- (a) The maximum amount of credit which may be granted for preparation time is twice the amount of the associated presentation time or twice the amount of contact hours awarded for participants;



- (b) The maximum amount of credit which may be granted pursuant to this subsection is fifty percent (50%) of an applicant's continuing education requirement;
- (c) If an applicant had previously received credit in connection with a particular presentation, the Board shall not grant credit in connection with a subsequent presentation unless it involves either a different or a substantially modified program; and
- (d) The presentation shall have been completed during the period for which credit is claimed and includes documentation of the following:
  - (1) A copy of the official program or syllabus;
  - (2) The presentation title;
  - (3) The date of the presentation;
  - (4) The hours of the presentation;
  - (5) The type of audience addressed; and
  - (6) A verification of attendance signed by the sponsor.

6308.4 The Board may grant up to six (6) contact hours per renewal period for the activities described in § 6307.5(d). The supervisor shall submit a copy of the supervised practice letter to receive continuing education contact hours.

6308.5 The Board may grant one (1) continuing education contact hour for each hour of clinical instruction, up to a maximum of eight (8) contact hours per renewal period for the activities described in § 6307.5(e), with the following documentation:

- (a) Name of student as verified by the school;
- (b) Name of the school;
- (c) Dates and duration of instruction; and
- (d) Signature of the program director.

6308.6 The Board may grant up to six (6) continuing education contact hours per renewal period for the activities described in § 6307.5(f), if the book, chapter, or article was published or accepted for publication during the period for which credit is claimed, and satisfactory proof is submitted to the Board.

- 6308.7 The Board may grant up to six (6) contact hours per renewal period for the activities described in § 6307.5(g), with the following documentation:
- (a) Name of student as verified by the school;
  - (b) Name of the school;
  - (c) Dates of the fieldwork; and
  - (d) Signature page of student evaluation excluding evaluation scores and comments on student.
- 6308.8 The Board may grant up to three (3) continuing education contact hours to an applicant under this section who has successfully completed a course on management which is directly related to occupational therapy.
- 6308.9 The Board may grant up to three (3) continuing education contact hours for the activities described in § 6307.5(h), provided that such participation totaled no less than eighteen (18) hours during a renewal period. The applicant shall provide the following documentation:
- (a) Name of the committee, board, agency or organization;
  - (b) Purpose for service;
  - (c) Description of duties and roles; and
  - (d) Validation of service by an officer or representative of the organization.
- 6308.10 The Board may grant up to six (6) contact hours for the activities described in § 6307.5(i), provided that such participation is sufficiently documented.
- 6308.11 The Board may require proof of a licensee's completion of continuing education at the completion of a renewal period. A licensee shall:
- (a) Maintain the required proof of completion for each continuing competence activity as specified in these regulations; and
  - (b) Retain documentation of a continuing competence activity for a minimum of two (2) years following the last day of the license renewal period for which the continuing competence activity was completed.

