

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to make comment to the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia Proposed Mandatory Standards for Registration.

I have read the Consultation paper with interest and am impressed with the content in all the mandatory registration standards. It is in the area of Continuing Professional Development for which I wish to make comment.

Continuing Professional Development standard:

I am impressed with the basic approach of the standard and am satisfied with 30 hours to be required, although have noted that other professions have 20 hours. I do believe that as a part time worker, the 30 hours is achievable with some planning. I have two main points of comment to make:

1. I have participated in the OT Australia AccOT program in the past and am currently recording hours for the OT Australia requirement of undertaking 30 hours per year. I have always taken advantage of participating in supervision and mentoring as a supervisee and at times as a mentee. I find these activities to be advantageous in my personal experience of Continuing Professional Development. I have noted that being supervised or mentored is not included in the listed included activities, while being a supervisor or mentor is included. Could I please encourage you to reconsider the inclusion of being a supervisee or mentee in the included activities?

2. I have also noted that I found that the concept of usual work tasks were not to be included as continuing professional development, whereas supervising students and performing quality activities to improve practice were to be included ambiguous. I am concerned that it may be interpreted that all Continuing professional development activities to be included can not be usual work duties therefore need to be undertaken in addition to work requirements. Supervision of OTs, students, conducting quality audits are tasks which would be in CPD and usual work tasks. Is it possible to be clearer in what is intended by the last paragraph on page nine, perhaps further defining day to day work duties, as most job descriptions including quality projects and supervision in their list of responsibilities.

Once again thank you for the opportunity to make comment. I hope my submission is helpful. All the best in your work.

Regards,
S. Scott