



Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board
Missy Anthony, Executive Director
Senate Health Committee
FY 2026-2027 Operating Budget
May 1, 2025

Good morning Chair Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the Senate Health Committee. My name is Missy Anthony, Executive Director of the Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board. On behalf of the OTPTAT Board members, thank you for the opportunity to testify on the FY 26-27 OTPTAT Board budget as proposed by Governor Mike DeWine.

The mission of the Ohio OTPTAT Board is to actively promote and protect the health of Ohioans through effective regulation of the professions of occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), athletic training (AT), orthotics, prosthetics, and pedorthics (OPP). This is accomplished through primary tasks of regulation for over 36,000 professionals:

- Establishing and checking requirements for entry into the profession
- Adopting administrative rules based on the Board's statutory authority to increase transparency and create processes for efficient regulation
- Investigating complaints and disciplining license holders for violations of the code of ethics
- Promoting continued competence of licensees through required continuing education

These essential functions are accomplished by a team of ten employees and payroll drives the bulk of the agency's budget (83%). The Board itself is comprised of five members of the Occupational Therapy Section (four OT/one OTA), nine members of the Physical Therapy Section (eight PT/one PTA), five members of Athletic Trainers Section (four AT/one physician), and one public member – for a total of twenty members. The five members of the Ohio Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics Advisory Council advise the board on matters related to those professions.

As part of Fund 4K90, the OTPTAT Board's budget is entirely supported by revenue raised through licensure fees and disciplinary fines. The Board respectfully requests spending authority totaling \$1,352,852 in FY 26 and \$1,434,859 in FY 27. This amount will fully support necessary board operations for FY 26-27 biennium, barring any major expenses related to disciplinary hearings or legislative initiatives which require eLicense changes. Payroll and Department of Administrative Services (rent, IT) costs are two of the main components of the

OTPTAT Board budget. The OTPTAT Board uses the Office of Budget and Management's Central Service Agency, which assists boards with many administrative tasks through shared fiscal and human resource services. Based on historical revenue trends, the OTPTAT Board's anticipated revenue in the upcoming biennium will cover the amount requested by the Board in this budget request, as the OTPTAT Board has historically been a net contributor to the 4K90 fund.

Fiscal Year 24-25 Highlights and Initiatives:

1. Issued 2,017 new licenses in Fiscal Year 2024. Licenses are typically issued within 1-2 business days of receipt of a completed application.
2. Initiated 112 investigations of violations of the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code in 2024. Investigations result in a myriad of outcomes, ranging from case closure to license revocation.
3. Completed a complete reorganization of agency rules. This reorganization eliminated duplication and reduced the number of rules from 169 to 86.
4. Continued participation in the Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Interstate Licensure Compacts. As of April 4, 2025, there are 366 physical therapists and 58 physical therapist assistants licensed in other states who hold a privilege to practice in Ohio. Additionally, there are 748 physical therapists and 131 physical therapist assistants living in Ohio using the PT Compact to practice across state lines. The OT Compact is planned to go-live later this year. The athletic trainers profession is currently working to draft its own licensure compact.
5. Supported awareness of the Board's Safe Haven program partnership with the Ohio Professionals Health Program, which provides resources to licensees to support their wellness. To date, this partnership has provided over 5,000 hours of education on substance use and mental health wellness and has processed 29 referrals.
6. Promoted changes to the eLicense Ohio system to begin collecting critical workforce data about licensed professions and to promote efficiencies that reduce human error and processing time for Board staff.

On behalf of the OTPTAT Board, I appreciate thoughtful consideration of the Board's FY 2026-2027 budget request, and I am happy to answer any questions.

Historical Trends:

The OTPTAT Board continues to see growth in all lines of business, as demonstrated by increases in the number of active license holders, meanwhile fees have remained the same as the Board has been able to operationally absorb the growth with existing staffing.

Current Fees Charged (Unchanged in this budget):

Category	Fee	Category	Fee
Initial Applications	\$100	License renewals (two-year)	\$70
Reinstatement Applications	\$100	License verifications	\$15
State Compact Fee (PT)	\$50	Duplicate wall certificates	\$10
3-D printing	\$25	OT and AT CE Approval	\$25

Number of License Holders by Fiscal Year:

License	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
OT	5,233	5,548	5,732	5,661	6,150	6,205	6,650	7,158	7,186	7,626	7,574
OTA	4,102	4,479	4,470	4,694	5,058	4,985	5,170	5,420	5,168	4,812	5,050
PT	8,604	9,185	9,387	9,795	9,888	10,493	10,578	11,236	10,977	11,659	11,542
PTA	7,122	7,613	8,060	7,943	8,433	8,477	8,842	9,196	8,874	8,284	8,555
PTC									112	279	437
AT	2,509	2,815	2,903	2,753	2,985	2,903	3,094	3,374	3,285	3,076	3,293
LO					78	74	81	85	82	75	78
LP					64	64	70	81	72	58	59
LPED					81	78	80	71	67	58	59
LPO					122	134	145	144	155	143	155
3-D							2	2	1	1	1
TOTAL	27,570	29,640	30,552	30,846	32,859	33,413	34,712	36,767	35,979	36,071	36,803

Current OTPTAT Board Membership:

Athletic Trainers Section

Board Member

City

Term Expires

Term

Trevor Bates, AT, Chair	Sylvania	2026	3rd
Ben Burkam, MD, Secretary	Dublin	2025	2nd
Hollie Kozak, AT	Willoughby	2025	3rd
Gary Lake, AT, Joint Board President-Elect	Wadsworth	2027	3rd
Jeff Sczpanski, AT	Galloway	2026	2nd

Occupational Therapy Section

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Term</u>
Nichole Dearth, MOT, OTR/L, Chair, Joint Board President	Ada	2027	3rd
Sarah Heldmann, BS, COTA/L,	Toledo	2027	3rd
Marnie Renda, OTD, M. Ed., OTR/L, Secretary	Cincinnati	2025	1st
Anissa Siefert, MOT, OTR/L	New Washington	2025	3rd
Melissa Van Allen, OTR/L	Columbus	2026	3rd

Physical Therapy Section

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Term</u>
Mario Baker, PT, DPT, MS, GCS, Chair	Bowling Green	2025	2nd
Cara Berg-Carramusa, PT, MSPT, EdD*	Poland	2026	1st
Craig Campbell, PT, DPT, CSMT, OCS*	Leesburg	2026	2nd
Michele Courtney, PT, PhD, MBA, Joint Board Secretary	Lancaster	2026	1st
Betsy Donahoe-Fillmore, PT, PhD*	Mason	2025	1st
Anthony Ganim, PT, MBA	Hilliard	2027	3rd
Sanaz Holcomb, PTA	Brecksville	2026	1st
Karen McIntyre, PT, DPT*	Avon	2027	3rd
Cheryl VanHoose, PT, MHS, Secretary	Dayton	2027	2nd

*denotes not on Joint Board

Public Member – Joint Board

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Term</u>
Timothy Keck, JD	Grove City	2026	2nd

Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics Advisory Council

<u>Advisory Council Members</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Term</u>
Alan Kercher, LP	Springboro	2026	2nd
Derek Kinsella, LPO	Lancaster	2027	3rd
Allison Seim, LPO	Cincinnati	2025	1st (partial)
Nicholas Sellas, LPO	Stow	2025	1st
Brian Weaver, LPO, Chair	Grove City	2026	3rd