

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
CHAPTER 671-3 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS, RULE 671-3-.01 APPLICATION,
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia Board of Occupational Therapy (hereinafter "Board") proposes an amendment to Rule Chapter 671-3 License Requirements, Rule 671-3-.01 Application. (hereinafter "proposed rule amendment").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment, is being mailed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a mailing list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment, and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. These documents will also be available for review on the Board website at www.sos.state.ga.us/plb/ot or by contacting the Board office at 478-207-2440.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, February 17, 2017, in the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia, 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendment.

At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Written comments are welcomed. Such written comments must be legible and signed, should contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number and/or facsimile number, etc.) and be actually received in the office prior to the close of business (5:00 p.m. EDT) on Friday, February 10, 2017. Written comments should be addressed to Lisa W. Durden, Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia Board of Occupational Therapy, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217; Fax (866) 888-1308.

The Board will consider the proposed rule amendment for adoption at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m., Friday, February 17, 2017 at the Georgia Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Board has the authority to adopt the proposed rule amendment to 671-6-.02 pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-3, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-28-7, 43-28-8, 43-28-9, 43-28-10, 43-28-11 and 50-36-1.

At its meeting May 13, 2016, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of

O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-3, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-28-7, 43-28-8, 43-28-9, 43-28-10, 43-28-11 and 50-36-1.

Additionally, at its meeting May 13, 2016, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-3, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-28-7, 43-28-8, 43-28-9, 43-28-10, 43-28-11 and 50-36-1 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Occupational Therapy.

For further information, contact the Board office at (478) 207-2440.

This notice is given in compliance with Section 4(a)(1) of the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act (O.C.G.A. §50-13-4).

This 13 day of December, 2016.



Lisa W. Durden

Director

Professional Licensing Boards

Posted: 13 Dec 16

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY RULE FOR CHAPTER 671-3 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS, RULE 671-3-.01 APPLICATION

Purpose: The purpose of this rule amendment is to update the rule to include the legal requirements that all applicants must submit a secure and verifiable document with affidavit to comply with O.C.G.A. §§ 50-36-1 and 50-36-2.

Main Features: The rule amendment further clarifies that applicants must submit a secure and verifiable document with affidavit as part of the application process and must meet all requirements for licensure as defined within the statute and Board Rules.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY RULE FOR CHAPTER 671-3 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS, RULE 671-3-.01 APPLICATION

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 671-3-.01. Application, Amended.

(1) Any occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant who plans to practice as a licensed occupational therapist or licensed occupational therapy assistant in the State of Georgia shall apply for licensure to the Board, on forms provided by the Board.

(2) In order to meet the Georgia requirements for licensure, an applicant must ~~submit an affidavit stating that the applicant is a U.S. citizen or an affidavit stating that the applicant is~~ lawfully present in the U.S. under federal immigration law and O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1(f)(1).

(3) Lawful presence in the U.S. must be documented by:

(a) submitting an identification document listed as a secure and verifiable document on the list maintained by the Office of the Georgia Attorney General under O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1; and,

(b) an affidavit of citizenship that complies with the provisions of federal immigration law and O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1(f)(1)(B).

(4) Both the secure and verifiable document and affidavit of citizenship must be submitted to the Board to complete the licensure application.

(5) Applicants for occupational therapy or occupational therapy assistant licensure in Georgia must meet all requirements for licensure as defined within the statute and Board Rules prior to issuance of a license.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-3, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-28-7, 43-28-8, 43-28-9, 43-28-10, 43-28-11 and 50-36-1.

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Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-3, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-28-7, 43-28-8, 43-28-9, 43-28-10, 43-28-11 and 50-36-1.