Internationally Educated Occupational Therapists (IEOTs)

Registering to Practise in BC

To work as an occupational therapist or use title, you must register with the College of Occupational Therapists of BC (COTBC), also known as the “OT College”. Registration is also required prior to attending any pre-employment orientation or training. Get started as soon as you can!

First Steps

Before applying to practise in BC you must complete ACOTRO’s Substantial Equivalency Assessment System (SEAS) process.

- New Registrant Application Form
- Application Fee
- Request ACOTRO send your SEAS Certificate of Completion and SEAS Determination Report.
- Review possible funding through SEAS or in British Columbia: Back in Motion—Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants
- Confirm your status as a health care professional
- Demonstrated proficiency in English language
- Professional liability insurance
- Forward the COTBC Regulatory History Form to each regulatory organization where you have previously held, or currently hold registration/licence to practise.
- Upon receipt of your successful SEAS Determination Report, we inform CAOT that you are eligible to sit the National Occupational Therapy Certification Examination (NOTCE)
- Employer Acknowledgement Form (if you haven’t passed the NOTCE yet)

Documents to Submit

- Proof you are authorized to work in Canada as a health care professional
- Confirmation of your Criminal Record Check
- Professional liability insurance
- Upon receipt of your successful SEAS Determination Report, we inform CAOT that you are eligible to sit the National Occupational Therapy Certification Examination (NOTCE)

* ACOTRO is the Association of Canadian Occupational Therapy Regulatory Organizations.

Last Step

- Registration Fee (pro-rated)
- Remember!
  - We recommend starting SEAS before leaving your home country. That way your practice hours are as current as possible.
  - While waiting, review our BC practice standards, practice supports, and the quality assurance program. To stay connected join OTCollegeBC on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn

COTBC

It’s All about Protecting the Public

COTBC is the regulatory organization established by the provincial government to oversee the practice of occupational therapists (OTs) in British Columbia.

Our role is to ensure that the public receives safe, ethical and effective occupational therapy services. The College protects the public and upholds public confidence by registering only those OTs that meet our established requirements for entry into the profession, setting standards for practice and ethical conduct, fairly investigating complaints raised about registrants’ practice, and monitoring and supporting continued competence throughout a registrant’s practice career.

Contact Us

College of Occupational Therapists of British Columbia

#402-3795 Carey Road
Victoria, BC V8Z 6T8

Tel: (250) 386-6822
Toll Free in BC: 1 (866) 386-6822
Fax: (250) 386-6824

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. • Monday to Friday except for statutory holidays.

More Information

Review ACOTRO’s SEAS process at: https://www.acotro-acore.org/seas-introduction. Visit us at: www.cotbc.org and click on Registration

| COTBC |
| College of Occupational Therapists of British Columbia |

| Registration Fee (pro-rated) |

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