

WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §30-28-4

§30-28-4. Scope of practice; license and supervision requirements.

(a) The scope of practice of occupational therapy includes, but is not limited to:

(1) Methods or strategies selected to direct the process of interventions such as:

(A) Establishment, remediation, or restoration of a skill or ability that has not yet developed or is impaired;

(B) Compensation, modification, or adaptation of activity or environment to enhance performance;

(C) Maintenance and enhancement of capabilities without which performance in everyday life activities would decline;

(D) Health promotion and wellness to enable or enhance performance in everyday life activities; and

(E) Prevention of barriers to performance, including disability prevention.

(2) Evaluation of factors affecting activities of daily living (ADL), instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), education, work, play, leisure and social participation, including:

(A) Client factors, including body functions and body structures;

(B) Habits, routines, roles and behavior patterns;

(C) Cultural, physical, environmental, social and spiritual contexts and activity that affect performance; and

(D) Performance skills, including motor, process and communication/interaction skills.

(3) Interventions and procedures to promote or enhance safety and performance in activities of daily living (ADL), instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), education, work, play, leisure and social participation, including:

(A) Therapeutic use of occupations and preparatory, adjunctive and functional activities;

(B) Training in self-care, self-management home management and community/work reintegration;

(C) Development, remediation, or compensation of physical, cognitive, neuromuscular, sensory functions, visual, vestibular and behavioral skills;

(D) Therapeutic use of self, including one's personality, insights, perceptions and judgments, as part of the therapeutic process;

(E) Education and training of individuals, including family members, care givers and others;

(F) Care coordination, case management and transition services;

(G) Consultative services to groups, programs, organizations or communities;

(H) Modification of environments (home, work, school or community) and adaptation of processes, including the application of ergonomic principles;

(I) Assessment, design, fabrication, application, fitting and training in assistive technology, adaptive devices, orthotic devices and training in the use of prosthetic devices to enhance occupational performance;

(J) Assessment, recommendation and training in techniques to enhance functional mobility, including wheelchair management;

(K) Community mobility and reentry;

(L) Management of feeding, eating and swallowing to enable eating and feeding performance; and

(M) Application of physical agent modalities, and use of a range of specific therapeutic procedures and techniques to enhance occupational performance skills. Use of physical agent modalities by occupational therapy assistants must be consistent with their education (e.g. superficial thermal and mechanical modalities) and used under the general supervision of an occupational therapist. The use of deep thermal or electrical modalities may only be performed by the occupational therapy assistant under the direct supervision of an occupational therapist, until the board shall promulgate rules as well as establish competency standards for the use of the modalities.

(b) No person may engage in the practice of occupational therapy or present herself or himself as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant in this state, or use the words "occupational therapist," "licensed occupational therapist," "occupational therapist registered," "occupational therapy assistant," "licensed occupational therapy assistant," "certified occupational therapy assistant," or "occupational therapy aide," or the letters "O.T.," "L.O.T.," "O.T.R.," "O.T.A.," "L.O.T.A.," "C.O.T.A.," or any other words, letters, abbreviations or insignia indicating or implying that he or she is an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, unless he or she holds a valid, current license issued in accordance with the provisions of this article, which has not expired, been suspended or revoked.

(c) No business entity may advertise or otherwise offer to provide or convey the impression that it is providing occupational therapy unless an individual holding a current valid license

or permit under this article renders the occupational therapy services to which reference is made.

(d) An occupational therapy assistant may assist in the practice of occupational therapy under the general supervision of an occupational therapist.

(e) An occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant may delegate nonclient-related tasks to an occupational therapy aide only under the following conditions:

(1) The occupational therapy aide functions under the general supervision of either the occupational therapist or the occupational therapy assistant who is under the general supervision of the occupational therapist; and

(2) The occupational therapy aide provides only tasks for which he or she has been trained and has demonstrated competence.

(f) An occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant may delegate specifically selected client-related tasks to an occupational therapy aide only under the following conditions:

(1) The occupational therapy aide functions under the direct continuous supervision of either the occupational therapist or the occupational therapy assistant that is under the general supervision of the occupational therapist;

(2) The occupational therapy aide provides only tasks for which he or she has been trained and has demonstrated competence;

(3) The outcome anticipated for the delegated task is predictable;

(4) The client and the environment are stable and will not require judgment, interpretation or adaptation by the occupational therapy aide; and

(5) The supervising occupational therapist is responsible for the tasks delegated to the occupational therapy aide.