

**POSITION STATEMENT
TENNESSEE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

**KENNETH AND MADGE TULLIS, MD
SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING ACT**

Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-1-125 mandates training in suicide prevention, suicide assessment and screening; suicide treatment, suicide management and suicide postvention for licensed occupational therapists within certain time periods. It is the position of the Board of Occupational Therapy that all licensed occupational therapists in the State of Tennessee will successfully complete two (2) hours of training in suicide prevention. It is also the position of the Tennessee Board of Occupational Therapy that the following guidelines are applicable:

1. Current Licensees – Beginning January 1, 2020, all persons who hold an active Occupational Therapist license must complete a minimum two (2) hour Board approved training program relative to suicide prevention at least once every four (4) years.
2. New Licensees – An applicant applying for initial licensure on or after January 1, 2020 is not required to complete a training program on suicide prevention for two (2) years after the date of initial licensure if the applicant can demonstrate successful completion of a two (2) hour academic training program that meets criteria established by the Board and that was completed no more than two (2) years prior to the application for initial licensure.
3. Hours Earned – The continuing education hours earned through the training program under Part 1 and Part 2 of this subparagraph count toward meeting the continuing education requirements listed in subparagraphs (f) and (g) of the statute.

Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-1-125 also requires the Board to review and approve acceptable suicide prevention training. The Board, at this time, believes all courses provided through the providers identified below would allow licensees to choose the appropriate course for the individual licensee's practice type:

AOTA

https://myaota.aota.org/shop_aota/product/CEA1117

https://myaota.aota.org/shop_aota/product/OL8145

TNOTA

<https://www.tnota.org/suicide-prevention>

Additionally, the QPR also meets the requirements of the Suicide Prevention Act training. This training can be found here:

<https://qprinstitute.com/>

Adopted by the Board of Occupational Therapy on this the 29 day of April 2021.



**Amanda Newbern, Chairperson
Board of Occupational Therapy**