

Administrative Rule Analysis



BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS – GENERAL RULES

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

Rule Set No.: 2015-029 LR
Submitted to JCAR on: 07/21/2017

Analysis available at
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

Department: Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Agency: Bureau of Professional Licensing
Enabling Statute: Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, MCLs 333.16145, 333.16148, 333.16204, 333.18307, 333.18309 and 333.18313 et seq.

Analysis Complete to: 08/08/2017

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF PROPOSED RULES

The additions, amendments, and rescissions to the rule set would: require training in identification of human trafficking, pursuant to PA 343 of 2014; clarify examination requirements for licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant; clarify requirements for licensure after a license has been allowed to lapse; require proof of good moral character, fingerprinting, and continuing education for relicensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant; require that 20 hours of continuing education be completed as a condition of license renewal, and specify what activities constitute acceptable continuing education.

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED RULES

Rule set 2015-029 LR would have a small, though likely negative, fiscal impact on the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. Tracking the completion of the human trafficking identification requirement would necessitate increased administrative activity, but could likely be streamlined into the existing licensing process. The department estimates that costs related to auditing completion of continuing education requirements would cost the department approximately \$5,400.00 per year. This cost would be incurred to audit approximately 390 occupational therapy license applications, to ensure that the appropriate continuing education requirements had been met.

The impact on school districts and county governments would depend on whether those units offer reimbursement for continuing education and for travel costs. If reimbursement is offered to employees for continuing education, costs could increase due to expanded requirements. However, due to changes regarding the supervisory relationship between occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants, school districts and county governments may experience decreases in their costs. The amended rules would allow for required monthly in-person meetings between the aforementioned parties to be replaced by distance meetings through technologies like Skype.

The rule set would not likely have any significant fiscal impacts on other units of state or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Marcus Coffin

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