**6309 REACTIVATION**

- 6309.1 The requirements of this section shall apply to licensees under this Chapter who have been in inactive status and seeks reactivation of their license in accordance with § 511 of the Act, D.C. Official Code § 3-1205.11.
- 6309.2 A reactivation applicant whose license has been inactive five (5) years or less who does not hold a license in any other jurisdiction shall complete twelve (12) contact hours of approved continuing education for each year that the applicant was not licensed, up to a maximum of sixty (60) hours, providing further that, regardless of the total number of continuing education hours required, two (2) of the required hours shall be LGBTQ continuing education. Ten percent (10%) of the total required continuing education shall be in the subjects determined by the Director as public health priorities of the District, which shall be duly published every five (5) years or as deemed appropriate.
- 6309.3 A reactivation application whose license has been inactive for more than 5 (five) years and who does not hold an active license in any other jurisdiction shall complete:
- (a) Twelve (12) contact hours of approved continuing education for each year that the applicant was not licensed, up to a maximum of sixty (60) hours, provided that ten percent (10%) of the total required continuing education shall be in the subjects determined by the Director as public health priorities of the District, which shall be duly published every five (5) years or as deemed appropriate.. Additionally, twenty-four (24) of the required contact hours shall have been completed within two (2) years prior to the date the application is submitted and two (2) of the total hours required shall be LGBTQ continuing education; and
  - (b) One hundred sixty (160) hours of supervised clinical training by a licensed occupational therapist within the two (2) months prior to the date the application is submitted.
- 6309.4 An applicant for reactivation of an occupational therapy license who holds an active license in any other jurisdiction shall not be required to submit proof of continuing education contact hours with the application.
- 6310 REINSTATEMENT**
- 6310.1 The requirements of this section shall apply to persons with expired licenses who seek reinstatement within five (5) years in accordance with § 512(a) of the Act, D.C. Official Code § 3-1205.12(a).
- 6310.2 A person may not apply for reinstatement if his or her license has expired for more than five (5) years.

6310.3 A reinstatement applicant who holds an active license in any other jurisdiction shall complete twelve (12) contact hours of approved continuing education for each year that the applicant was not licensed in the District, up to a maximum of sixty (60) hours, provided that ten percent (10%) of the total required continuing education shall be in the subjects determined by the Director as public health priorities of the District, which shall be duly published every five (5) years or as deemed appropriate. Additionally, twenty-four (24) contact hours must have been completed within two (2) years prior to the date the application is submitted and two (2) of the total hours required shall be LGBTQ continuing education.

6310.4 A reinstatement applicant who does not hold an active license in any jurisdiction shall submit proof of having completed the following:

- (a) Twelve (12) contact hours of approved continuing education program for each year that the applicant was not licensed up to a maximum of sixty (60) hours, provided that ten percent (10%) of the total required continuing education shall be in the subjects determined by the Director as public health priorities of the District, which shall be duly published every five (5) years or as deemed appropriate. Additionally, twenty-four (24) contact hours shall have been completed within two (2) years prior to the date the application is submitted and two (2) of the total hours required shall be LGBTQ continuing education; and
- (b) One hundred sixty (160) hours of supervised clinical training by a licensed occupational therapist within two (2) months prior to the date the application is submitted.

## **6311 ENDORSEMENT**

6311.1 The Board shall issue a license by endorsement to an applicant for licensure who has a valid unrestricted license in good standing from another jurisdiction of the United States and who meets all other requirements of this section.

6311.2 An applicant for licensure as an occupational therapist by endorsement shall submit with a completed application the following:

- (a) Official, certified proof of active licensure in at least one (1) jurisdiction;
- (b) Proof of good standing from all jurisdictions in which the occupational therapist ever held a license in the United States;
- (c) Official, certified proof from NBCOT that the applicant has passed the NBCOT examination; and
- (d) Proof that the applicant is a graduate of a professional occupational therapy or occupational therapy assistant education program, as relevant to the license, accredited by an agency that the United States Department

of Education recognizes for that purpose, or that the Board approves.

## **6312 RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 6312.1 An occupational therapist shall exercise sound judgment and provide adequate care in the performance of duties in accordance with nationally recognized standards of practice while treating patients or supervising the treatment of patients.
- 6312.2 An occupational therapist shall be responsible for managing all aspects of the occupational therapy care of each patient. An occupational therapist shall provide the following:
- (a) The initial evaluation and treatment plan for each patient and all supporting documentation;
  - (b) Periodic reevaluation for each patient and all supporting documentation; and
  - (c) The documented discharge of the patient, including the response to the intervention at the time of discharge.
- 6312.3 An occupational therapist who has been assigned to supervise a student training to be an occupational therapist shall:
- (a) Directly supervise the student assigned to him or her; and
  - (b) Countersign all official or service-related documentation that the student drafts.
- 6312.4 An occupational therapist supervising a student shall be responsible for all of the students' actions performed within the scope of practice during the time of supervision and shall be subject to disciplinary action for any violation of the Act or this chapter by the person supervised.
- 6312.5 An occupational therapist supervising an occupational therapy assistant shall be responsible for all of the occupational therapy assistant's actions performed within the scope of practice during the time of supervision and shall be subject to disciplinary action for any violation of the Act or this chapter by the occupational therapy assistant under his or her supervision.
- 6312.6 A supervising occupational therapist shall provide the following:
- (a) Direct supervision of an occupational therapy assistant prior to initiating treatment programs and before planned discharges for patients;

