

Keeping it current:



National Certification Information for
OT STATE REGULATORS



OUR MISSION

NBCOT protects the public through the validation of essential competencies for effective and safe occupational therapy practice.

NBCOT®



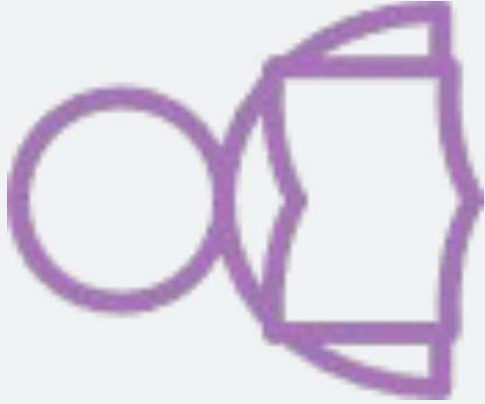


Board of Directors Composition

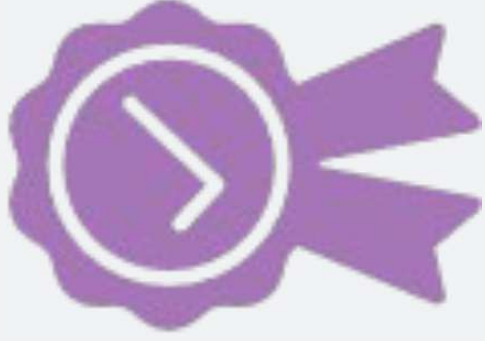
OTR®

Public
Members

COTA®



Students



Certificant

s



Regulators

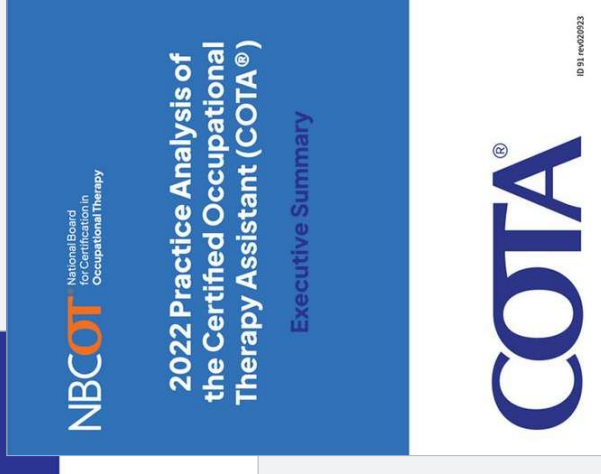
Students



NBCOT®

Entry-Level OTR & COTA Practice Analysis Studies

Provide content validity that
the exams assess knowledge
for job-related activities
required for entry-level OTR
and COTA practice.



