



COLLEGE of OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPISTS of NOVA SCOTIA

COTNS NEWS
Spring 2021 Newsletter

Renewal

Renew your Licence between April 1st and May 15th! You will need to log in to your profile using your e-mail address and password on the member section of the website. Email reminders will be sent from the database system on April 1st when the renewal opens, then bi-weekly until you have completed your renewal.

Renewal fees can be paid by credit card, e-transfers to admin@cotns.ca, or cheque mailed to the College.

Fees

In January 2020, the College notified registrants of an upcoming registration fee increase. New applicants began paying the new fee in April 2020. Renewing occupational therapists will see the increase begin in April 2021 for the upcoming registration year. This increase moves annual registration fees to \$490.00.

Tax receipts

Tax receipts are available to registrants within the option "My Applications" on the left-hand side of their profile. This is where they will be able to view and print your past receipts (since 2018). Depending on the size of the screen, this option can be close to the bottom or behind the Guild logo. The left side has its own scroll bar, independent of the main page scroll bar if it is needed.

Payroll Deductions (NSHA/IWK Only)

This renewal (2021)

If you had your registration fees deducted from your payroll in 2020, please use the payment option: EFT/Cheque at the renewal.

To Enroll for Next Renewal (2022)

NSHA Employees:

If you were previously enrolled in the payroll deduction program in 2020, you do not need to enroll again. You will automatically be placed in the payroll deduction program for 2021-2022.

If you have never been part of the payroll deduction program at NSHA and would like to join the payroll deduction program contact Marilyn Scott at marilyn.scott@nshealth.ca before March 15, 2021.

IWK Employees:

All IWK employees that would like to be part of the payroll deduction program must register each year. To enroll for the 2022/2023 renewal your name and employee number must be sent to admin@cotns.ca before March 25, 2021.

Members should review
their member details for
accuracy and
completeness.

Joining College Committees

As a self-regulating profession, the College is supported in fulfilling its mandate by the activities of committees. Committee members are appointed by the Board. All Committee members are paid an annual honorarium based on their participation with the College.

The College maintains the following committees:

Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee manages the registration and licensing of applicants and registrants in accordance with the Act and Regulations. The Committee is responsible for establishing and maintaining policies and procedures to govern the registration and licensing process. The Committee meets at least once a month, or as needed, for an hour. Meetings are currently occurring virtually. Committee members must have at least two years' experience as an occupational therapist.

Continuing Competence Committee

The Continuing Competence Committee is responsible for the developing and administering the College's Continuing Competence Program to ensure registrants are competent to provide safe, effective, and ethical services. The Committee meets this mandate by:

- Developing and reviewing tools to support competence;
- Developing and reviewing tools to assess competence;
- Developing policies and procedures to govern the Continuing Competence Program;
- Reviewing the results of a competence assessment and providing improvement recommendations to registrants.

The Committee meets once a month for an hour or as needed. Meetings are currently occurring virtually. Committee members must have at least five years' experience as an occupational therapist.

Practice Committee

The Practice Committees are responsible for developing and maintaining practice standards and guidelines that regulate the practice of occupational therapy. The Committees may also provide recommendations regarding key practice issues referred by the Registrar or the Board. The College maintains a Practice Committee that meets for two hours every month or as needed. Meetings are currently occurring virtually. Committee members must have at least two years' experience as an occupational therapist.

Investigations Committee

The Investigations Committee is responsible for investigating complaints filed against a registrant in a fair, impartial, transparent, and objective manner. The Committee meets as needed to complete investigations. Meetings are currently occurring virtually. Committee members must have at least five years' experience as an occupational therapist.

Interested in Joining a Committee?

Send a resume or CV to registrar@cotns.ca and indicate the Committee you are interested in joining.

... Have A Say

Registrant Feedback

The College is currently consulting registrants regarding COVID-19 practice and for feedback on upcoming standards and guideline documents. Please look out for e-mail requests for feedback. Your feedback is important to us.



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Canada



ACOTRO



ACORE



The CoreCom-CanCom survey is coming and your voice is needed! Occupational therapy organizations and regulators across Canada have been working together to develop a single competency document.

The upcoming CoreCom-CanCom survey will address these expected competencies for occupational therapists in Canada and we want to hear from you!

Be heard! Check your inbox in early March for more information.

Learn more about this exciting initiative at corecomcanada.com.

Upcoming Board Member Nominations

Two 2-year board positions will be open for registered occupational therapists this year. If you have any interest or would like more information about the College Board, please contact the College at 902-455-0556.

Important to Note:

Insurance

To be registered to practice as an occupational therapist in Nova Scotia, all registrants must carry professional liability coverage with \$5,000,000 liability and a legal endorsement for investigations by the regulatory body. This coverage may be purchased by the registrant personally (AON, BMS via CAOT) or may be provided by an employer. Regardless of the provider or purchaser of the insurance policy, the policy must meet our requirements as indicated in section 48 of the Occupational Therapists Registration Regulations.

The College no longer accepts insurance coverage from the Nova Scotia Health Authority as their policy does not meet our requirements. Occupational therapists must provide alternative insurance coverage.

College of Occupational Therapists of Nova Scotia

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COTNS Board

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Treasurer Dominique Shephard
Members at Large:
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