

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
CHAPTER 671-3 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS, RULE 671-3-.10 FOREIGN
APPLICANT, 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-.10 Foreign Applicant. (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. §§ 43-28-7(d), 43-28-9(a) and 43-28-10.

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. §§ 43-28-7(d), 43-28-9(a) and 43-28-10.

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. §§ 43-28-7(d), 43-28-9(a) and 43-28-10 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 21 day of December, 2016.



Lisa W. Durden
Director
Professional Licensing Boards

Posted: 21 DEC 16

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY RULE FOR CHAPTER 671-3 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS, RULE 671-3-.10 FOREIGN APPLICANT

Purpose: The purpose of this rule amendment is to further clarify that foreign trained applicants must successfully complete the foreign trained occupational therapy practitioner's process as required to take the board approved examination administered by the NBCOT.

Main Features: The rule amendment will add paragraph (2) specifying that foreign trained applicants must successfully complete the foreign trained occupational therapy practitioner's process as required to take the board approved examination administered by the NBCOT.

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-.10 FOREIGN APPLICANT

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

Rule 671-3-.10 Foreign Applicant, Amended

(1) An applicant for licensure through examination who has graduated from an occupational therapy course or school taught or situated in a foreign country may be admitted to the examination by demonstrating to the satisfaction of the Board that his/her course of training was as high as the standards maintained in Georgia. In ascertaining whether such an applicant meets such standards, the Board shall consider whether the school or course of training has been approved by the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board and whether the applicant's credentials have been evaluated and accepted by the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board.

(2) The Board requires that foreign trained applicants must successfully complete the foreign trained occupational therapy practitioner's process as is required to take the board approved examination. The Board approved examination is administered by the NBCOT. ~~The Board requires that foreign trained applicants must have successfully completed the foreign trained occupational practitioner's process as is required to take the Board approved examination.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-28-7(d), 43-28-9(a) and 43-28-10.

Rule 671-3-.10 Foreign Applicant, Amended

(1) An applicant for licensure through examination who has graduated from an occupational therapy course or school taught or situated in a foreign country may be admitted to the examination by demonstrating to the satisfaction of the Board that his/her course of training was as high as the standards maintained in Georgia. In ascertaining whether such an applicant meets such standards, the Board shall consider whether the school or course of training has been approved by the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board and whether the applicant's credentials have been evaluated and accepted by the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board.

(2) The Board requires that foreign trained applicants must successfully complete the foreign trained occupational therapy practitioner's process as is required to take the board approved examination. The Board approved examination is administered by the NBCOT.

| **Authority: O.C.G.A. § § 43-28-7(d), 43-28-9(a) and 43-28-10**