NBCOT®

Students

Content Outlines

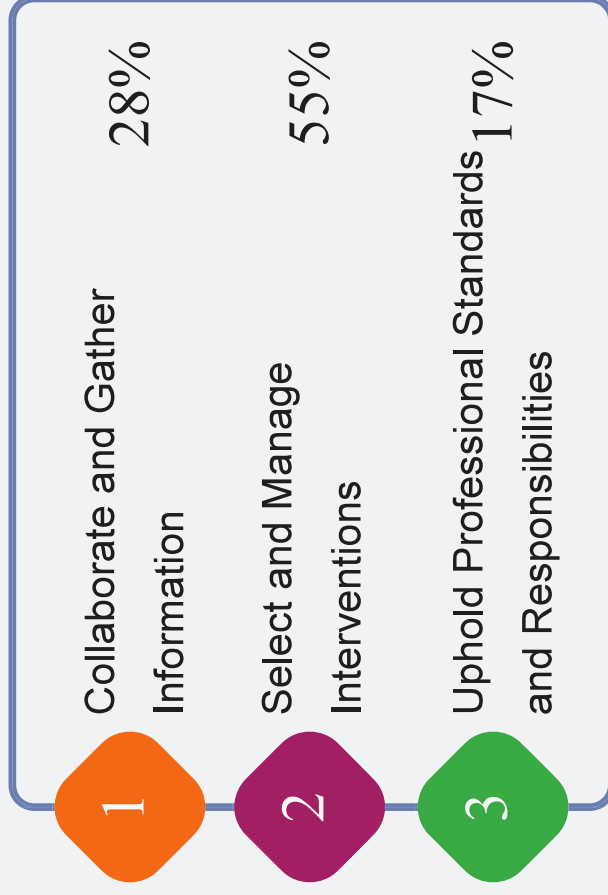
OTR Domain Descriptions

% of Exam



COTA Domain Descriptions

% of Exam



Exam Scoring Calendar

NBCOT®

Students

APRIL						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	Score Day	10	11
12	13	14	15	Score Day	17	18
19	20	21	22	Score Day	24	25
26	27	28	29	Score Day		

Cheating and Violating Copyright Law

Score Transfers in 2025

23,139

10,228

Eligibility Confirmation Notices in 2025

From Student



to Practitioner

NBCOT®

200+ Tools!
included in the



Case Simulations

Orthotic Builders

Mini Practice Quizzes

OT Knowledge Library

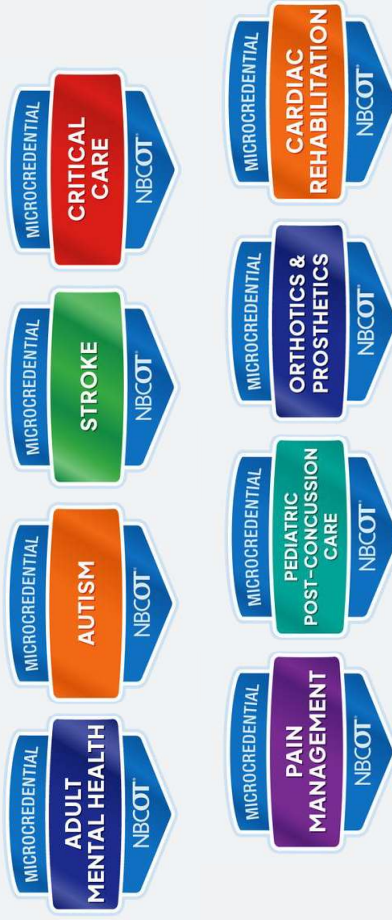
PAMs (Physical Agent
Modalities)



Ethics

Microcredentials

OTR[®]



COTA[®]



NBCOT[®]

Certificants



359,000+

CAU earned!

