

**BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
MINUTES
TASK FORCE MEETING**

DATE: October 24, 2019
TIME: 1:00 PM CST
LOCATION: Poplar Conference Room
665 Mainstream Dr, 1st Floor
Nashville TN 37243
MEMBERS PRESENT: Amanda Newbern
Anita Tisdale
Marilyn Franklin
STAFF PRESENT: Noranda French, Unit Director
Sabrina Craig-Boyd, Board Administrator
Lara Gill, Associate General Counsel

Roll Call

Board members and guests present at this meeting; Anita Tisdale, Amanda Newbern, Marilyn Franklin, Lara Gill, Noranda French, John Williams, David McGuire, Gwen Fox, Kaylin Flamm, Susan McDonald, Cindy Blackwell. Meeting began at 1:35pm CST.

Meeting Item:

A. Proposal for amending completion dates for completing continuing education requirement.

Lara Gill recapped the current policy regarding due date for continuing education deadline. Currently CEU's are measured by calendar year and are due by December 31 of the year prior to the licensee expiration year. Ms. Newbern suggested the change to reflect continuing education courses to be completed by the last day of the month proceeding the licensee's renewal month. "The board shall require each licensed Occupational Therapist and Occupational Therapist Assistant to participate in a minimum number of activities to promote continued competence during the (24) months that precede the licensure renewal month". Ms. French addressed the board with a concern of this process as experienced with other boards regarding the due date of the CEU's being less than (24) months. Mr. John Williams addressed the board to clarify the question by explaining that the month in which the licensee renews the license is counted in the following CEU cycle. Mr. David McGuire addressed the board to suggest an example of the new rule also be included in the language for clarification. Final reading by Ms. Gill, "The board shall require each licensed Occupational Therapist and Occupational Therapy Assistant to participate in a minimum number of activities to promote continued competence during the (24) months that precede the licensure renewal month. The renewal cycle will begin the first day of your birthday month and continue to the last day of the month preceding your birthday month."

Ms. Newbern made motion to adopt continued competency rule amendment as follows, *“On January 1, 2006, the board shall begin to notify applicants for licensure renewal of the continued competence requirement as provided in TCA 63-13-204D. Effective January 1, 2021, the board shall require each licensed Occupational Therapist and Occupational Therapy Assistant to participate in a minimum number of activities to promote continued competence during the (24) months that precede the licensure renewal month. Your renewal cycle will begin on the first day of your birthday month and continue until the last day of the month preceding your birthday month.”* Ms. Tisdale seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

B. Proposal for removing the rule requirement physical agent modality “Iontophoresis”.

Ms. Gill recapped the process of a rule change in regards to timing and process of a rule making hearing. With no objection or discussion from task force members, Ms. Tisdale made motion to *“amend Board of Occupational Therapy rule 1150-02-.04 qualifications for licensure by removing subsection (3)(IV)Iontophoresis.”* Ms. Franklin seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

C. Proposal for adopting rule regarding suicide prevention continuing education for Occupational Therapist.

Ms. Gill presented the board and task force members with an example of the rule used by the Board of Social Work as a guide to write the rule for Occupational Therapy. Mr. Williams presented the question of timing for licensees to have completed. Mr. McGuire suggested adding a new rule number as opposed to changing an existing rule number. Ms. Newbern made motion to *“amend rule 1150-02-.12 by adding sub-paragraph (7) Suicide prevention training required under the Kenneth Madge Tullis MD Suicide Prevention Training Act. (a) Current Tennessee licensees, beginning January 1, 2020, all persons who hold an active license as an Occupational Therapist must complete a minimum (2) hours training program by a board approved provider relative to suicide prevention at least once every (4) years. (b) New Tennessee licensees and Occupational Therapist applying for initial licensure in the state of Tennessee on or after January 2020 is not required to complete a training program on suicide prevention for (2) years after the date of initial licensure if the applicant can demonstrate successful completion of a (2) hour training program by a board approved provider, that was completed no more than (2) years prior to the application for initial licensure. (c) Hours earned. The continuing education hours earned through the training program under part (a) and part (b) of the sub paragraph count towards meeting the continuing education requirements listed in this rule.”* Ms. Tisdale seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

D. Kaylin Flamm presented the board with a list of suggested suicide prevention courses by board approved providers that would meet the criteria to satisfy the rule requirement. “Safeside Prevention”, “The Cam’s Training”, “QPR”. Ms. French offered to reach out to the states of Washington and Oregon to research suicide prevention programs provided for those states licensees.

- E. Task force discussed several items to be considered for rule changes including Telehealth, Entry Level Doctoral Students supervision, disciplinary actions for lapsed license, and fines for CE violations.

At 2:53 pm, Ms. Tisdale made motion to adjourn the Task Force Meeting, seconded by Ms. Franklin. Meeting adjourned.