

September 18, 2020
10:17 a.m.

From: burge_otrl <burge_otrl@yahoo.com>
To: Ditschman, Andria (LARA)

Thanks to you and the other LARA members for patiently responding to my questions during this morning's Public Hearing.

I am strongly in favor of clinicians being fluent in the primary language of the country in which they practice. This helps build and maintain rapport and ensures effective patient interventions.

To follow up on my other previous question, can you please provide additional insight about the role of Executive Orders and how they impact Continuing Education (CE) requirements for Occupational Therapists?

The original language in the rules that allowed for "live and synchronous" CE courses seemed to allow greater flexibility for completing CEs into the future. Utilizing platforms such as Zoom, Google Meet, and other electronic services that allow for virtual "in person" participation may become especially important during and immediately post pandemic to maintain professional certification (2021-beyond). It is unfortunate it will be rescinded in favor of "live and in person" however, if the Governor's Orders can supersede these rules, perhaps it's not necessarily an issue.

Thank you for any clarification you can provide!

Stay safe, be well, & have a good day,

Bethany Burge, MS, OTR/L, CNP, CAPS