

## Occupational Therapy Section Out of Practice Reference Guide

Additional requirements for individuals who have been out of practice for five or more years may include: (1) Additional continuing education; (2) Competency-based performance appraisals; (3) Mentorship; (4) Professional development plan; (5) Extended coursework; and (6) Retaking and passing the NBCOT certification examination.

Out of practice is defined as “being actively engaged in the practice of occupational therapy for fewer than two hundred fifty (250) hours over the five year period prior to the date the applicant submits the licensure application.

### OT/OTA Out of practice for 5 years or more

**Step 1:**

1. Completion of AOTA CE Course titled

*“Exploring the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain and Process, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition Short Course”*

**Step 2:**

***Primary Option:*** Retake NBCOT Certification Examination within 6 months of application submission. Full, unrestricted license issued upon passage of NBCOT exam.

***Alternate Option #1:*** Issuance of Limited License Followed by Supervised Practice:

- a) 320 hours/first 6 months of licensure; 8 hours of supervision per week must be direct supervision.
- b) AOTA Fieldwork Performance Evaluation at midterm and final rating/ must be completed by supervising OT within 30 days upon completion of supervised practice hours.
- c) Log of supervised clinical practice, which shall include the date, signature of the primary/non-primary supervising occupational therapist/occupational therapy assistant, and number of hours supervised.
- d) The deadline to complete the terms of the limited license agreement is 12 months from the date of the limited license letter.

***Alternate Option #2:*** *Completion of the Texas Lone Star College Occupational Therapy Practitioner Reentry Program:*

- a) You can read more about the program: <https://www.lonestar.edu/Tomball-OT-ReEntry.htm>
- b) The course of study covers eight weeks of online instruction which includes one course in a preferred practice area and one management course followed by four weeks of supervised clinical practice.

The Section will take into consideration the length of time the individual practiced prior to not working, prior practice settings, specialties/certifications maintained while practicing, and/or how the individual kept up with the practice of occupational therapy while they were out of practice.