

Updates from ACOTE and AOTA Academic Affairs

Notes from the department.....

Inside:

Transition Rule #1	2
Transition Rule #2	3
OTA Standard A.2.9.	4
Glossary Additions	4
IPE	4
Distance Education	5
Education Summit	5
Program Numbers	6
PD Meeting	6
Contacts	7
Fees	7
Workshops	7

The work of the Accreditation Council continues to grow as it addresses the unprecedented growth in new programs, transitions to the new Standards, and implements the Web-based accreditation system.

This edition of the PD News includes copies of the recently distributed transition rules related to the change in the certification exam pass rate Standard. The rules were distributed to all program directors in February and will come into effect with the new Standards on July 31, 2013.

The newsletter also includes a new definition of “distance education delivery model” adopted at the December 2012 meeting, as well as the current definition for “distance education”.

I hope to see many of you at the spring meeting of the Program Directors’ Councils in San Diego on April 23-24, 2013. The combined meeting session will open with Dr.

Florence Clark’s final address to the Councils as AOTA President. The featured plenary session will address the economics of healthcare and the impact on academic programs as we prepare entry-level practitioners to succeed in the new “healthcare” environment. The session will also include the widely anticipated final report of the President’s Ad Hoc on the Future of Education.

The OTA PD Meeting will focus on a number of key issues, including competitive admissions and fieldwork challenges. The OT PD meeting will focus on the report of the task group addressing the entry-level degree for occupational therapy.

We are very excited by the call for papers for the Education Summit 2013 planned for Atlanta on October 4-5, 2013. We received over 240 completed proposals. The Summit will follow an abbreviated one-day Program Directors’ Council Meeting and include plenary sessions,

as well as papers, panel, and poster sessions.

It is anticipated that the Education Summit will become a biennial event on odd-numbered years. AOTA will continue to host a combined Program Director/AFWC meeting on even-numbered years.

Finally, I would like to thank and acknowledge your colleagues who have volunteered to be the pilot programs for the implementation of the new Web-based accreditation system. We truly appreciate your patience and feedback as we iron out the kinks in the system.

*Neil Harvison, PhD,
OTR/L, FAOTA
Director, Accreditation and
Academic Affairs*

Transition Rule for programs NOT in compliance with ACOTE Standard A.5.4 on July 31, 2013

“transition rule will be applied during the first 3 years under the revised Standards”

RULE #1: The following transition rule applies to all programs carrying an area of noncompliance related to 2006 ACOTE Standard A.5.4 on July 31, 2013. The transition rule will be applied during the first 3 years under the revised Standards until a full 3 years of data is available.

After the July 31, 2013, implementation of the 2011 ACOTE Standards, all programs carrying an area of noncompliance related to 2006 ACOTE Standard A.5.4 (*“The average total pass rate of program graduates taking the national certification exam for the first time over the three most recent calendar years must be 70% or higher”*) will have the area of noncompliance removed at the August 1-4, 2013 ACOTE meeting. The rationale for removal is that 2006 ACOTE Standard A.5.4 will be replaced with 2011 Standard A.5.6 with different criteria.

At the time of the April 2014 ACOTE meeting, all programs will be

evaluated under the first year of data collected under 2011 ACOTE Standard A.5.6 – *“The average pass rate over the 3 most recent calendar years for graduates attempting the national certification exam within 12 months of graduation from the program must be 80% or higher (regardless of the number of attempts). If a program has less than 25 test takers in the 3 most recent calendar years, the program may include test takers from additional years until it reaches 25 or until the 5 most recent calendar years are included in the total.”* At this time, the data will be available for the total pass rate of graduates sitting for the exam within 12 months of their graduation date in the calendar year 2013, irrespective of the number of attempts.

The following actions will be taken at the April 2014 ACOTE Meeting:

(1) If the program has achieved a pass rate of 80% or higher for graduates sitting the exam within 12 months of their graduation date in the calendar year 2013 (regardless of the number of attempts), the program will be considered compliant with 2011 Standard A.5.6.

(2) If the program has a pass rate of less than 80% for graduates sitting for the exam within 12 months of their graduation date in the calendar year 2013 (regardless of the number of attempts), the program will be given an area of noncompliance for Standard A.5.6 and placed on probation. The program will be informed that a pass rate of 80% must be achieved in the next year or accreditation will be withdrawn at the April 2015 meeting.

Further questions may be directed to nharvison@aota.org

Transition Rule for programs in compliance with ACOTE Standard A.5.4 on July 31, 2013

RULE #2: The following transition rule applies to all programs NOT carrying an area of noncompliance related to 2006 ACOTE Standard A.5.4 on July 31, 2013. The transition rule will be applied during the first 3 years under the revised Standards until a full 3 years of data is available.