1,200,000+

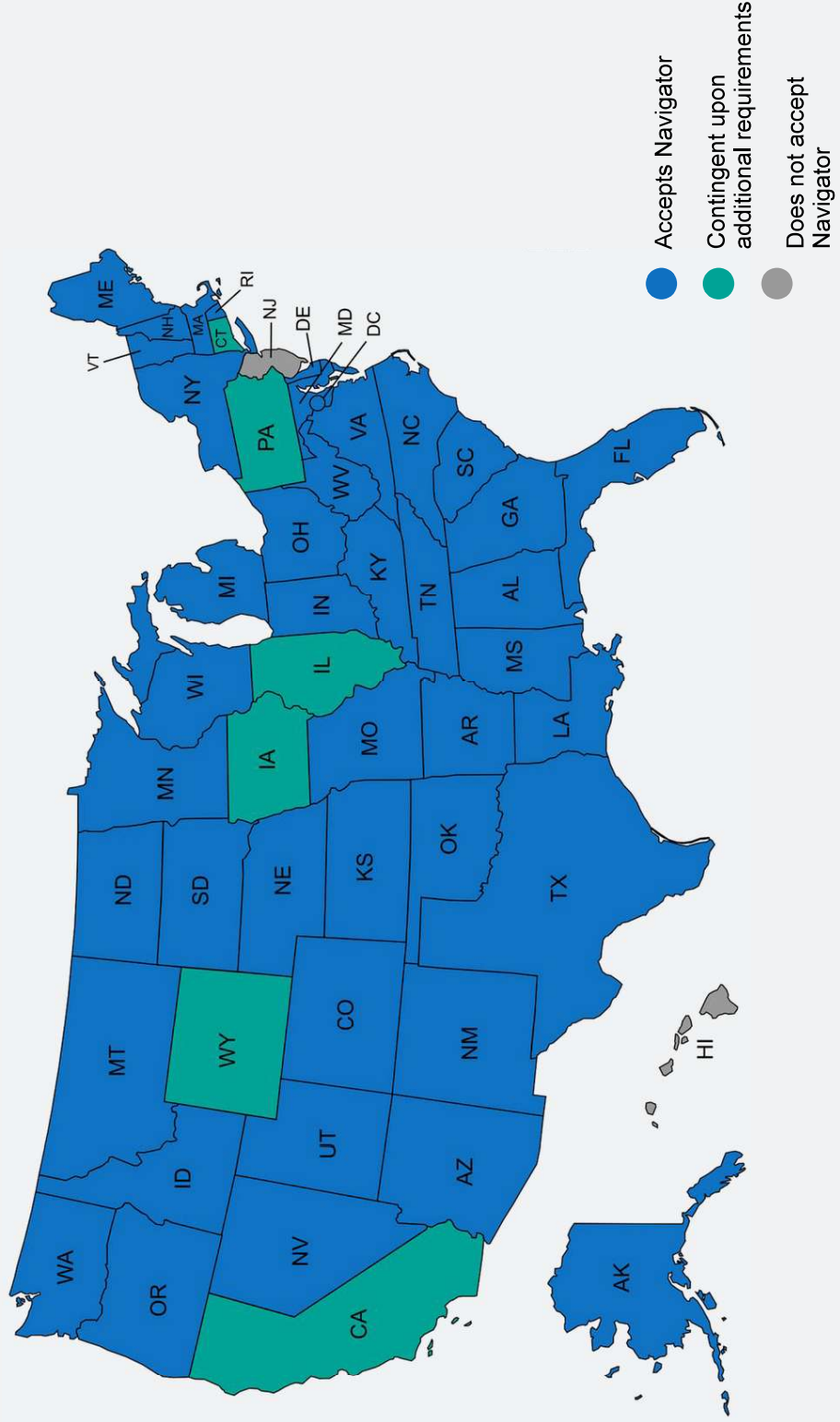
tools played!

States Accepting

NBCOT
NAVIGATOR[®]

NBCOT[®]

Certificants



Regulators



Regulators

1,362
Total OTR

Average Years

16

Most Popular
Case Simulation:
Fine Motor Skills Delay

NAVIGATOR[®]

