	Slide	Topic	Narration
1	The American Occupational Therapy Association  Board Certification Specialty Certification	Welcome & Introductions	Welcome to AOTA's webinar for Orientation to Board and Specialty Certification!
2	Learning Objectives  1. Identify the AOTA Board & Specialty Certification process.  2. Differentiate between a professional portfolio and a reflective self-appraisal portfolio targeted for certification.  3. Connect your professional development to changes in your practice & client outcomes in relation to established certification criteria.  4. Write a personal plan of action focused on a continuum of learning and professional development in occupational therapy.	Learning Objectives	The purpose of this presentation is so initial applicants can  1. Identify the AOTA Board and Specialty Certification process.  2. Differentiate between a professional portfolio and a reflective self-appraisal portfolio targeted for certification.  3. Connect your professional development to changes in your practice and client outcomes in relation to established certification criteria.  4. Write a personal plan of action focused on a continuum of learning and professional development in occupational therapy.
3	Philosophy of AOTA Certification	Philosophy of Certification	To begin we will cover the philosophy of AOTA Certification.
4	What is AOTA Certification?  What a profession can be is dependent on the continuing competence of its members.  Integrates AOTA's Standards for Continuing Competence to support an individual's assessment and establishment of goals & priorities for professional development in identified areas.	What is AOTA Certification?	What is AOTA Certification? First and foremost, AOTA certification is not required for practice and does not negate the qualification of those who choose not to participate in the program.  In addition, AOTA Board and Specialty Certifications are not aimed at applicants demonstrating mastery of defined knowledge by taking an exam. Instead, AOTA Certification is designed so applicants can represent his or her capacity to perform professional responsibilities and to validate one's competence in advanced practice for Board certification (and specialty practice for Specialty Certification) in the certification area.  AOTA's certification process uniquely integrates AOTA's Standards for Continuing Competence to support an individual's assessment and establishment of goals and priorities for professional development in identified areas.

5	Why AOTA Certification?  Clinicians Personal accomplishment, professional recognition, advancement  Administrators Career laddering, Joint Commission & other stakeholders, marketing  Faculty Support clinical education course instruction, model the importance of ongoing professional development	Why Certification?	<ul> <li>Why pursue certification?</li> <li>There are a variety of reasons to seek certification.</li> <li>Clinicians may gain a sense of personal accomplishment, professional recognition, and possibly advancement in their career.</li> <li>Administrators may benefit from career laddering, Joint Commission or other stakeholder acknowledgment, and marketing potential.</li> <li>Faculty may realize a supportive connection with their clinical education course instruction, as well as modeling for others the importance of ongoing professional development in one's career.</li> </ul>
6	Certification Areas  Board Certification  Specialty Certification	Certification Areas	There are two distinct certification areas available to occupational therapy practitioners. Board certification is available to occupational therapists. While specialty certification is available for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants.
7	AOTA Board Certification  Advanced Occupational Therapist  - Possesses a breadth & depth of practice knowledge either tending on a row for emission or in a subset of the certification are vice. I emission of the certification are vice in the certification are subset of the certification are subset of the certification are subset of the certification are through non-portalisation.  - Contributes to the certification area through non-portalisation, advaces, volunteer leadership, etc.  - Demonstrates a capacity for ongoing professional development that will enhance practice.	What is advanced practice relative to AOTA certification?	When considering whether to pursue an advanced certification or a specialty certification, it's helpful to understand the distinction between the two.  An advanced occupational therapist relative to AOTA's Board Certification would encompass a breadth and depth of practice knowledge either broadly (as in physical rehabilitation) or in a subset of the certification area (for example burns).  When completing the application, the candidate must provide responses that communicate  • Critical thinking and use of analysis in the delivery of services relative to the certification area.  • Interpretation of environmental and contextual influences relative to the certification area and adjusting intervention to target outcomes that maximize function, safety, and participation.  • Contributions to the certification area during non job-related activities.  • And, demonstration for a capacity of ongoing professional development that will enhance his or her practice.
8	AOTA Speciality Certification  Specialist Practitioner  - Possesses a desth of focused knowledge in the specialty area that goes beyond what might be expected of a general practitioner with the special practitioner and special practitioner and special practitioner and special practicioner and special practicion and special practicion and special practicion to target outcomes that maximize function, safety, and participation - Influences the certification area through non-gib-related violation and special practicion and spe	What is specialized practice relative to AOTA certification?	A specialty occupational therapy practitioner relative to AOTA's Specialty Certification would encompass a depth of <i>focused</i> knowledge in the specialty area that goes beyond what might be expected of a general practitioner.  When completing the specialty application, the candidate must provide responses that communicate

			<ul> <li>Interpretation of environmental and contextual influences relative to the specialty certification area and adjusting intervention to target outcomes that maximize function, safety, and participation.</li> <li>Contributions to the specialty certification area during non job-related activities.</li> <li>And, demonstration for a capacity of ongoing professional development that will enhance his or her specialty practice.</li> <li>Lastly, since specialty certification is available for OTs and OTAs, a distinction is made for OTs in the area of critical reasoning. An OT applicant would need to communicate his or her critical thinking and analysis used in the delivery of services relative to the specialty certification area.</li> </ul>
9	Board Certifications  Credential  Gerontology BCG  Mental Health BCMH  Pediatrics BCP  Physical Rehabilitation BCPR	<b>Board</b> Certification areas	Board Certification is available in four areas Gerontology Mental Health Pediatrics Physical Rehabilitation Persons awarded certification are eligible to use credentialing letters after their name for the 5 year certification period. That is, BCG for Gerontology, BCMH for Mental Health, and so on.
10	Board Certifications Minimum Initial Requirements  • 5 years as an occupational therapist • 5,000 hours as an occupational therapist in the certification area  • 500 hours direct delivery of occupational therapy services in the certification area	Minimum initial requirements	<ul> <li>The minimal initial requirements for Board Certification are</li> <li>5 years as an occupational therapist.</li> <li>Board certification requires the applicant to be able to direct and complete an evaluation in the area of practice</li> <li>5,000 hours experience in occupational therapy in the certification area in the last 5 calendar years.</li> <li>500 hours experience direct delivery of occupational therapy services in the certification area in the last 5 calendar years.</li> <li>For faculty seeking certification, please know that the initial certification is practice based with an emphasis on client outcomes (not student outcomes).</li> <li>The 500 hours of direct delivery represents only 10% of the 5,000 required hours and works out to about 2 hours a week over a period of 5 years.</li> <li>The requirement could be achieved through any number of ways, including on-campus clinics, research that involves clients, volunteer work, and so on.</li> <li>The "delivery of service" does not have to represent service to individuals, but could in fact be to a group or population.</li> </ul>

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11	Credential: OT OTA  Driving and Community Mobility SCDCM SCDCM-A Environmental Modification SCEM SCEM-A Feeding, Eating, and Swallowing SCFES SCFES-A LOW Vision SCLV SCLV-A School Systems SCSS SCSS-A	Specialty Certification areas	Specialty Certification is available in five areas  Driving and Community Mobility  Environmental Modification  Feeding, Eating, and Swallowing  Low Vision  School Systems  Similar to Board Certification, persons awarded specialty certification are eligible to use credentialing letters after their name for the 5 year certification period and are invited to renew at the conclusion of the 5 year period. Credentials for occupational therapy assistants are distinguished by the letter A for assistant. For example, certification credentials for low vision are SCLV for occupational therapists and SCLV-A for occupational therapy assistants.
12		Minimum	The minimum initial requirements for specialty
	Specialty Certifications  Minimum Initial Requirements  - 2,000 hours as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant  - 600 hours direct direct delivery of occupational therapy services in the specialty area	initial requirements	<ul> <li>2,000 hours as an occupational therapy practitioner (this is approximately 13 months of full time work).</li> <li>Occupational therapist seeking Specialty Certification need to be able to direct an evaluation in the specific area of certification</li> <li>Occupational therapy assistants are not expected to direct an evaluation in keeping with practice</li> <li>600 hours experience in the last 5 calendar years of direct delivery of occupational therapy services in the specific specialty area.</li> <li>600 hours equals approximately 4 hours out of a 40 hour week over 3 years.</li> <li>The application can be submitted immediately after meeting the first requirement and minimum 600 hours— there is no need to wait 5 years before applying.</li> </ul>
13	- MA	Where do I	So where do you begin?
14	Where do I begin?	begin?	The best place to start is determining which certification you are interested in seeking  Board Certification or Specialty Certification
14	The second secon		Once you have an idea, go to www.AOTA.org and search for the Board and Specialty Certifications webpage. Scrolling down the page, you will see the full list and active links to the certification content.  For the purposes of this training, we will now review Board Certification only.  Once you determine the Board Certification area of interest, click on the link.  Next, locate the Overview Document link and click to open.

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15	BOAGO CERTIFICATION CONTRICATE  This is not real configuration of contribution	Overview Document	This Overview Document is a quick snapshot of the application components.
	Control and College  Grant College	Board Certification	In this document, the first three rows identify the applicant information required, that is, academic background, employment background, and verification of employment and/or volunteer services. As an initial applicant, you would complete this information in the application itself.
			The fourth row Certification criteria is commonly referred to as the reflective portfolio and this is actually the bulk of the application which we will review in a minute.
			The fifth row in this document applies to renewal certificants and will be briefly reviewed to at the end of this webinar.
			The last two rows, which are applicable to initial certification, identify the ongoing professional development portion, that is, the self-assessment and the professional development plan. This section will be described in greater detail later on.
16	Control Access of Control Acce	Reflective Portfolio	Scrolling to the next few pages, you will find a summary of the Reflective Portfolio elements.
	Consideration of the Construction of the Const		This document is helpful in identifying those activities that you have done in the past 5 years that will allow you to describe your advanced practice in relation to the criterion.
			In the first column, the 13 criterion for Board certification is listed. The middle column provides a definition of each criterion. The last column identifies the professional development activities that you can choose from to provide the best evidence in demonstrating how you meet the criterion for advanced practice. Each activity has a corresponding portfolio evidence form with guiding questions that you need to fully respond to.
17	Central		Many applicants will start the process with jotting notes on this form, reflecting on their professional development and practice, and identifying those activities that will allow them to link to the criterion. Taking the time to process and prepare in this manner will be helpful later on. Be sure to save your notes and refer to them throughout.
18	AOTA Certification Reflective Portfolio not  o a professional portfolio resume, CE certificate, archived accompliamente, presentations of an evaluation to determine mastery or skill acquisition of a measure of employee performance	Reflective Portfolio	When preparing to draft your reflective portfolio, take the time to understand the distinct difference between a reflective portfolio and other instruments.
	is  ✓ focused on  continuing competence  ✓ a demonstration of ability to meet  certification criteria		The reflective portfolio is not the creation of a professional portfolio, which is a collection of artifacts to represent your accomplishments. Nor is it an evaluation for mastery or a measurement of employee performance.

10		Whohia	The reflective portfolio is focused on continuing competence and demonstration of the ability to meet certification criteria.  Applicants are expected to engage in a process of reflective self-appraisal relative to identified criteria based on AOTA's Standards of Continuing Competence. This involves the deliberate selection of the best supporting evidence that will demonstrate your potential for meeting identified criteria and answer the question: What evidence would best indicate I meet the criteria for advanced practice for Board Certification?
19	Being A Reflective Practitioner Reflective Portfolio  Sount Consology Practice  Sound Remains  Practice  Sound Remains  Reflection  Reflection  Teger  Gain Now hougher Proper  New Knowledge Proper  New Chowledge Remains  New Common Common Sound Continued Learning	What is a Reflective Practitioner? – Emphasize importance of reflection in the development of the portfolio	Being a reflective practitioner is a critical component to this process.  Reflective practice begins at the stage of our professional education as we acquire scientific knowledge and professional artistry we bring this education into our practice andprovided we are openwe come across situations that surprise us and stimulate a conscious thought process on past or present events. This begins the reflective process as we examine on our own intuitive understandings, reframe problems, seek new information and ultimately gain new insights, adjust our thinking, and prepare our next steps. This new knowledge is brought back into our practice thus improving our competence and sustaining a continuous learning loop.  Reflecting in this manner as you complete the portfolio activities will allow you to explicitly respond to the questions or prompts posed on the activity forms.
20	Activity Selection for Reflective Portfolio  1. Did you do the activity?  Service and the continue of the cont	Activity Selection	When selecting activities for the reflective portfolio, consider  a. Did you do the activity?  b. Did you gain new insights specific to the criterion?  c. Can you link activity evidence to the criterion?
21	Activity Selection for Reflective Portfolio  Advanced Certification  4. Can you describe advanced practice in the certification weez in the second of the se		d. Can you describe advanced practice in the certification area?  If you can confidently answer yes to these questions, then you should consider using that activity.  If at any point you question or are confused about the activity to criterion fit, then you may want to select another activity.  For each criterion, be sure to choose only one activity from the list. The activity must have occurred within 5 years of application submission. Also know that you may not use an activity to meet more than 1 criterion. Each case study and each activity must be unique for each criterion.

22	3111/2	Helpful Advice	The following section contains some helpful advice.
	Helpful Advice		
23	Self Appraisal  Reflective Portfolio  Professional Self Appraisal  • Prepare • Process • Assess • Review • Take time  Answer the question  Which activity will allow me to provide the best evidence to demonstrate how I meet the criteria for advanced practice?	Tips & Strategies	Completing the reflective portfolio requires time and self-appraisal. Be sure to prepare, assess your knowledge and skills, take the time to reflect, process, and review. With every step be sure to identify activities that allow you to provide the best evidence to demonstrate how you meet the criteria for advanced practice in the certification area as an occupational therapist.
24	What reviewers look for Individual Components - Focused - Organized - Complete - Supported - Connected  Holistic Scoring Method Throughout the application advanced (BC) or specialty (SC) practice in the certification area as an occupational therapy practitioner must come through.		AOTA's certification is a peer-reviewed process. Knowing what reviewers are looking for should prove helpful.  A very well done application is  • Focused –that is, responses on the activity form include depth with purpose and insight to the criterion.  • The application is Organized with a logical progression of ideas.  • It's Complete with clearly expressed responses that answer the prompts on the form and don't leave the reader hanging.  • Reflections are Supported with examples that are relevant and illustrative of the criterion.  • And lastly, the candidate connects the application to a strong commitment for learning, changes in practice, and improved client outcomes.  Reviewers consider each part of the application, as well as the entire application. When reviewers apply a holistic scoring method, they are looking for support to conclude advanced practice in the certification area as an occupational therapist.
25	Strategies      Ask someone to review     Use the RAP strategy Account Ac		Strategies to improve the quality of your final product  Ask someone to review your application before submitting, they can check for spelling, grammar, and coherence.  When drafting your responses consider using the RAP strategy restate the writing prompt, answer or construct a response, and prove your response with explicit examples.  Only provide supporting documents requested within the application or activity form.  Also, Be cognizant of the word count recommendations and include only those ideas and text that will strengthen

			your meeting the criterion.
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26	Strategies  Select formal learning that links to advanced practice (BC) or specialty practice (SC)  Strategies		For the knowledge criterion, you may select formal learning as an activity. Be sure the formal learning speaks to advanced practice.
	Case study must link to your PD     Know your definitions     Advocacy or Marketing??		In using formal learning, frame your response on how the formal learning influenced the way you practice and have impacted client outcomes.
			When using a case study as an activity, focus on how the case helped you meet the criterion. In doing so, describe your new insights and professional growth gained through the case.
			In determining an appropriate activity for advocacy and marketing criteria, make sure you're well versed in the operational definitions of these two terms. The OTPF-3 defines advocacy and provides examples that might guide your thinking as you determine which activity will allow you to meet the criterion. The American Marketing Association has a solid definition of marketing that might help you differentiate between advocacy and marketing.
27	Ongoing Professional Development Self-Assessment	Self Assessment and PDP	Let's look at the self-assessment and professional development plan. Each of these are components of ongoing professional development.
28	Self-Assessment  Your practice  Past Present Future  Look back at your Reflective Portfolio  • Where are potential opportunities for future learning?  • What areas can you focus on for enhancing your own professional practice?  • What can you do to prepare or increase your capacity for competence demands of the future?		Starting with the self-assessment this is where you will reflect on your journey and describe your past practice, present (or current) practice, and future practice direction in relation to the certification area being sought.  You will need to take the time  • To look back at your Reflective Portfolio and evaluate your professional development relative to the certification area As you look back, answer the questions  • Where are potential gaps or opportunities for future learning?  • What areas (or criterion) can you focus on for enhancing your own professional practice?  • What can you do to prepare or increase your capacity for competence demands of the future?

29	Professional Development Plan PDP  5 Year Plan		Following your self-assessment you will create your 5-year professional development plan.
	Develop goals for 3 different competence areas     Self-assesment will naturally introduce these goal areas for your future professional development     Goals need to focus on your professional development outcomes rather than the development or others or the development of a		This professional development plan will consist of 3 goals each targeting a different competence area (or criterion).
	product		The same three criterion areas that you will have naturally introduced in your self-assessment as you contemplated your future learning and direction in the
			certification area being sought.
			As you draft your goals, be sure to keep the focus on your professional development outcomes versus the development of others or products.
30	Professional Development Plan PDP  - Why do I want to do this? - What do I hope to achieve for myself? - How will I grow professionally? - What are new trends in the literature that I want to include in my professional development? - What improved client outcomes do I anticipate once I acquire this knowledge or skill?		<ul> <li>Ask yourself</li> <li>Why do I want to do this?</li> <li>What do I hope to achieve for myself?</li> <li>How will I grow professionally?</li> <li>What are new trends in the literature that I want to include in my professional development? and</li> <li>What improved client outcomes do I anticipate once I acquire this knowledge or skill?</li> </ul>
31	Professional Development Plan PDP Goals  Relevant  I Identified criterion  Self assessment  Animate (1) Septimizer (1) Septimi		Relevant addresses the relationship of the goal to the identified criterion, your self-assessment, and your ongoing practice in the certification area and must represent advanced practice as an occupational therapist.  Measurability includes being able to demonstrate a change within 5 years following certification. You will need to include conditions for measuring success and learning strategies. Write the goal in such a manner that in 5 years from now, you will be able to describe your own professional development outcomes.  Controllable means that you can control whether or not you can achieve the goal, regardless of the external environment. And just as a reminder, the goal needs to
			be specific to your own professional development not the development of others (for example, students or staff) or the development of a product.
32	Professional Development Plan PDP Goals vs Strategies	Ongoing Professional	Quite often applicants will get tripped up between goals and strategies. As a reminder
	Goals communicate your desired professional development outcomes  Strategies are the methods you implement to reach your professional development goals	Development	Goals communicate your desired professional development outcomes.
			Strategies are the methods that you implement in an effort to reach your professional development goals.
			Keeping your focus on professional development outcomes will increase your success in writing your professional development plan.

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33	Certification Renewal	Certification Renewal	Certification Renewal	
34	Certification Renewal  Every 5 years  • First renewal requires a full peer review of reduced application  • Sorderia of chosony 8 Ethical Practice criterion • Reflection on initial PDF Goals • Self-assessment • Professional Development Plan  • Subsequent renewals by random audit and/or attestation	Renewal Criteria As an FYI	As identified earlier, applicants awarded an AOTA Board or Specialty Certification are invited to renew their certification at the conclusion of the 5 year period. The first renewal cycle requires a full peer review of a reduced application (that is, activities for 5 criteria of your choosing and the Ethical Practice criterion, as well as a reflection on your initial PDP goals, a self-assessment, and future professional development goals).  Subsequent renewals would occur with an attestation statement indicating a commitment toward ongoing professional development and competence in the certification area or by random audit.	
35	Questions?  • On the web: www.aota.org/certification • E-mail: prodev@aota.org • By phone: 1-800-SAY-AOTA ext. 2838	Q&Afor further questions contact prodev	If you have remaining questions following this training, then feel free to  • gather additional information on the web at www.aota.org/certification  • you can also e-mail prodev@aota.org or call 1-800-SAY-AOTA ext. 2838 with your questions	
36	The American Occupational Therapy Association  Board Certification Specialty Certification		Thank you	