At the time of the April 2014 ACOTE meeting, all programs will be evaluated under the first year of data collected under 2011 ACOTE Standard A.5.6 – *“The average pass rate over the 3 most recent calendar years for graduates attempting the national certification exam within 12 months of graduation from the program must be 80% or higher (regardless of the number of attempts).”*

The following actions will be taken at the April 2014 ACOTE meeting:

(1) If the program has achieved a pass rate of 80% or higher for graduates sitting for the exam within 12 months of their graduation date in the calendar year 2013

(regardless of the number of attempts), the program will be considered compliant with 2011 Standard A.5.6.

(2) If the program has a pass rate of less than 80% for graduates sitting for the exam within 12 months of their graduation date in the calendar year 2013 (regardless of the number of attempts), the program will be given an area of noncompliance and informed that ACOTE will withdraw accreditation from the program if the area of noncompliance is not corrected within the specified period of time (unless the period for achieving compliance is extended for good cause).

At the time of the April 2015 ACOTE meeting, all programs will be evaluated under the first two years of data collected under 2011 ACOTE Standard A.5.6.

The following actions will be taken at the April 2015 ACOTE meeting:

(1) If the program has achieved an average two-year pass rate of 80% or higher for graduates sitting for the exam within 12 months of their graduation

date for the calendar years 2013-2014 (regardless of the number of attempts), the program will be considered compliant with 2011 Standard A.5.6.

(2) If the program has an average two-year pass rate of less than 80% for graduates sitting the exam within 12 months of their graduation date for the calendar years 2013-2014 (regardless of the number of attempts), the program will be given an area of noncompliance and informed that ACOTE will withdraw accreditation from the program if the area of noncompliance is not corrected within the specified period of time (unless the period for achieving compliance is extended for good cause).

At the time of the April 2016 and subsequent ACOTE meetings, all programs will be evaluated under the most recent three years of data collected under 2011 ACOTE Standard A.5.6.

The following actions will be taken:

(1) If the program has achieved an average pass rate over the 3 most recent

calendar years for graduates attempting the national certification exam within 12 months of graduation from the program of 80% or higher (regardless of the number of attempts), the program will be considered compliant with 2011 Standard A.5.6.

(2) If the program has an average pass rate over the 3 most recent calendar years for graduates attempting the national certification exam within 12 months of graduation from the program of less than 80% (regardless of the number of attempts) the program will be given an area of noncompliance and informed that ACOTE will withdraw accreditation from the program if the area of noncompliance is not corrected within the specified period of time (unless the period for achieving compliance is extended for good cause).

Further questions may be directed to nharvison@aota.org

Interpretive Guide Change: 2011 OTA Standard A.2.9.

"AN ONGOING INSTRUCTIONAL ROLE IN THE DELIVERY OF PROGRAMMATIC CONTENT THAT REFLECTS THE ROLE OF OTA THROUGHOUT THE OT PROCESS"

At the December 2012 meeting the Council approved the following interpretive guideline:

2011 OTA Standard

A.2.9: In programs where the program director is an occupational therapy assistant, an occupational therapist must be included on faculty and contribute to the functioning of the program through a variety of mechanisms including, but not limited to, teaching, advising, and committee work. In a program where there are only occupational therapists on faculty who have never practiced as an

occupational therapy assistant, the program must demonstrate that an individual who is an occupational therapy assistant or an occupational therapist who has previously practiced as an occupational therapy assistant is involved in the program as an adjunct faculty or teaching assistant.

IN A PROGRAM WHERE THERE ARE ONLY OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS ON FACULTY WHO HAVE NEVER PRACTICED AS AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT, THE PROGRAM MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT

AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT OR AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST WHO HAS PREVIOUSLY PRACTICED AS AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT HAS AN ONGOING INSTRUCTIONAL ROLE IN THE DELIVERY OF PROGRAMMATIC CONTENT THAT REFLECTS THE ROLE OF OTA THROUGHOUT THE OT PROCESS. THIS REQUIREMENT MAY BE FILLED BY ONE OR MORE PERSONS.

An updated December 2012 version of the interpretive guide is available online at www.acoteonline.org.

Further questions may be directed to nharvison@aota.org.

New additions to the Glossary

The following definitions have been added to the ACOTE Glossary:

Consortium: Two or more higher education institutions having a formal agreement to share resources for the operation

of an educational program.

Cooperative Program:

Two administrative entities having a cooperative agreement to offer a single program. At least one of the entities

must hold degree-granting authority as required by the ACOTE Standards.

The ACOTE Glossary is available online at www.acoteonline.org.

IPE/P pre-conference institute

Integrating inter-professional education in occupational therapy curriculum will be the focus of an AOTA sponsored pre-conference institute in San Diego on

April 24, 2013 from noon-6:30 pm.

Each participant at the workshop will develop a proposal for integrating IPE in OT curriculum

within the participant's own academic setting, building a bridge into the practice environment.

Register online at the [AOTA Conference Web page](#).