Tool



714
Total COTA

14
Average Years

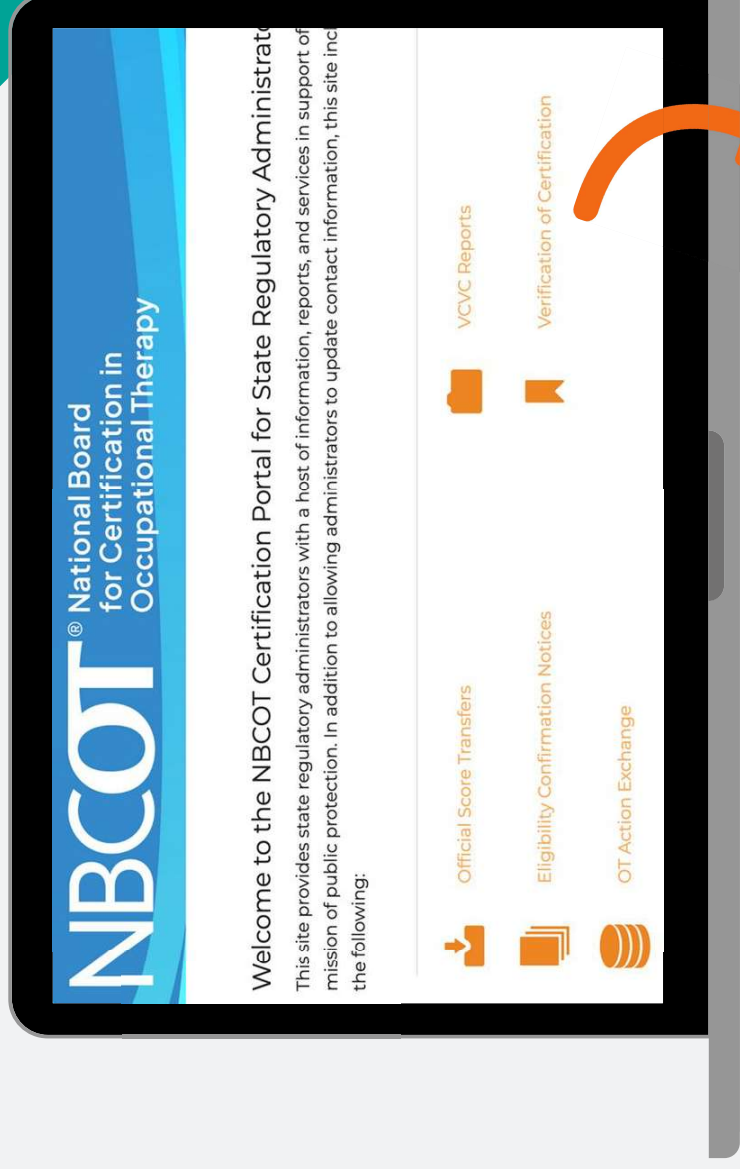
Most Popular
Case Simulation:
Clinical Reasoning

NAVIGATOR®

Tool

Administrator's Portal

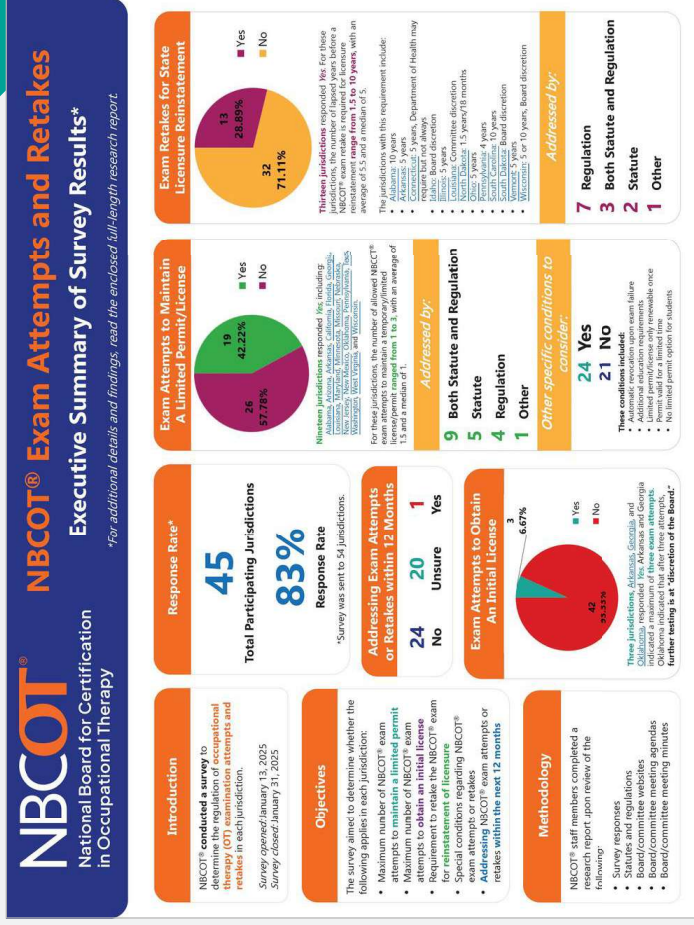
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Fullname	City	State	Credential	Cert #	Initial Date	Expiration Date
GREG GILROY	GILROY	CA	OT	1043704	25 Apr 2001	31 Mar 2006