- (b) An initial and, at a minimum, bimonthly direction to the occupational therapy assistant; and
- (c) Documentation for verification of supervision and direction.

6312.7 A supervising occupational therapist shall only delegate duties and responsibilities for the care of patients to the occupational therapy assistant with consideration given to the following:

- (a) The level of skill shown by the occupational therapy assistant;
- (b) The ability to use identified intervention in a safe and effective manner;
- (c) Experience of the occupational therapy assistant and work setting demands; and
- (d) The complexity and stability of the patient population to be treated.

### **6313 RE-LICENSURE**

6313.1 The requirements of this section shall apply to persons seeking re-licensure five (5) or more years after the expiration of their license.

6313.2 A re-licensure applicant shall submit proof of his or her educational and examination eligibilities in accordance with the requirements of §§ 6302 and 6303 and one of the following:

- (a) A certificate of good standing from a jurisdiction in the United States in which he or she holds an active license; or
- (b) Proof of completion of one hundred sixty (160) hours of supervised practice in accordance with § 6317 within the two (2) months prior to the date the application is submitted.

### **6314 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AIDES**

6314.1 An occupational therapy aide may be permitted to perform the following duties:

- (a) Under direct supervision of an occupational therapist:
  - (1) Guarding;
  - (2) Positioning;
  - (3) Holding body parts for splinting or bracing; and

- (4) Assisting with group and community reentry activities;
- (b) Under direct supervision of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant:
  - (1) Transfer practice;
  - (2) Assisting in routine:
    - A) Functional activity;
    - B) Functional exercise; and
    - C) Activities of daily living (ADL) program;
  - (3) Applying assistive devices;
  - (4) Applying adaptive devices;
  - (5) Assisting the client with the use of assistive equipment; and
  - (6) Reality orientation for the confused client; and
- (c) Under general supervision of an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant:
  - (1) Clerical;
  - (2) Secretarial;
  - (3) Housekeeping;
  - (4) Supply maintenance;
  - (5) Equipment maintenance;
  - (6) Fabrication of straps for splinting and bracing;
  - (7) Fabrication of assistive devices that are not work directly by a client;
  - (8) Routine transfers for transporting clients;
  - (9) Transporting clients; and
  - (10) Activities ancillary to group and individual activities.

6314.2 An occupational therapy aide shall not be permitted to do the following under any circumstance:

- (a) Interpret care plans;
- (b) Participate in care conferences;

- (c) Provide any hands-on care except as specified above;
- (d) Interpret referrals;
- (e) Perform evaluation procedures;
- (f) Initiate or adjust treatment programs;
- (g) Assume responsibility for planning treatment care; or
- (h) Document care given, including checklists or other forms of documentation.

### **6315 CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDIT**

- 6315.1 The Board may audit up to twenty percent (20%) of the number of licensees to determine compliance with the continuing education contact hour requirements.
- 6315.2 Upon notification by the Board that a licensee has been selected for an audit, the licensee shall submit the required documentation within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notice.
- 6315.3 A licensee who fails to provide proof of continuing education compliance during an audit may be subject to an audit in the subsequent renewal cycle.

