Occupational Therapist

Licensed individuals who treat injured, ill, or disabled patients through the therapeutic use of everyday activities. Occupational therapists help patients develop, recover, improve, as well as maintain the skills needed for daily living and working.

Occupational Therapy Assistant

A person licensed to assist in the practice of occupational therapy, under the supervision of an occupational therapist.
Degrees:
- Graduate from an ACOTE-accredited OT educational program

*ACOTE = Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education

Examination Requirement

States with 1 required examination
- Blue

States with 2 required examinations
- Yellow

2020
Continuing Education Requirement

*To allow for comparison, CE requirements have been adjusted to 2-year reporting cycles.

CE Reporting Cycles

- 1 year
- 2 years
- 3 years
- 4 years
- 5 years

The State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure

Occupational Therapist

Training / Experience Requirement

- 8 weeks
- 24 weeks
- 26 weeks

- 24 CE hours/2 yrs
- 26 - 32 CE hours/2 yrs
- 40 - 50 CE hours/2 yrs

*MA, NJ & WI do not have a CE requirement
Occupational Therapist

Initial Licensing Fee

- **PA**: $30.00
- **U.S. Avg.**: $146.59
- **HIGHEST**: $390.00 (Alaska)
- **MEDIAN**: $135.00
- **LOWEST**: $25.00 (Illinois)

*Initial licensing fee comparison excludes examination fees, background check fees, and finger printing fees.

Renewal Fees

- **PA**: $55.00
- **U.S. Avg.**: $133.78
- **HIGHEST**: $280.00 (Maryland)
- **MEDIAN**: $140.00
- **LOWEST**: $30.00 (Missouri)

*To allow for comparisons, all fees have been adjusted to biennial renewal cycles.

Renewal Cycles

- **37 States**: Triennial
- **1 State**: Biennial
- **12 States**: Annual
# Occupational Therapist

## States with Reciprocity or Endorsement

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<tr>
<th>Endorsement</th>
<th>Reciprocity</th>
<th>Not Specified in Legislation</th>
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**Reciprocity / Endorsement**

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- California
- Delaware
- Georgia
- Louisiana
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Montana
- New Jersey
- North Dakota
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- West Virginia

**Credentials**

- Alaska
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- New York
- Washington

**Act 41**, signed by Governor Wolf on July 2, 2019, allows for portability of out-of-state professional licensees coming to work in Pennsylvania. Act 41 does this by granting all boards and commissions within the Commonwealth the authority to immediately endorse licensee from other states, territories or jurisdictions (with substantially equivalent licensing requirements) who are active, in good standing and without discipline against their license or criminal conviction. If a licensee comes from a jurisdiction that does not have substantially equal requirements for licensure, then the boards/commissions may grant a provisional license for a period of such time to allow the new resident to meet the necessary requirements, allowing them access to gainful employment in the interim.
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Degree Requirement

- **Degree:**
  - Graduate from an ACOTE-accredited OTA educational program

  *ACOTE = Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education

Examination Requirement

- **States with 1 required examination**
- **States with 2 required examinations**
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Training / Experience Requirement

- **8 weeks**
- **12 weeks**
- **16 weeks**

![Map of Training / Experience Requirement](image)

Continuing Education Requirement

- **24 hours**
- **21.73 hours**

![Map of Continuing Education Requirement](image)

CE Reporting Cycles

- **1 year**
- **2 years**
- **3 years**
- **8 States**
- **1 State**
- **38 States**

HI, MA & NJ do not have CE requirement
**Initial Licensing Fee**

- **PA**: $30.00
- **U.S. Avg.**: $126.51
- **HIGHEST**: $325.00 Alaska
- **MEDIAN**: $110.00
- **LOWEST**: $10.00 Missouri

*Initial licensing fee comparison excludes examination fees, background check fees, and fingerprinting fees.*

**Renewal Fees**

- **PA**: $45.00
- **U.S. Avg.**: $110.86
- **HIGHEST**: $230.00 Alabama
- **MEDIAN**: $100.00
- **LOWEST**: $10.00 Missouri

*To allow for comparisons, all fees have been adjusted to biennial renewal cycles.*

**Renewal Cycles**

- **36 States**: Biennial
- **13 States**: Annual
- **1 State**: Triennial
**Act 41, signed by Governor Wolf on July 2, 2019, allows for portability of out-of-state professional licensees coming to work in Pennsylvania. Act 41 does this by granting all boards and commissions within the Commonwealth the authority to immediately endorse licensee from other states, territories or jurisdictions (with substantially equivalent licensing requirements) who are active, in good standing and without discipline against their license or criminal conviction. If a licensee comes from a jurisdiction that does not have substantially equal requirements for licensure, then the boards/commissions may grant a provisional license for a period of such time to allow the new resident to meet the necessary requirements, allowing them access to gainful employment in the interim.