State Regulatory Research Initiative Available through:

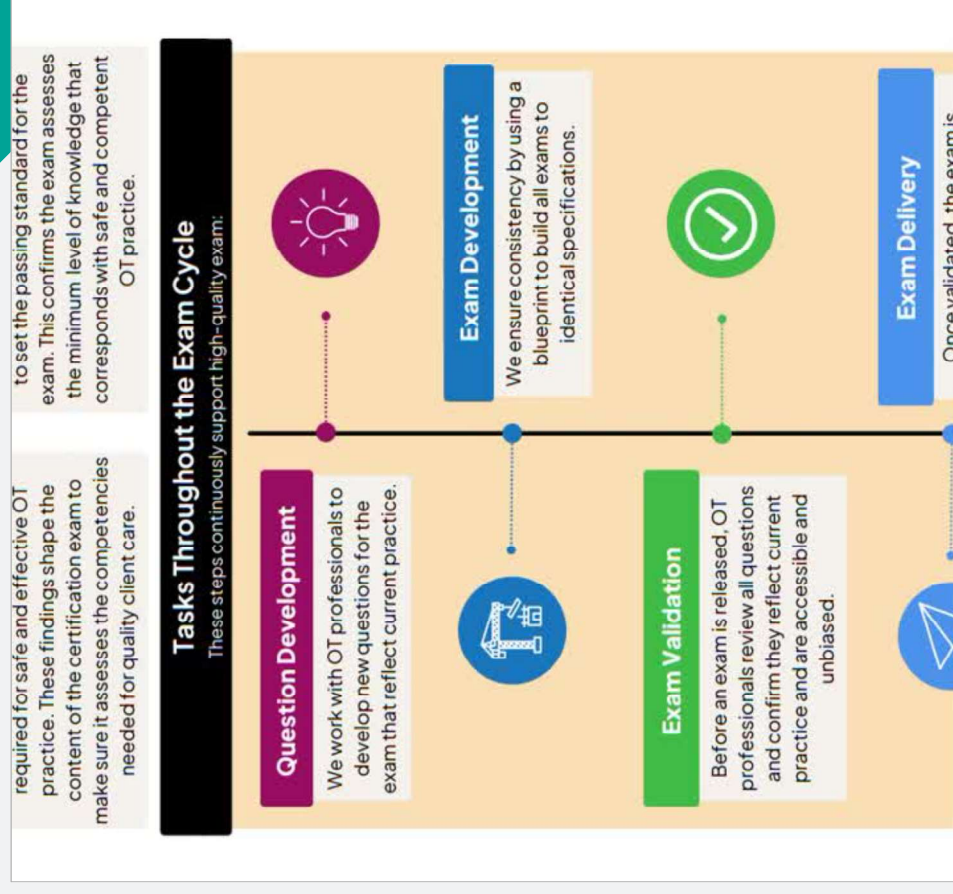
- OT State Regulatory Newsletter
- State Regulatory Administrator Portal



Infographic:

How We Develop Fair and Defensible Occupational Therapy Certification Exams

A Continuous Commitment to Excellence



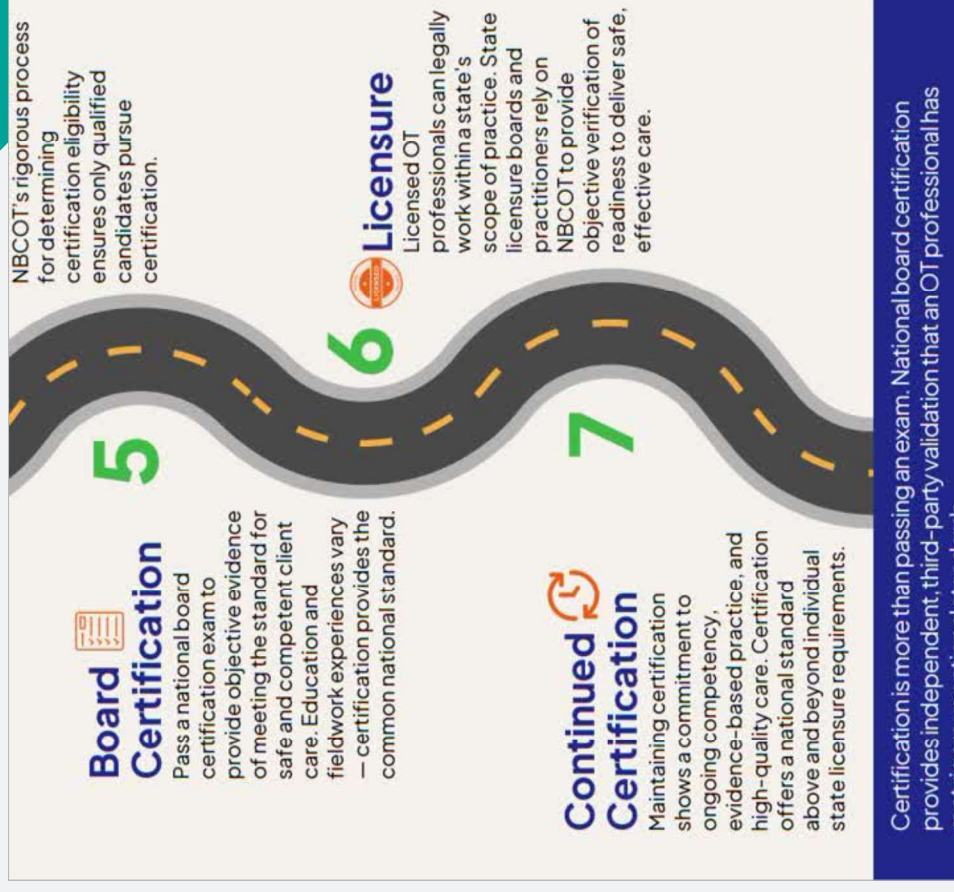
Infographic:

Pathway to Safe and Competent Occupational Therapy Practitioners

NBCOT® Certification Matters

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Regulators



Infographic:

National Standards for Occupational Therapy

Ensuring Safe, Competent Care for All



National Standards for Occupational Therapy

Ensuring Safe, Competent Care for All

Why Certification Matters

-  **Supports a Consistently Qualified National OT Workforce**
Ensures OT professionals meet established national standards, regardless of their educational path, thereby enhancing access to competent practitioners for all.
-  **Protects the Public**
Verifies that practitioners meet rigorous safety and competency standards.
-  **Backed by Research**
Studies show certification enhances care quality and patient outcomes.

Public Protection is Critical

-  **Licensure alone is not enough**
Requirements and scope of practice vary from state to state, which can lead to inconsistencies in standards of care.
-  **Without Certification, Client Safety is at Risk**
In the absence of a uniform, national standard, quality of care could be jeopardized.
-  **Certification Validates Competency**
NBCOT's initial certification and renewal processes are designed to uphold safety and effectiveness in OT practice.
-  **Upholding Ethical Standards & Accountability**
Certified OT professionals are held to NBCOT's Code of Conduct and as such are subject to a disciplinary action process to protect the public and safeguard the integrity of the profession.

Independence & Objectivity

-  **Fair, Transparent Standards**
NBCOT operates independently to set clear, unbiased standards for practice.
-  **Objective Decision-Making**

Resources and Tools:

Defense of Certification Toolkit

Demonstrate the value of
certification and licensure

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Resources and Tools:

529 Plan Expansion



**FAQ: New Federal Law
Expands Use of
529 Plans to Include
Qualified Expenses
on Credentialing
Programs**



OTcompact. gov



Create one seamless
experience for CE compliance

Save the Date:
2026 OT State Regulatory
Leadership Forum

NBCOT®



Provides a national platform to promote greater awareness and understanding of current and emerging issues and trends in occupational regulation and certification

Regulators

Ambassadors

NBCOT®

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Strengthen the relationship between
NBCOT
and our stakeholders

Increase the presence of NBCOT at the
state level and promote information
exchange