### **6316 LAWFUL PRACTICE**

- 6316.1 An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant licensed to practice in the District of Columbia shall adhere to the AOTA's Code of Ethics for the practice of occupational therapy as it may be amended from time to time.
- 6316.2 An occupational therapist may purchase, store, and administer topical and aerosol medications as part of the practice of occupational therapy as defined herein, as long as the purchasing, storing, and administration of these medications are carried out pursuant to all laws and regulations of the Federal Government and the District of Columbia.
- 6316.3 An occupational therapist shall use the letters "OT", "OTR", "LOT", "OTR/L" or any other similar title or description in connection with the occupational therapist's name or place of business to denote licensure pursuant to the Act.
- 6316.4 A business providing and billing for occupational therapy services pursuant to the Act shall only advertise or otherwise promote an occupational therapist that is licensed.



- 6316.5 An occupational therapy assistant shall use the letters “OTA”, “COTA”, “OTA/L”, “COTA/L”, or any other similar title or description in connection with the occupational therapy assistant's name or place of business to denote licensure pursuant to the Act.
- 6316.6 An applicant for licensure shall not engage in any type of practice until an application for licensure and a supervised practice form are submitted to the Board.
- 6316.7 An applicant may practice for no more than sixty (60) days under a supervised practice form. The supervised practice form shall not be renewed.
- 6316.8 An occupational therapy aide shall not be permitted to use any credentials.
- 6316.9 Students shall identify themselves as such to patients. An occupational therapy student shall sign all documentation with the notation “occupational therapy student” or “OT student,” and occupational therapy assistant students shall sign all documentation with the notation “occupational therapy assistant student” or “OTA student.”

**6317 PRACTICE OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY BY A STUDENT, GRADUATE, OR PERSON SEEKING LICENSURE, RE-LICENSURE, REACTIVATION OR REINSTATEMENT**

- 6317.1 A student of occupational therapy, graduate of an occupational therapy program or other person seeking licensure, reactivation, or re-licensure may practice only under the general supervision of an occupational therapist with valid, unrestricted license in the District and in accordance with this section.
- 6317.2 Only the following person may practice under this section:
- (a) A student whose practice fulfills their educational requirements as described in § 103(c) of the Act, D.C. Official Code § 3-1201.03(c) and § 6302.1(b) of this chapter;
  - (b) An applicant for licensure whose application has been properly filed with the Board and is pending the result of the national examination or final approval by the Board;
  - (c) A person seeking reactivation of licensure as described in § 6309.3;
  - (d) A person seeking re-instatement of licensure in accordance with § 6310.4; or

- (e) A person seeking re-licensure five (5) or more years after the expiration of their previous license as described in § 6313.

6317.3 A supervisor of a person described in § 6317.2(b), (c), (d), or (e) shall, no less than two (2) weeks prior to the supervision begins, seek the authorization of the Board by providing the following information:

- (a) The supervisor's name and address;
- (b) The name of the person seeking licensure, reactivation, reinstatement, or re-licensure;
- (c) The expected period of supervision;
- (d) The nature and location of the practice of the person seeking licensure, reactivation, reinstatement, or re-licensure; and
- (e) The attestation that the supervisor understands and intends to comply with the supervisory requirements under this chapter.

6317.4 A person seeking to practice under supervision may begin the supervised practice after the Board has approved and authorized the practice.

6317.5 Supervised practice authorized for a person described in § 6317.2(c), (d), or (e) shall not exceed four (4) months.

6317.6 Supervised practice authorized for a person described in § 6317.2(b) shall not exceed sixty (60) days.

6317.7 A person engaged in supervised practice under this section shall identify himself or herself as a student or person practicing under supervision at all times including prior to the initiation of any practice with a client.

6317.8 Any of the following events shall result in an automatic and immediate termination of the authorized supervised practice:

- (a) Failure to pass the national examination if the supervised practice has been approved based on a pending license application;
- (b) The supervision is terminated for any reasons by either the supervisor or the supervisee; or
- (c) An arrest or charge for a felony.

