
**Rules of
Department of Economic
Development**

**Division 205—Missouri Board of Occupational Therapy
Chapter 4—Supervision**

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**Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Division 205—Missouri Board of
Occupational Therapy
Chapter 4—Supervision**

4 CSR 205-4.010 Supervision of Occupational Therapy Assistants and Occupational Therapy Assistant Limited Permit Holders

PURPOSE: This rule defines the supervision requirements for occupational therapy assistants and occupational therapy assistant limited permit holders.

(1) An occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder shall assist an occupational therapist in the delivery of occupational therapy services in compliance with all state and federal statutes, regulations, and rules.

(2) The occupational therapy assistant or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder may only perform services under the direct supervision of an occupational therapist.

(A) The manner of supervision shall depend on the treatment setting, patient/client caseload, and the competency of the occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder as determined by the supervising occupational therapist. At a minimum, supervision shall include consultation of the occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder with the supervising occupational therapist prior to the initiation of any patient's/client's treatment plan and modification of treatment plan.

(B) More frequent face-to-face supervision may be necessary as determined by the occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder dependent on the level of expertise displayed by the occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder, the practice setting, and/or the complexity of the patient/client caseload.

(C) Supervision shall be an interactive process between the occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder. It shall be more than peer review or co-signature. The interactive process shall include but is not limited to the patient/client assessment, reassessment, treatment plan, intervention, discontinuation of intervention, and/or treatment plan.

(D) The supervising occupational therapist or the supervisor's designee must be available for immediate consultation with the occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder. The supervisor need not be physically present or on the premises at all times.

(3) The supervising occupational therapist has the overall responsibility for providing the necessary supervision to protect the health and welfare of the patient/client receiving treatment from an occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder. The supervising occupational therapist shall—

(A) Be licensed by the board as an occupational therapist, this shall not include a limited permit holder;

(B) Have a minimum of one (1) year experience as a licensed occupational therapist;

(C) Not be under restriction or discipline from any licensing board or jurisdiction;

(D) Not have more than four (4) full-time equivalent (FTE) occupational therapy assistants under his/her supervision at one time;

(E) Be responsible for all referrals of the patient/client;

(F) Be responsible for completing the patient's evaluation/assessment. The occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder may contribute to the screening and/or evaluation process by gathering data, administering standardized tests and reporting observations. The occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder may not evaluate independently or initiate treatment before the supervising occupational therapist's evaluation/assessment;

(G) Be responsible for developing and modifying the patient's treatment plan. The treatment plan must include goals, interventions, frequency, and duration of treatment. The supervising occupational therapist shall be responsible for the outcome of the treatment plan and assigning of appropriate intervention plans to the occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder;

(H) Be responsible for preparing, implementing, and documenting the discharge plan. The occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder may contribute to the process; and

(I) Ensure that all patient/client documentation becomes a part of the permanent record.

(4) The supervising occupational therapist has the overall responsibility for providing the necessary supervision to protect the health and welfare of the patient/client receiving treatment from an occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder. However, this does not absolve the occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder from his/her professional responsibilities. The occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder shall exercise sound judgement and provide adequate care in the performance of duties. The occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder shall—

(A) Not initiate any patient/client treatment program or modification of said program until the supervising occupational therapist has evaluated, established a treatment plan and consulted with the occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder;

(B) Not perform an evaluation/assessment, but may contribute to the screening and/or evaluation process by gathering data, administering standardized tests and reporting observations;

(C) Not analyze or interpret evaluation data;

(D) Track the need for reassessment and report changes in status that might warrant reassessment or referral;

(E) Immediately suspend any treatment intervention that appears harmful to the patient/client and immediately notify the supervising occupational therapist; and

(F) Ensure that all patient/client documentation prepared by the occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder becomes a part of the permanent record.

(5) The supervisor shall ensure that the occupational therapy assistant and/or occupational therapy assistant limited permit holder provides occupational therapy as defined in section 324.050, RSMo appropriate to and consistent with his/her education, training, and experience.

AUTHORITY: sections 324.050, 324.056, and 324.065.2, RSMo 2000 and 324.086, RSMo Supp 2001. Original rule filed Aug. 4, 1998, effective Dec. 30, 1998. Amended: Filed March 14, 2001, effective Sept. 30,*

2001. Amended: Filed Oct. 30, 2002, effective April 30, 2003.

**Original authority: 324.050, RSMo 1997, amended 1999; 324.056, RSMo 1997, amended 1999; 324.065, RSMo 1997; and 324.086, RSMo 1997, amended 1999, 2001.*

4 CSR 205-4.020 Supervision of Occupational Therapist Limited Permit Holders

PURPOSE: This rule defines the supervision requirements for occupational therapist limited permit holders.

