CALIFORNIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Strategic Plan 2011–2014

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Introduction

The California Board of Occupational Therapy (Board), established on January 1, 2001 (Senate Bill 1046, Chapter 697, Statutes of 2000), protects the health, safety, and welfare of california consumers by regulating the practice of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants. Board members meet four to six times annually to set policy, develop legislation and regulations that identify education, experience and examination requirements for licensure and establish and enforce professional standards of practice.

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VISION

VISION

The California Board of Occupational Therapy is a model organization for occupational therapy state regulatory boards, ensuring consumer protection and quality occupational therapy.

MISSION

The mission of the California Board of Occupational Therapy is to regulate occupational therapy by serving and protecting california's consumers and licensees.

CORE VALUES

The California Board of Occupational Therapy will strive for the highest possible quality throughout all of its programs making it a progressive and responsive organization by:

- Providing excellent customer service to consumers, licensees, employers and other stakeholders;
- Promoting, applying, and enforcing ethical standards of occupational therapy;
- Implementing fair and consistent application of the laws and regulations governing occupational therapy;
- Recognizing and supporting the diverse practice settings and roles in occupational therapy;
- Encouraging active participation by stakeholders through access to the board;
- Ensuring a high level of professionalism, efficiency, and effectiveness by the board members and staff.

STRATEGIC GOALS

The following strategic goals were identified:

Goal 1:
enforce the laws and regulations governing occupational therapy by effectively investigating complaints, non-compliance, and irregularities, and concluding with an appropriate response.

Goal 2:
ensure those seeking licensure meet professional standards of conduct, education, fieldwork, and examination.

Goal 3:
monitor evolving trends and standards in occupational therapy, modify statutes and regulations as needed, and promptly inform licensees of these changes, secure necessary funding and ensure responsive staff processes.

Goal 4:
inform the public and other entities about occupational therapy requirements, evidence-based practices, standards and trends through accessible "green" communication methods.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1:

Enforce the laws and regulations governing occupational therapy by effectively investigating complaints, non-compliance, irregularities, and conclude with an appropriate response.

1.1 Fully audit no less than 5 percent of renewing licensees, to determine if continuing competency requirements are met.

1.2 Establish and maintain a pool of 20 practice reviewers to review enforcement cases.

1.3 Target 90 percent of complaints investigated by board staff to be completed in 90 days or less.

1.4 Ensure the enforcement program is sufficiently funded and staffed to ensure consumer protection with prompt actions.

1.5 Promptly post disciplinary process on board's website.

Goal 2:

Ensure those seeking licensure meet professional standards of conduct, education, fieldwork, and examination.

2.1 Research the implications of revised (2008) accreditation council for occupational therapy education (acote) standards and determine relevance to and impact on advanced practice requirements by 2013.

2.2 Investigate the value and cost of developing a jurisprudence examination on professional standards of conduct.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (CONTD.)

Goal 3:

Monitor evolving trends and standards in occupational therapy, modify statutes and regulations as needed and promptly inform licensees of these changes, secure necessary funding, and ensure responsive staff processes.

3.1 Practice committee will identify and track changes in areas of occupational therapy practice, education and research, and advise the board.

3.2 The legislative and regulatory review committee will identify and track legislation and review regulations which affect occupational therapy practice and advise the board.

3.3 Annually review continuing competency requirements relevant to identified best practices, standards and trends.

3.4 Send quarterly notifications to advise and update practitioners of laws and regulations.

3.4.a Educate practitioners of laws and regulations impacting occupational therapy scope of practice.

3.5 Through on-line licensure (breeze), 80% of the license renewals and initial licensure applications will be completed via the internet.

3.6 Provide at least two board meetings annually and committee meetings when possible via electronic communication to increase accessibility to board business.

Goal 4:

Inform the public and other entities about occupational therapy requirements, evidence-based practices, standards and trends through accessible "green" communication methods.

4.1 Increase education and outreach efforts to consumers regarding laws and regulations affecting occupational therapy.

4.1.a. Develop and make available consumer-related informational brochures (i.e. 'what is ot?' And 'the complaint process.')

4.1.b. Participate in at least four community programs and public events annually to educate the public about occupational therapy, subject to travel restrictions and available funding.

4.2 Active collaboration with other health care professionals (i.e. physical therapists, speech-language pathologists and audiologists, nurses, physicians, social workers and other mental-health practitioners, etc.) to ensure that those professions and the public are informed about occupational therapy, and that the occupational therapy regulations and enforcement procedures are applicable, adequate and relevant.

4.3 Active collaboration with the department of health care services, the department of public health, the department of mental health, the department of aging, the department of social services, the department of education, the department of veteran's affairs, the department of corrections and rehabilitation, the legislative bodies and other governmental entities, and ensure they are adequately informed about occupational therapy and that their respective laws and regulations are updated appropriately.