Distance Education Delivery Model Defined

At the December 2012 meeting, ACOTE adopted the following definition:

DISTANCE EDUCATION DELIVERY MODEL: *There is one curriculum with some (or all) of the students receiving the didactic portion of the program taught via distance education from the primary campus. The didactic portion of the program is delivered to all students (irrespective of whether it is delivered in class or by distance education) by the same instructors. Students may receive the experiential and lab components at either the primary campus or at other locations.*

The Council had previously adopted the following definition for distance education:

DISTANCE EDUCATION: *Education that uses one or more of the technologies listed below to deliver instruction to students who are separated from the instructor and to support regular and substantive interaction between the students and the instructor, either synchronously or asynchronously. The technologies may include*

- *The Internet;*
- *One-way and two-way transmissions through open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, broadband lines, fiber optics, satellite, or wireless communications devices;*
- *Audio conferencing; or*
- *Video cassettes, DVDs, and CD-ROMs, if the cassettes, DVDs, or CD-ROMs are used in a course.*

Fall 2013 Program Directors Meeting & Education Summit

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Fall 2013 Program Directors Meeting & Education Summit Atlanta, GA – Hyatt Regency Atlanta Hotel

October 3

Program Directors Education Councils Meeting

Designed for program directors, including acting program directors, from ACOTE accredited & candidate occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant programs.

October 4-5

Education Summit

AOTA invites educators, scholars, post professional graduate students, and clinicians who share the common vision of enhanced understanding of teaching and learning in occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant degree programs. [Click here](#) for more information.

Fee

- Program Directors Meeting & Education Summit Combined \$399 member; \$ 595 nonmember
- Program Directors Meeting only \$110 member; \$240 nonmember

Number of Programs

	<u>Accredited</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Total</u>
OT				
Masters Programs	145	5	12	162
Doctoral Programs	4	5	7	16
Masters Additional Locations	10	2	0	12
Doctoral Additional Locations	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Total OT Locations	160	12	19	191
OTA				
Programs	162	29	19	210
Additional Locations	<u>26</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28</u>
Total OTA Locations	188	31	19	238
Totals				
Programs	311	39	38	388
Additional Locations	<u>37</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>41</u>
Total Locations	348	43	38	429

¹ Candidate Programs have proceeded to the second step and can admit students, but will not gain accreditation until successful completion of a report of self-study and on-site visit.

² Applicant Programs have submitted a letter of intent to start a new program or additional location

Program Directors Spring 2013 Meeting

When: Tuesday, April 23rd (8 am-5 pm) and Wednesday, April 24th (8 am-noon), 2013.

Where: [Hilton San Diego Bayfront](#) Hotel (Conference Headquarters)

Registration: Available online at the AOTA Annual Conference registration site:
<http://www.aota.org/ConfandEvents/2013conference.aspx>

Deadlines: Online registration closes on April 15, 2013.

Fee: \$160 pre-registered online - *an additional \$25 will be charged for on-site registration*

American Occupational Therapy Association

4720 Montgomery Lane
Suite 200
Bethesda, MD 20814-3449

PHONE:
(301) 652-6611 Ext. 2914

FAX:
(301) 652-1417

E-MAIL:
accred@aota.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.acoteonline.org

Important dates...

- ACOTE Spring Meeting
April 27-28, 2013
San Diego, CA
- ACOTE Summer Meeting
August 1-4, 2013
Arlington, VA

Resources...

Available at

www.acoteonline.org:

- Accreditation Surveys, Forms, and Templates
- Announcements & Newsletters
- Current ACOTE Accreditation Standards
- 2011 ACOTE Standards (effective July 31, 2013)
- Overview (ACOTE History, Meetings, Members)
- Policies and Procedures (ACOTE Manual)
- Resources
- Workshops
- Schools

Staff Contacts:

Neil Harvison, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Director of Accreditation and Academic Affairs
E-mail: nharvison@aota.org
Phone: 301-652-6611, x2202

Sue Graves

Assistant Director of Accreditation
E-mail: sgraves@aota.org
Phone: 301-652-6611, x2912

Angelica Grigsby

Accreditation Program Manager
E-mail: agrigsby@aota.org
Phone: 301-652-6611, x2915

Sarah Cho

On-site Program Coordinator
E-mail: scho@aota.org
Phone: 301-652-6611, x2914

Accreditation Fees reminder.....

As indicated in the current fee schedule (available online at <http://www.aota.org/Educate/Accredit/Policies/Procedures/38143.aspx>), the annual accreditation fees for 2013 will be:

- \$3,450 for accredited main program locations
- \$3,450 for each accredited additional location

These fees will cover academic year 2013/2014. Invoices will be mailed by July 1, 2013 and payment is due no later than October 15, 2013. If early notification is required to facilitate processing of a purchase order for payment, the AOTA Accreditation Department should be notified. Annual fees are due each year, including the year in which an on-site evaluation is scheduled. For new programs, the annual fee becomes effective with the first full academic year for which the program has accreditation status.

Self-Study Workshops.....

Fall 2013

Atlanta, GA – Hyatt Regency Atlanta Hotel

October 1-2, 2013

This workshop is limited to 30 people. Registration will begin in July. Check our web site [here](#) for updates.

Spring 2014

DC Metropolitan Area