

COMPETENCIES, CRITERIA, AND CLIENT OUTCOMES
Specialty Certification in Driving and Community Mobility
Occupational Therapy Assistant

This document represents the competencies and criteria that applicants must use for building their certification portfolio. Complete information about the requirements for certification and instructions on how to complete a certification application can be found in the Driving and Community Mobility Specialty Certification Handbook for occupational therapy assistants.

COMPETENCY A: Assessment

Contributes to the customized occupational therapy driving and community mobility evaluation to determine the client’s occupational performance and safety.

Client Outcome: Clients receive customized recommendations and interventions specific to their driving and community mobility needs, performance skills, performance patterns, and contextual and environmental challenges to support safe driving, community mobility, and other community-based occupations.

Standard	Criteria
Knowledge	A1. Has knowledge of federal and state laws, regulations, and policies related to driving, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA; 1990), paratransit, and community accessibility that affect individual clients.
Knowledge	A2. Has knowledge of commonly used assessments for measuring the impact age- and health-related issues have on driving and community mobility performance.
Critical Reasoning	A3. Contributes to the analysis of the results of clinical assessments to design in-vehicle and community mobility assessments that address areas of concern in the client’s performance and relevant contexts and environments.
Critical Reasoning	A4. Collaborates with the occupational therapist to develop in-vehicle and community mobility assessments that incorporate driver education principles to present increasingly complex environments and demands.
Interpersonal Skills	A5. Communicates verbally and nonverbally with the client and relevant others to identify concerns related to driving and community mobility and modifies assessment methods accordingly.
Performance Skills	A6. Administers delegated driving and community mobility assessments according to established protocols.
Performance Skills	A7. Uses instructor safety equipment and appropriate safety techniques during in-vehicle and community mobility assessments.
Ethical Reasoning	A8. Contributes to the resolution of conflicts and dilemmas in the delivery of driving and community mobility evaluation.
Ethical Reasoning	A9. Communicates assessment results to the client or necessary authorities as required to ensure safety of the client and community.

COMPETENCY B: Intervention

Within the parameters established in collaboration with the occupational therapist, develops and implements an individualized intervention plan on the basis of evaluation findings that reflects the contexts and environments of the client and meets his or her driving, community mobility, and safety needs.

Client Outcome: Clients will achieve their optimal capabilities for safe driving and community mobility to participate in desired community-based occupations.

Standard	Criteria
Knowledge	B1. Has knowledge of relevant and safe intervention strategies for driving and community mobility.
Critical Reasoning	B2. Identifies relevant assessment data from delegated assessments specific to the client's individual geographic area, available resources, transportation alternatives, regulatory factors, community roles, and occupational demands to contribute to the development of an individualized intervention plan that facilitates safe, independent community mobility and driving outcomes.
Critical Reasoning	B3. Determines client readiness to transition between complex levels of driving and community mobility environments.
Interpersonal Skills	B4. Collaborates with the occupational therapist and the client to create an individualized driving and community mobility intervention and discharge plan that reflects current occupational performance status; prioritizes safety needs; and integrates potential changes in performance skills, client factors, and contexts and environments.
Performance Skills	B5. Maintains a balance among provision of performance challenges, potential environmental risks, and real-time performance responses.
Ethical Reasoning	B6. Uses professional guidelines and boundaries to guide interventions and referrals while considering client or relevant others' goals for driving outcomes and safety.

COMPETENCY C: Psychosocial Issues

Addresses immediate and long-term implications of the psychosocial issues related to compromised driving and community mobility throughout the occupational therapy process and makes recommendations to the occupational therapist to modify service delivery.

Client Outcome: Clients and relevant others receive services that consider the psychosocial issues and responses to compromised driving and community mobility.

Standard	Criteria
Knowledge	C1. Has knowledge of reactions to (e.g., grief, loss of independence) and coping mechanisms for compromised driving and community mobility.
Critical Reasoning	C2. Recognizes when the needs of the client are beyond own skills, training, or scope of practice and, under the supervision of the occupational therapist, contributes to appropriate referrals or recommendations.
Interpersonal Skills	C3. Is sensitive to the emotional response of the client and relevant others when communicating about the compromised driving and community mobility of the client.
Ethical Reasoning	C4. Determines when the extent of the emotional response indicates potential harm to self or others and, in consultation with the supervising occupational therapist, takes appropriate action that includes the release of confidential information to appropriate entities to ensure safety of the client and others.

COMPETENCY D: Assistive Technology

Under the supervision of the occupational therapist, supports client and relevant others in the use of assistive technology to maximize client performance and safety in driving and community mobility.

Client Outcome: If appropriate, clients have access to appropriate assistive technology to effectively engage in community mobility, including driving.

Standard	Criteria
Knowledge	D1. Has knowledge of assistive technology, vehicle modifications, and environmental modifications for driving and community mobility.
Knowledge	D2. Has knowledge of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS; 2002), National Mobility Equipment Dealers (NMEDA) Standards (2006), ADA (1990), paratransit regulations (1991), and other related industry standards and regulations regarding assistive technology, vehicle modifications, and environmental modifications.
Critical Reasoning	D3. In consultation with the supervising occupational therapist, determines appropriate and safe person–assistive technology interface for vehicle and environmental modifications to meet the performance needs of the client.
Performance Skills	D4. In consultation with the supervising occupational therapists, documents and communicates recommendations for assistive technology, vehicle modifications, and environmental modifications that reflect the needs of the client.
Performance Skills	D5. Under the supervision of the occupational therapist, assesses, trains, educates, and recommends appropriate assistive technology required to facilitate safe motor vehicle operation for community mobility as observed during a comprehensive, moving, in-vehicle assessment inclusive of all appropriate driving environments.
Ethical Reasoning	D6. Contributes to the resolution of conflicts between the client and relevant others when determining and providing appropriate assistive technology.

COMPETENCY E: Advocacy

Advances access to occupational therapy services and advocates for policies or programs that promote engagement in driving and community mobility and support participation in relevant contexts and environments.

Client Outcome: Clients and relevant others have access to occupational therapy driving and community mobility services.

Standard	Criteria
Knowledge	E1. Has knowledge of current and evolving practice developments, trends, and research that promote access to driving and community mobility services and resources.
Knowledge	E2. Has knowledge of demographic, contextual, and environmental influences that affect access to services and resources.
Interpersonal Skills	E3. Assumes an advocacy role with various media or educational activities for the public, key decision makers, and funding resources to facilitate client access to the resources required to achieve safe community mobility and driving.
Performance Skills	E4. Establishes and collaborates with a referral and resource network inside and outside the health care community to meet clients' driving and community mobility needs.
Ethical Reasoning	E5. Uses ethical decision making to advocate for needed services when they are not available or are denied.