

Mission:

Above all else, the mission of the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT) is to serve the public interest. NBCOT provides a world-class standard for certification of occupational therapy practitioners. NBCOT will develop, administer, and continually review a certification process based on current and valid standards that provide reliable indicators of competence for the practice of occupational therapy.

Vision:

To be internationally recognized, by all relevant stakeholders, as the premier organization for certifying occupational therapy practitioners and for promoting quality in the provision of occupational therapy services to consumers through the initial and ongoing certification of occupational therapy practitioners.

NBCOT Organizational Principles:

- We will ensure fairness, accuracy, validity, and integrity in the development and administration of the certification program.
- We will build public confidence in the quality and credibility of the occupational therapy community through certification related research that supports the mission of NBCOT.
- We will endeavor to anticipate changes in the delivery of health care services in all sites (including hospitals, schools, industry, and communities) and the new competencies needed in occupational therapy.
- We will ensure that our credentialing process reflects public interest and meets the highest standards of measurement and competency assessment as defined by experts in that field.
- We will support the safe, proficient, competent practice of occupational therapy, and the willingness and capacity of the practitioner to improve. We see the certification process as a lifelong tool for the development of occupational therapy practitioners.
- We will be ever mindful of the prudent use of resources and cost-effective principles of good management in administering the certification process. Toward this end, we will support efforts to improve the regulatory process, supporting actions, which recognize competency rather than adherence to established mechanisms.
- We will protect the health and welfare of the public by, for example, removing or restricting certification of any practitioner who demonstrates an inability or failure to safely, proficiently or competently practice occupational therapy.
- We will support the development of board members and staff by recognizing the diversity of their contributions, assessing their needs, and providing support for their professional growth.

Approved: November 11, 1995

Revised: June 11, 2005