

AOTA Board Certifications

Eligibility Requirements

- Certified or licensed by and in good standing with an AOTA-recognized credentialing or regulatory body (e.g., NBCOT®, state licensure board)
- A minimum of three years as an occupational therapist, based on the date of issue of certificate or license
- 3,000 hours of experience in certification area within the last five years – may include direct intervention, supervision, teaching, consultation, administration, case or care management, community programming, or research
- 500 hours of experience delivering occupational therapy services to clients in certification area within last five years

Verification Requirements

- You must have a minimum of three years as an occupational therapist (two years if you completed an AOTA-approved Fellowship Program) to be eligible to apply for the exam. One of the following can be used as evidence of experience as an occupational therapist:
 - Scan/copy of large NBCOT® certificate that shows date of initial certification as an OTR
 - Verification form from NBCOT®, available through www.nbcot.org
 - Scan/copy of your state license that shows original date of licensure as an occupational therapist
 - Verification of date of licensure from your state

Verification of Experience Hours in Certification Area

- You must have a minimum of 3,000 hours in experience in the certification area within the last five years. This may include direct intervention, supervision, teaching, consultation, administration, case or care management, community programming, or research
- You must also have a minimum of 500 hours of experience delivering occupational therapy services to clients in the certification area within the last five years
- You must complete the Verification of Experience Hours form

- <https://www.aota.org/career/advanced-certification-program/-/media/f1ae8ac7d5d84dddbfa093b555df9f49.ashx>
- Or the Verification of Experience Hours form (Self-Employed)
 - <https://www.aota.org/career/advanced-certification-program/-/media/42e4ba5164e8441e9bfae23713f812f2.ashx>
- For applicants using experience hours outside of the United States to meet the minimal requirements, the Occupational Therapy Advanced Certification Commission will decide on an alternative external review process to determine eligibility

Attestation

- Applicants to the Advanced Certification Program will be required to attest that the information provided in the application is true and complete to the best of the applicant's knowledge, and that the applicant is in compliance with the [Occupational Therapy Code of Ethics](#).
- The applicant will also be asked to disclose any previous or pending lawsuits, disciplinary charges, investigations, and/or criminal charges, investigations, or convictions, which will be reviewed by the Occupational Therapy Advanced Certification Commission before a decision regarding eligibility will be made.

Board Certification in Pediatrics (BCP): Ready to gain recognition for your specialized knowledge and critical thinking in the area of pediatric occupational therapy? Apply for you BCP today!

- **Exam Information**
 - 150 multiple-choice items designed to test the application and analysis of information specific to specialty practice in pediatrics
 - Application Fee: \$525 (AOTA members)/\$650 (non-members)
- **Exam Resources**
 - BCP Candidate Handbook
 - <https://www.aota.org/-/media/corporate/files/educationcareers/bsc/advanced-certification-candidate-handbook.pdf>
 - BCP Content Outline

- <https://www.aota.org/-/media/corporate/files/educationcareers/advance/certification/aota-bcp-2021-exam-content-outline.pdf>
- BCP Suggested Reference List
 - <https://www.aota.org/career/advanced-certification-program/board-certification-in-pediatrics-suggested-reference-list>
- FAQ about BCP
 - <https://www.aota.org/career/advanced-certification-program/advanced-certification-program-faqs>
- Requesting testing accommodations:
 - <https://www.aota.org/career/advanced-certification-program/testing-accommodations>
- BCP Review Course
 - https://myaota.aota.org/shop_aota/product/OL8363S?_ga=2.258725122.941569148.1697482968-914819229.1678468117
- Apply now:
 - <https://aotacert.secure-platform.com/a>

Board Certification in Physical Rehabilitation (BCPR): Interested in obtaining advanced certification in the area of physical rehabilitation? Apply for AOTA's Board Certification in Physical Rehabilitation BCPR!

- **Exam Information**

- The exam will consist of 150 multiple-choice items designed to test the application and analysis of information specific to specialty practice in physical rehabilitation
- Application Fee: \$525 (AOTA members)/\$650 (non-members)

- **Exam Resources**

- BCPR Candidate Handbook
 - <https://www.aota.org/-/media/corporate/files/practice/bcpr-candidate-handbook.pdf>
- BCPR Exam Content Outline
 - <https://www.aota.org/-/media/corporate/files/educationcareers/aota-bcpr-eco-website.pdf>
- Suggested reference list

- <https://www.aota.org/career/advanced-certification-program/board-certification-in-physical-rehabilitation-suggested-reference-list>
- BCPR Review Course
 - https://myaota.aota.org/shop_aota/product/OL8380S?_ga=2.254226624.919662530.1660709846-1385971738.1641492846

Board Certification in Gerontology (BCG): Looking for a way to gain recognition for your knowledge and experience working with older adults? Consider AOTA's Board Certification in Gerontology.

- **Exam Information**

- The exam will consist of 150 multiple-choice items designed to test the application and analysis of information specific to specialty practice in gerontology
- Application Fee: \$525 (AOTA members)/\$650 (non-members)

- **Exam Resources**

- BCG Candidate Handbook
 - <https://www.aota.org/-/media/corporate/files/educationcareers/advance/certification/bcg-candidate-handbook-2023-first-administration.pdf>
- BCG Content Outline
 - <https://www.aota.org/-/media/corporate/files/educationcareers/advance/certification/aota-board-certification-in-gerontology-exam-content-outline.pdf>
- BCG Exam Suggested Reference List
 - <https://www.aota.org/career/advanced-certification-program/board-certification-in-gerontology-suggested-reference-list>
- BCG Frequently Asked Questions
 - <https://www.aota.org/career/advanced-certification-program/advanced-certification-program-faqs>
- BCG Review Course
 - https://myaota.aota.org/shop_aota/product/OL8930S
- BCG Review Course and Exam Bundle
 - https://myaota.aota.org/shop_aota/product/BCGCE

Credentialing Process Overview

1. Submit your application.
2. Application review and approval - within 10 days.
3. Exam eligibility - 90 days from approval date to take the exam.
4. Certification cycle – begins the day you pass the exam and lasts for five years.
5. Certification maintenance - You are required to earn at least 60 contact hours of professional development and maintain at least 1,500 hours of experience in the certification area within your five-year certification cycle.
6. Recertification - You will complete the recertification process at the five-year mark once you have met all of the recertification requirements. Then your new certification cycle begins. After this step, you go back to step 5.

***For questions about AOTA's Advanced Certification Exams please email -
certification@aota.org.***