(1) Occupational therapist limited permit holders shall be allowed to perform occupational therapy services under the supervision of a person licensed by the board as an occupational therapist. The occupational therapist limited permit holder shall perform services according to the supervisor's direction, control and full professional responsibility. Supervision requires that the supervisor or the supervisor's designee must be immediately available for communication with the occupational therapist limited permit holder.

(2) The supervisor of an occupational therapist limited permit holder shall maintain control, oversight, guidance and full professional responsibility concerning a patient receiving occupational therapy services from a limited permit holder.

(3) A supervisor of a limited permit holder shall—

(A) Have a minimum of one (1) year of experience as an occupational therapist;

(B) Not be under restriction or discipline from any licensing board or jurisdiction at any time during the period of supervision; and

(C) Not be an immediate relative of the limited permit holder, such as a spouse, parent, child, or sibling.

(4) The occupational therapist limited permit holder shall only provide occupational therapy as defined in section 324.050, RSMo appropriate to and consistent with his/her education, training, and experience.

(5) Occupational therapy limited permit holders shall not supervise occupational therapy assistants.

(6) The supervisor shall ensure the occupational therapist limited permit holder provides occupational therapy as defined in section 324.050, RSMo appropriate to and consistent with his/her education, training, and experience.

AUTHORITY: sections 324.050, 324.056, 324.065, 324.077, 324.083 and 324.086, RSMo 2000. Original rule filed Aug. 4, 1998, effective Dec. 30, 1998. Amended: Filed March 14, 2001, effective Sept. 30, 2001.*

**Original authority: 324.050, RSMo 1997, amended 1999; 324.056, RSMo 1997, amended 1999; 324.065, RSMo 1997; 324.077, RSMo 1997; 324.083, RSMo 1997; 324.086, RSMo 1997, amended 1999.*

4 CSR 205-4.030 Supervision of Occupational Therapy Aides

PURPOSE: This rule establishes the requirements for the supervision of aides within the practice of occupational therapy.

(1) An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant must provide direct supervision of an occupational therapy aide at all times.

(2) When an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant delegates to an occupational therapy aide maintenance or restorative services to patients/clients, the occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant must be in the immediate area and within audible and visual range of the patient/client and the occupational therapy aide.

(3) An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant may delegate to an occupational therapy aide only specific tasks which are neither evaluative, assessive, task selective nor recommending in nature, and only after ensuring that the aide has been appropriately trained for the performance of the task.

(4) Occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants must exercise their professional judgement when determining the number of occupational therapy aides they can safely and effectively supervise to ensure that quality care is provided at all times.

(5) Any duties assigned to an occupational therapy aide must be determined and appropriately supervised by an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant and must not exceed the level of training, knowledge, skill, and competence of the individual being supervised. The licensed occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant is responsible for the acts or actions performed by any occupational therapy aide functioning in the occupational therapy setting.

(6) An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant may delegate to an occupational therapy aide duties or functions other than maintenance or restorative services to patients or clients, including but not limited to subsections (6)(A) through (6)(D). When an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant delegates to an occupational therapy aide, duties or functions other than maintenance or restorative services to patients or clients, the occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant must provide direct supervision, however, the occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant is not required to remain within audible and visual range of the patient/client—

(A) Transportation of patients/clients;

(B) Preparation or setting up of treatment equipment and work area;

(C) Attending to patient's/client's personal needs during treatment; and

(D) Clerical/secretarial or administrative duties.

(7) Duties or functions that an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant may not delegate to an occupational therapy aide include, but are not limited to:

(A) Interpretation of referrals or prescriptions for occupational therapy services;

(B) Evaluative procedures;

(C) Development, planning, adjusting or modification of treatment procedures;

(D) Acting on behalf of the occupational therapist in any matter related to direct patient care which requires judgement or decision making; and

(E) Any act performed independently or without supervision of an occupational therapist.

AUTHORITY: sections 324.050, 324.056, 324.065, 324.083 and 324.086, RSMo Supp. 1999. Original rule filed Aug. 4, 1998, effective Dec. 30, 1998. Amended: Filed Aug. 31, 2000, effective Feb. 28, 2001.*

**Original authority: 324.050, RSMo 1997, amended 1999; 324.056, RSMo 1997, amended 1999; 324.065, RSMo 1997; 324.083, RSMo 1997; 324.086, RSMo 1997, amended 1999.*