

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Subject Matter of Proposed Regulations: Definition of the minimum of practical experience required to qualify as a Level II fieldwork educator.

Sections Affected: Title 16, Division 39, California Code of Regulations, Section 4180.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF THE REGULATIONS:

On January 1, 2001, Senate Bill 1046 (Murray, Chapter 697, Statutes of 2000) took effect, establishing the Board whose duties are to license occupational therapists, certify occupational therapy assistants and regulate the occupational therapy profession, with consumer protection as its number one priority.

Existing law, Section 2570.3(h) gives the Board authority to develop and adopt regulations regarding the educational training, competency and supervision of occupational therapy assistants. Sections 2570.3(j), 2570.3(j)(1) and 2570.3(j)(2) further define rules and responsibilities of supervising occupational therapists. The proposed regulatory actions are necessary to implement and further clarify this statutory authority.

FACTUAL BASIS/NECESSITY:

Existing law, Business and Professions Code, Section 2570.13 empowers the Board to adopt the rules necessary to assure appropriate supervision of occupational therapy assistants and aides. Existing regulations specify and define terms relating to the supervision of occupational therapy assistants, limited permit holders, students and Aides, as they are used throughout the Supervision Parameters set forth in CCR 4181.

This amendment would add "Level II Fieldwork Educator" and specify the qualifications of a Level II Fieldwork educator to make the qualifications consistent with the standards established by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). The amendment to Section 4180 will eliminate any confusion concerning the qualifications for a Level II Fieldwork educator by making California's standards consistent with the national requirements.

This amendment would delete the words "and administrative" from the definition of "Non-client related tasks" to clarify that these types of tasks this amendment are now limited to "clerical and secretarial" activities, to avoid causing confusion caused by the vague words "and administrative".

UNDERLYING DATA:

No underlying data was used during the development of these regulations.

BUSINESS IMPACT:

This regulation will not have a significant adverse economic impact on business. The proposed regulation will only affect individuals applying for a occupational therapist license or occupational therapy assistant certificate.

SPECIFIC TECHNOLOGIES OR EQUIPMENT

These regulations do not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

No reasonable alternative to the regulations would be either more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulations.