

1. **World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT)** - In order to become certified by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, the OT Program from which you graduated must be recognized by WFOT at the time of graduation. Please see their website at <http://www.wfot.org> or contact NBCOT to make sure your educational program is recognized.
2. **National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)** - NBCOT is the national certifying agency that determines the Academic, fieldwork and examination requirements that occupational therapists (both US and internationally trained) must meet if they wish to become certified as an Occupational Therapist Registered. The first step in the process is submitting an “International Pre-Screening Application” to NBCOT. Eligibility requirements include:
 - a. **Education**- Graduation from an occupational therapy program comparable to a US bachelor’s degree in OT and recognized by WFOT.
 - b. **Supervised Experience**- At least 1,000 hours of fieldwork.
 - c. **English Proficiency**- You must pass three English language proficiency examinations (TOEFL, TSE and TWE). You can submit the pre-screening application prior to passing all English language exams, however all exams must be passed within one year of submitting your application.

As part of the Pre-Screening application to NBCOT, you will be required to submit official transcripts, verification of license/registration from your country of origin and your professional practice history. If NBCOT receives documents in a language other than English, they will mail a copy to you for an official translation. The International Pre-Screening Application fee is \$400 in 2004. For more information go to <http://www.nbcot.org> or contact the Director of Credentialing at (301) 990-7979 Extension 3129.

3. **TOEFL, TSE and TWE Examinations**- All three English language exams must be passed within one year of submitting your Pre-Screening application of NBCOT, The TOEFL exam is a computerized test that is offered frequently. The TWE (test of written English) is a written essay part included in the TOEFL. The test of Spoken English (TSE) is given 12 times a year. All tests are offered at multiple locations in California. For more information on these tests and their costs, contact Educational Testing Services, TOEFL/TSE Services at www.toefl.org or by phone at (609) 777-7100.
4. **Occupational Therapist Registered Examination**- After you have received notice of your pre-screening from NBCOT and passed all English tests you must submit a paper application to take the certification examination for Occupational Therapist Registered OTR. The examination is computerized in a multiple choice format consisting of 200 items. If you fail the exam, you must submit a new application and fees. The fees in 2004 are \$470 for the application and \$35 to report the score to the CA board of OT. NBCOT will send you an “Authorization to Test” letter. This letter is good for 90 days and can be reactivated for a fee. Once you have your letter, you can contact Prometric Test Centers to schedule an examination date. A list of test sites can be found at www.prometric.com. Once you pass the exam, you will receive an official NBCOT certificate verifying your certification as an Occupational Therapist Registered.
5. **CA Board of Occupational Therapy**- After obtaining your NBCOT certification, you meet the requirements to apply for a license to practice as an Occupational Therapist in California. You must submit an official transcript from the OT program you graduated from and there is an endorsement form that must be filled out by the appropriate agency in your country. There is also a fee that must be submitted with your application. For more information go to www.bot.ca.gov or contact the board at (916) 322-6167.