RULE IMPACT STATEMENT
PROPOSED PERMANENT RULE

TITLE 435. STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
CHAPTER 30. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS AND ASSISTANTS

This Rule Impact Statement has been prepared pursuant to 75 O.S.Supp.2025, § 253(B).

PROPOSED PERMANENT RULES:
435:30-1-2. Definitions [AMENDED]
435:30-1-3. Licensure by examination [AMENDED]
435:30-1-4. Licensure by endorsement [AMENDED]
435:30-1-5. License renewal; late fees; continuing education; re-entry guidelines [AMENDED]
435:30-1-8. [REVOKED]
435:30-1-9. Occupational Therapy Advisory Committee [AMENDED]
435:30-1-10. Grounds for disciplinary action [AMENDED]
435:30-1-11. [REVOKED]
435:30-1-12. [REVOKED]
435:30-1-13. Fees [AMENDED]
435:30-1-14. [REVOKED]
435:30-1-15. Supervision of students, new graduates, techs and aides [AMENDED]
435:30-1-16. Supervision [AMENDED]
435:30-1-17. Role of Occupational Therapy Assistants in evaluations [AMENDED]
435:30-1-18. Telehealth regulations [AMENDED]

STATEMENT OF NEED and LEGAL BASIS FOR PROPOSED RULE(S):

The amendments and revocations bring the Occupational Therapy administrative rules up to date to reflect the current practice of occupational therapy and the Oklahoma State Board for Medical Licensure and Supervision ("OMB"). Further, the amendments and revocations remove unused, duplicative, and unnecessary rules and align the rule language to reflect the Oklahoma Telemedicine Act at 36 O.S. § 6802, occupational therapy statutes at 59 O.S. §§ 888.1 *et seq.*, other professions regulated by the OMB, and national terminology for occupational therapy.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE RULE(S) AND JUSTIFICATION FOR CLASSIFICATION:

Nonmajor. There are no costs reasonably expected for annual implementation and compliance by state or local government, or individuals.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED RULES:

The Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision ("OMB") proposes these amendments to modernize and update the Occupational Therapy administrative rules, including the removal of duplicative or unnecessary language, the standardization of punctuation, and the alignment to national standards for capitalization and Occupational Therapy terminology. Specifically, the amendments align telemedicine definitions with the Oklahoma Telemedicine Act, update language to be more inclusive of all Occupational Therapy professional associations, and remove references to a Board-administered examination to align with current practice. For continuing education requirements, the proposed changes clarify and simplify language for continuing education requirements, remove continuing education categories that are unverifiable or no longer used, add an administrative fine as a disciplinary option for failure to comply with continuing education requirements, remove separate telehealth continuing education requirements,

and update the audit process for continuing education to align with other OMB professions and reflect current practices. Additionally, the amendments update licensee reporting requirements to the OMB, remove separate provisions specific to occupational therapy assistants, and remove unnecessary language and requirements for the Occupational Therapy Advisory Committee. The amendments clarify the grounds for disciplinary action to improve readability, consolidate similar provisions, remove redundancy, and add relevant citations. The disciplinary hearing provision was removed, as these are conducted at the Board level, and the Federal Employment provision was removed, as it is already addressed in statute. Finally, the amendments modernize and remove unnecessary language regarding supervision of students and clarify remote supervision requirements for occupational therapy assistants.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED RULE(S):

The Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision ("OMB") proposes these amendments to modernize and update the Occupational Therapy administrative rules, including the removal of duplicative or unnecessary language, the standardization of punctuation, and the alignment to national standards for capitalization and Occupational Therapy terminology. Specifically, the amendments align telemedicine definitions with the Oklahoma Telemedicine Act, update language to be more inclusive of all Occupational Therapy professional associations, and remove references to a Board-administered examination to align with current practice. For continuing education requirements, the proposed changes clarify and simplify language for continuing education requirements, remove continuing education categories that are unverifiable or no longer used, add an administrative fine as a disciplinary option for failure to comply with continuing education requirements, remove separate telehealth continuing education requirements, and update the audit process for continuing education to align with other OMB professions and reflect current practices. Additionally, the amendments update licensee reporting requirements to the OMB, remove separate provisions specific to occupational therapy assistants, and remove unnecessary language and requirements for the Occupational Therapy Advisory Committee. The amendments clarify the grounds for disciplinary action to improve readability, consolidate similar provisions, remove redundancy, and add relevant citations. The disciplinary hearing provision was removed, as these are conducted at the Board level, and the Federal Employment provision was removed, as it is already addressed in statute. Finally, the amendments modernize and remove unnecessary language regarding supervision of students and clarify remote supervision requirements for occupational therapy assistants.

FEDERAL LAW MANDATE(S):

The amendments are not a requirement for participation in or implementation of a federally subsidized or assisted program, nor do they exceed the requirements of any applicable federal law.

CLASSES OF PERSONS MOST LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED:

The classes of persons most likely to be affected by the proposed amendments are occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants and those members of the public receiving services from occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants. There is no cost associated with the implementation of this rule to the classes affected. No information on cost impact has been received by the agency from private or public entities to date.

CLASSES OF PERSONS MOST LIKELY TO BENEFIT:

The classes of persons most likely to benefit from the proposed amendments are occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants and those members of the public receiving healthcare services from occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants.

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT AND COST ANALYSIS:

The proposed permanent amendments will have little or no economic impact on the agency, affected classes, affected businesses, business sectors, public utility ratepayers, individuals, state or local government entities, and the state economy as a whole. No additional fee changes, agency personnel or budget expenses are anticipated.

DETAILED EXPLANATION OF METHODOLOGY AND ASSUMPTIONS USED TO DETERMINE THE ECONOMIC IMPACT:

Any cost associated with implementation will be absorbed by board staff. However, at this time there is no cost reasonably anticipated with implementation of these amended rules.

IMPACT ON POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS:

No economic impact, or a need for cooperation from political subdivisions, is anticipated.

SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT:

There is no anticipated adverse impact on small business, with reference to Sections 303 (A) (4) and 304 (b) (6) of the APA.

ALTERNATIVE METHODS AND COSTS OF COMPLIANCE:

There are no apparent alternative methods for compliance. The agency does not anticipate any additional costs of administration due to implementation of these rule changes.

ESTIMATE OF AGENCY RESOURCES TO DEVELOP/IMPLEMENT RULE:

The agency resources and staff time necessary to implement the rule amendments are anticipated to be minimal.

PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

There will be no adverse impact or concerns regarding public safety, health or the environment that will result from this proposed rule change. The public safety and health of the public could be negatively affected if the proposed rules are not adopted as the rules are not consistent with current statute.

ALTERNATIVES TO ADOPTION OF PROPOSED RULES:

The proposed rules are not regulatory in nature. No alternative exists.

SUMMARY OF EXISTING/PROPOSED FEDERAL REGULATIONS:

There are no regulations intended to address the activities to be regulated by the proposed amendments.

DATE OF RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

Prepared: September 15, 2026