



Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board

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Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board
Missy Anthony, Executive Director
House State and Local Government Committee
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Good afternoon Chair Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee. My name is Missy Anthony, Executive Director of the Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers (OTPTAT) Board. Thank you for the opportunity to testify about the duties and responsibilities of the OTPTAT Board.

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:

- Establishing and checking requirements for entry into the profession
- Adopting administrative rules to increase transparency and create processes for efficient regulation
- Investigating complaints and disciplining licensees for violations of the code of ethics
- Assuring continued competence of licensees through required continuing education

These essential functions are accomplished by a team of nine employees, and payroll drives the bulk of the agency's budget. The Board itself is comprised of five members of the Occupational Therapy Section (four OT/one OTA), nine members of the Physical Therapy Section (all PT), 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 advises the board on matters related to those professions.

Currently, the Board has a total number of 35,513 active licenses. The breakdown of which is below:

<u>Occupational Therapist</u>	<u>Occupational Therapy Assistant</u>	<u>Physical Therapist</u>	<u>Physical Therapist Assistant</u>	<u>Athletic Trainer</u>	<u>Orthotist</u>	<u>Prosthetist</u>	<u>Prosthetist-Orthotist</u>	<u>Pedorthist</u>	<u>3-D Print</u>
6,872	5,049	11,393	8,721	3,130	74	63	141	68	2

A summary of education and professional licensure in other states across the professions:

Profession	Current entry-level education	Licensure in other states
Occupational Therapist	Master's degree required, developing OTD programs	All 50

Occupational Therapy Assistant	Associate's degree required, developing Bachelor level programs	All 50
Physical Therapist	Doctorate level required	All 50
Physical Therapist Assistant	Associates degree required	All 50
Athletic Trainer	Master's degree required	43 license, 2 certify, 4 register, 1 does not regulate
Orthotics	Master's degree required	15 states license, 2 certify
Prosthetics	Master's degree required	15 states license, 2 certify
Pedorthics	High School degree	11 states license, 1 certifies
3-D printing of open source prosthetic kits	No minimum level education	No other state regulates currently

The Board works hard to be responsive to emerging trends in regulation and legislative initiatives. A few recent examples of implementation for the OTPTAT Board include temporary military licenses, House Bill 263 (Fresh Start Act), authority for 3-D printing of open-source prosthetics, and the PT and OT interstate licensure compacts (Senate Bills 5 and 7). I am pleased to report that six individuals have received PT Compact privileges to work in Ohio since we began participating on October 1. In addition to these changes, the OTPTAT Board's AT Section looks forward to implementing the practice act changes for athletic trainers which are part of House Bill 176 (Bitonte, Hall), which recently passed. We have also examined our processes thoroughly as it pertains to sexual boundary violations to be sure that the public is adequately protected.

Thank you to the committee for the opportunity to testify in support of the important role the OTPTAT Board plays in public protection for the state of Ohio. I am happy to answer any questions at this time.