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### Occupational Therapy Assistant

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**Reciprocity / Endorsement**

Hawaii
The following states have specific requirements for licensure:

### Citizenship/Proof of Eligible Work Status Requirement

- **Yes**: States that require citizenship/proof of work status for licensure:
  - States with Yes: [map showing states with Yes]
  - States with No: [map showing states with No]

### Good Moral Character

- **Yes**: States that have a good moral character requirement for licensure:
  - States with Yes: [map showing states with Yes]
  - States with No: [map showing states with No]

### English Proficiency Requirement

- **Yes**: States that have an English proficiency requirement for licensure:
  - States with Yes: [map showing states with Yes]
  - States with No: [map showing states with No]

*if applicant’s native language is not English*
Sources:
State Licensing Boards

Alabama
http://www.ot.alabama.gov/default.aspx

Alaska
https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/professionallicensing/physicaltherapyoccupationaltherapy.aspx

Arizona
https://ot.az.gov/

Arkansas
https://www.armedicalboard.org/Professionals/OccupationalTherapistandAssistant.aspx

California
https://www.bot.ca.gov/

Colorado
https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/OccupationalTherapy

Connecticut

Delaware
https://dpr.delaware.gov/boards/occupationaltherapy/licensure/

District of Columbia
https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/occupational-therapy/licensing/

Florida
http://floridasoccupationaltherapy.gov/licensing/occupational-therapist/

Georgia

Hawaii
http://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/

Idaho

Illinois
https://www.idfpr.com/Profsoh/Profsoh-Home/OccupationalTherapists/OT

Indiana
https://www.in.gov/pla/ot.htm

Iowa
https://idph.iowa.gov/Licensure/Iowa-Board-of-Physical-and-Occupational-Therapy/Licensure

Kansas
http://www.ksbha.org/professions/OT.shtml

Kentucky
http://bot.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx

Louisiana
http://louisiana.gov/Services/POLicenses/

Maine

Maryland
https://health.maryland.gov/botp/Pages/Licensing.aspx

Massachusetts
https://www.mass.gov/regulations/259-CMR-3-occupational-therapists

Michigan
http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-72600_72603_27529_27545--,00.html

Minnesota
https://mn.gov/boards/occupational-therapy/

Mississippi
https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,82,60.html

Missouri
https://pr.mo.gov/oth/operules-statutes.asp

Montana
http://boardsbsd.dli.mt.gov/otp#1?1

Nebraska
http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Occupational-Therapy.aspx

Nevada
https://www.nvot.org/

New Hampshire
https://www.opcl.nh.gov/allied-health/administration.htm

New Jersey
http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/ot/Pages/default.aspx

New Mexico
http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/occupational_therapy.aspx

New York
http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/ot/otlic.htm

North Carolina

North Dakota
https://ndotboard.com/lic/index.asp

Ohio
http://otptat.ohio.gov/Portals/0/laws/Ohio%20OT%20Practice%20Act%20as%20of%20May%202018.pdf?ver=2018-05-02-143519-423

Oklahoma
http://www.okmedialboard.org/occupational_therapists#forms-resources

Oregon

Pennsylvania
http://www.dos.pa.gov/professionallicensing/boardscommissions/occupationaltherapy/Pages/default.aspx

Rhode Island
https://lhr.sc.gov/ot/

South Dakota
http://www.sdbmoe.gov/

Tennessee
https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/ot-board/opt-board/applications.html

Texas
https://www.ptot.texas.gov/page/home

Utah
http://dopl.utah.gov/licensing/occupational_therapy.htm

Vermont
https://cms.sec.state.vt.us:8443/share/s-/L9X9zlwT8SHqFsVw1F6tw

Virginia
https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/medicine/advisory/ot/

Washington
https://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificate/Companies/NewReneworUpdate/OccupationalTherapist

West Virginia
https://www.wvbot.org/licensure-application/

Wisconsin
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/ot/2.pdf

Wyoming
http://ot.state.wy.us/