Enhance access to NBCOT

certification-related information and

Disciplinary Action

NBCOT Code of Conduct

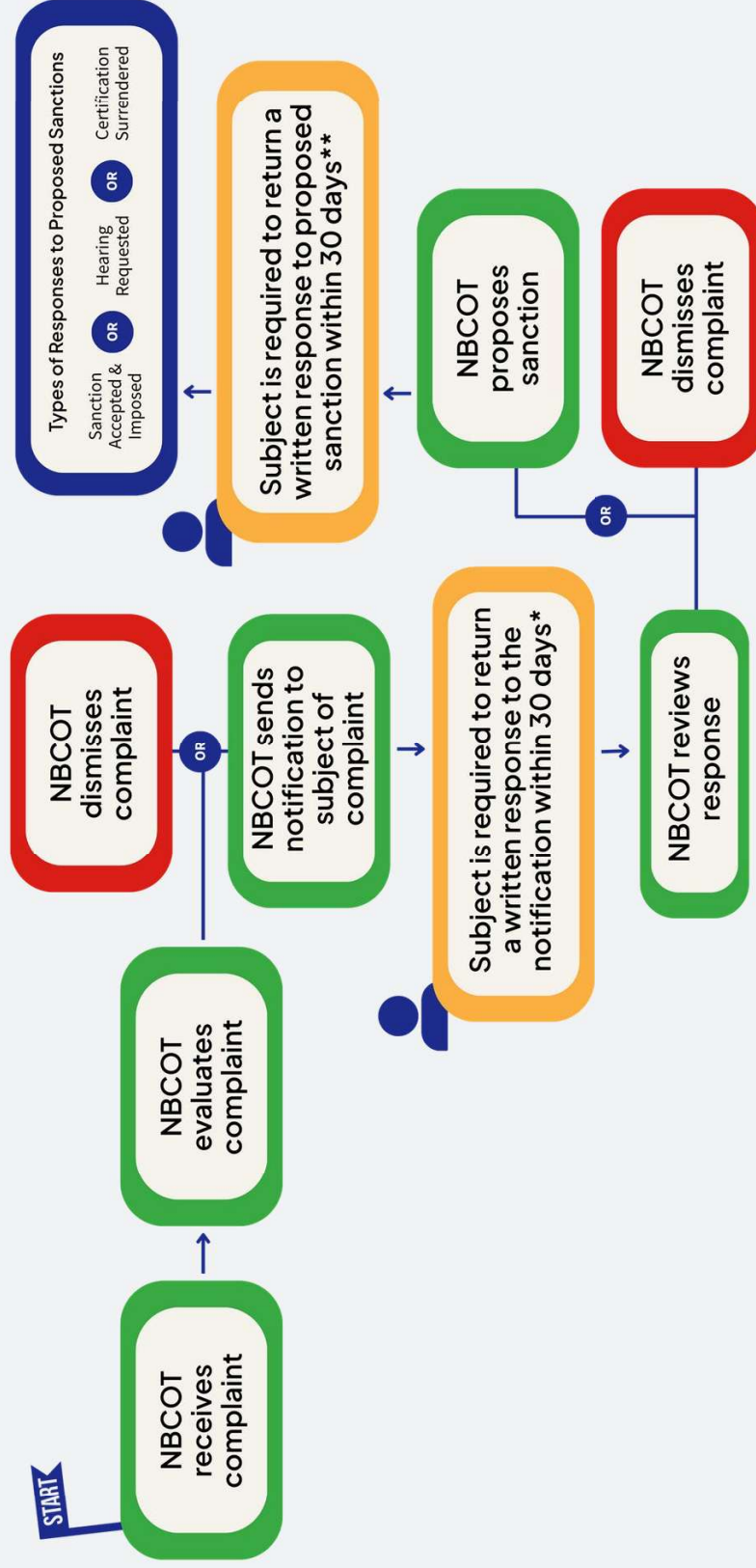
Procedures for Enforcement

Receipt of the proposed sanction letter

Prior to the hearing

At the hearing

NBCOT Disciplinary Action Process Overview



Cases by Source

	2023	2024	2025
Complaint	5%	4%	8%
Early Determination Review	1%	2%	1%
Exam Applicant	12%	10%	11%
Self-Report	6%	5%	6%
State Board	64%	63%	55%
Renewal Application	12%	16%	19%