6317.9 A person practicing under supervision in accordance with this section shall not receive any compensation of any nature, directly or indirectly, from a patient but

may receive a salary or other form of compensation from his or her supervisor based on the hours of practice performed.

6317.10 The supervisor shall be fully responsible for all supervised practice by the supervisee during the period of supervision and shall be subject to disciplinary action for any violation of the Act or this chapter by the supervisee.

6317.11 A person authorized to practice under supervision pursuant to this section shall be subject to all applicable provisions of the Act and this chapter. The Board may deny his or her application for license or take any disciplinary action against him or her in accordance with chapter 41 of this title if he or she has been found to have violated the Act or this chapter.

## **6399 DEFINITIONS**

6399.1 As used in this chapter, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed:

**Act** – the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99, D.C. Official Code § 3-1201 *et seq.* (2016 Repl.)).

**Approved continuing education** – continuing education meeting the requirements of §§ 6307 and 6308.

**Board** - The Board of Occupational Therapy, established by § 206 of the Act, D.C. Official Code § 3-1202.06.

**Contact hour** - At least fifty (50) minutes of continuing education credit.

**Direct supervision** - Supervision in which the supervisor is personally present and immediately available within the treatment area to give aid, direction, and instruction when occupational therapy procedures or activities are performed.

**Director** – The Director of the Department of Health or any successor or assignee.

**General supervision** - Supervision in which the supervisor is available on the premises or by communication device at the time the supervisee is practicing, and can be on-site in the event of a clinical emergency within two (2) hours.

**Graduate** – A person who has completed an educational program for occupational therapists that is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) and is seeking or has obtained authorization to practice occupational therapy without a license under the supervision of a licensed occupational therapist.

**Level I Fieldwork** - Enrichment of didactic coursework through direct observation and participation in selected aspects of the occupational therapy process to enable students to develop a basic comfort level with and understanding of the needs of clients.

**Level II Fieldwork** - Development of competent entry-level, general occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants through exposure to in-depth experiences in delivering occupational therapy services to a variety of clients.

**Licensee** – A person licensed or seeking renewal or reactivation of a license issued pursuant to this chapter.

**LGBTQ continuing education** – continuing education focusing on patients or clients who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender nonconforming, queer, or question their sexual orientation or gender identity and expression (“LGBTQ”) meeting the requirements of § 510(b)(5) of the Act (D.C. Official Code § 3-1205.10 (b)(5) (2016 Repl.)).

**Licensure term** – the two-year period between October 1 of each odd-numbered year to September 30 of the next odd-numbered year during which a license issued pursuant to this chapter is valid in accordance with § 6301.1.

**Occupational therapist** - A person licensed to practice occupational therapy under the Act.

**Occupational therapy-** (i) The therapeutic use of everyday life activities with individuals or groups, with or without compensation, for the purpose of participation in roles and situations in homes, schools, workplaces, communities, and other settings to promote health and welfare for those who have or are at risk for developing an illness, injury, disease, disorder, condition, impairment, disability, activity limitation, or participation restriction; (ii) Addressing the physical, cognitive, psycho-social, sensory, or other aspects of performance in a variety of contexts to support engagement in everyday life activities that affect health, well-being, and quality of life; (iii) The education and training of persons in the direct care of patients through the use of occupational therapy; and (iv) The education and training of persons in the field of occupational therapy.

**Occupational therapy aide** - A person who has received on-the-job training in occupational therapy and is employed in an occupational therapy setting under the immediate supervision of a licensed occupational therapist.

**Occupational therapy assistant** - A person licensed to practice as an occupational therapy assistant under the Act.

**Supervised practice** - unlicensed practice by a student, graduate, or person seeking reactivation, reinstatement, or re-licensure, as authorized by the Board and subject to the general supervision of an occupational therapist.

6399.2      Except as specified in § 7399.1, the definitions in § 4099 of Chapter 40 of this title are incorporated by reference and apply to this chapter.