Cases by Types of Behavior Early Determination Review

	2023	2024	2025
Felony Conviction	33%	71%	25%
Misconduct with harm to another	67%	29%	25%
Misdemeanor Conviction	-	-	25%
Substance Abuse	-	-	25%

Cases by Types of Behavior Exam Applicant

	2023	2024	2025
Felony conviction	9%	16%	11%
Misdemeanor conviction	15%	11%	11%
Misrepresentation of credential	-	5%	4%
Misconduct with harm to another	9%	3%	-
Unprofessional conduct	-	-	9%
Felony charge	11%	5%	4%
HIPAA violation	2%	-	-

Cases by Types of Behavior OT

	2023	2024	2025
Felony conviction	7%	-	-
Misdemeanor conviction	9%	11%	9%
Unprofessional conduct	-	9%	9%
Documentation problems	13%	10%	19%
Lack of continuing education	22%	23%	16%
Practicing with an expired license	12%	11%	15%

Cases by Types of Behavior OTA

	2023	2024	2025
Documentation Problems	17%	18%	17%
Lack of continuing education	29%	28%	24%
Practicing with an expired license	7%	9%	10%
Misdemeanor conviction	7%	10%	10%
Fraudulent billing	9%	-	-
Unprofessional conduct	-	8%	8%

Sanctions Imposed

Early Determination Review

2023

- 1 Reprimand
- 1 Probation

2024

- 1 Reprimand
- 2 Censure
- 1 Probation

2025

- 1 Reprimand

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Disciplinary Action

Sanctions Imposed

Exam Candidate

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2023

- 4 Reprimand
- 3 Censure
- 1 Ineligibility followed by probation

2024

- 5 Reprimand
- 4 Censure
- 2 Probation

2025

- 2 Reprimand
- 1 Censure
- 1 Probation

Disciplinary Action

Sanctions Imposed

OT

2023

- 10 Reprimand
- 6 Censure
- 1 Probation
- 3 Suspension
- 1 Voluntary
Surrender

2024

- 9 Reprimand
- 4 Censure
- 3 Probation
- 4 Suspension
- 0 Voluntary
Surrender

2025

- 6 Reprimand
- 7 Censure
- 2 Suspension
- 2 Voluntary
Surrender

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Disciplinary Action

Sanctions Imposed

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OTA

2023

- 11 Reprimand
- 6 Censure
- 1 Probation
- 5 Suspension
- 2 Emergency Suspension
- 2 Voluntary Surrender

2024

- 7 Reprimand
- 4 Censure
- 0 Probation
- 3 Suspension
- 1 Voluntary Surrender

2025

- 5 Reprimand
- 5 Censure
- 3 Probation
- 4 Suspension
- 1 Voluntary Surrender

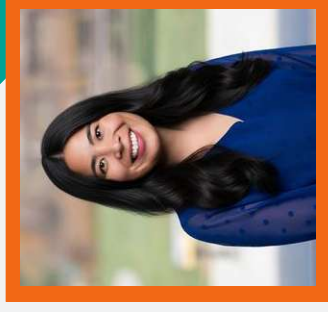
Disciplinary Action

NBCOT[®]
**EXTERNAL &
REGULATORY
AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT**

NBCOT[®]



Barbara Williams
DrOT, MS, OTR
Vice President



Francielle Pineda
MPA, MS, OTR/L, PMP
Assistant Director



Kyle Jones
MS, OTR/L
Assistant Director



Kevin Logan
Senior Program Manager

Meet the Team

NBCOT®

NBCOT®.org

THANK
YOU!

Our efforts to serve the public
interest are stronger because of
the partnership that exists
between state OT regulatory
entities and NBCOT.

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