

Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd

Contributing to a flexible, innovative and safe occupational therapy workforce



OTC BOARD REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

30 JUNE 2023



To Member Organisations and Stakeholders

I have pleasure in presenting the OTC Board Report of the Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd – formerly Occupational Therapy Council (Australia & New Zealand) Ltd - (OTC) for the 12 months ended 30 June 2023.

With the occupational therapy profession's inclusion into the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme on 1 July 2012, the OTC was appointed as the accreditation and assessment authority under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (National Law).

This role requires the OTC to continue its ongoing administration of the assessment of overseas-qualified occupational therapists for skilled migration and practice in Australia, and assume the responsibility for the accreditation of occupational therapy programs offered by educational providers in Australia.

Whilst the 12 months to 30 June 2023 provided ongoing challenges in relation to the COVID-19 restrictions, the OTC has been able to monitor closely the implementation of the revised Accreditation Standards (December 2018) which came into effect on 1 January 2020.

The Program Accreditation Committee has continued to conduct accreditation reviews successfully via Zoom and recommenced on site accreditations early in 2023.

The OTC continues to focus on cultural responsiveness training for all OTC directors, staff and assessors. Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) prepared a training package, delivered to all parties in Adelaide in August 2022. In response to the training, the OTC sought further guidance from IAHA to prepare a Cultural Responsiveness Action Plan, which commenced via a facilitated workshop in Adelaide in May 2023.

To extend the cultural responsiveness training further, the OTC now requires all internationally qualified practitioners seeking to practise in Australia to gain a comprehensive cultural responsiveness understanding prior to commencing the Stage 2 period of supervised practice. IAHA has prepared a dedicated OTC training module for internationally qualified practitioners to undertake online. The training comprises three levels, two of which must be completed successfully prior to commencement of the Stage 2 period of supervised practice with the final level completed successfully prior to a Certificate of Practical Completion being issued in acknowledgement of successful completion of the period of supervised practice.

The directors approved amendments to the Constitution in October 2022 to facilitate a smooth transition from those directors who had completed their terms on the OTC Board to new members.

Following the retirement of Ms Jan Erven in November 2022, the OTC Board welcomed Ms Susan Gilbert-Hunt, nominated by OT Australia Ltd. In February 2023, Associate Professor Genevieve Pepin, sponsored by ANZCOTE, was welcomed to the OTC Board following the retirement of Associate Professor Lynne Adamson. Ms Tania Brown was appointed by the directors in February 2023 as an independent director, following the retirement of Ms Laila Hakansson Ware.

The commitment of our directors and committee members, staff and assessors to enable the OTC to assume these roles in compliance with the National Law is to be commended, and greatly appreciated.

Associate Professor Margaret Cook
CHAIRPERSON

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PURPOSE

The Council of Occupational Therapists Registration Boards (Australia & New Zealand) Inc. (COTRB) was established in 1996 in Queensland for the consideration of matters of joint or common concern or interest to the occupational therapy registration boards in Australia and New Zealand. COTRB was incorporated in South Australia on 21 January 2000. On the 17 February 2010 the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (SA) approved amendment to COTRB's constitution and rules and a change of name to the Occupational Therapy Council (Australia & New Zealand) Inc (OTC).

Following inclusion of the occupational therapy profession in the national registration and accreditation scheme on 1 July 2012, the OTC's constitution and rules were amended to comply with its appointment as the assessment and accreditation authority in accordance with the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (National Law). On 16 July 2012 the status of the OTC was changed to a public company limited by guarantee Occupational Therapy Council (Australia & New Zealand) Ltd (OTC).

An extensive review of the strategic plan of the OTC was undertaken during 2018 which noted:

- The sole purpose of the OTC is to accredit education programs in Australia for Australian registration purposes, and to assess overseas-qualified occupational therapists seeking registration in Australia.
- OTC does not conduct any business in New Zealand on behalf of the New Zealand Board and, based on communications in recent times, it is unlikely to do so in the foreseeable future.
- Increasing pressure to contain operating costs and fees charged to education providers in Australia and overseas-qualified occupational therapists.

As a result of this review, at its Annual General Meeting on 11 November 2018, the directors made recommendation to the members to adopt a revised constitution which removed sponsorship by the Occupational Therapy Board of New Zealand and the Occupational Therapy New Zealand Whakaora Ngangahau Aotearoa and in turn, the nomination of Members and Directors from New Zealand.

As of 13 November 2019, the company changed its name to:

Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd

OBJECTIVES

Consistent with its purpose, the objectives of the company are all and any one or more of the following:

- To develop, review and maintain accreditation standards to assess occupational therapy programs for approval by the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (OTBA).
- To assess programs of study, and the education providers that provide the programs of study leading to eligibility for registration as an occupational therapist, to determine whether the programs meet approved accreditation standards.
- To assess for the purpose of granting accreditation, programs leading to eligibility for registration as an occupational therapist.
- To advise and make recommendation to the OTBA relating to the accreditation status granted to an occupational therapy program.

- To develop and implement a skills assessment process to ensure the knowledge, clinical skills and professional attributes of internationally qualified occupational therapists is of a comparable standard to occupational therapists in Australia.
- To act on the reasonable direction of the OTBA consistent with the objectives and purpose of the OTC.
- To provide information and advice to the OTBA or governmental agency concerning the adequacy of a person's qualifications and skills in the field of occupational therapy for the purpose of migration to Australia.
- To assess authorities in other countries who conduct examinations or accredit programs of study relevant to registration as an occupational therapist, to decide whether persons who successfully complete the examinations or programs of study conducted or accredited by the authorities have the knowledge, clinical skills and professional attributes necessary to practise the profession in Australia.
- To provide information and advice to the OTBA or governmental agency relating to law and policy concerning accreditation and competency requirements for the registration of occupational therapists.
- To establish and maintain relationships with bodies or organisations having objectives and functions in whole or in part similar to the objectives and functions of the OTC.

MEMBERSHIP AND DIRECTORS

As at the 30 June 2023 the OTC comprised the following members:

- Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (OTBA) – two members
- Occupational Therapy Australia Limited (OTA) – one member
- Australian and New Zealand Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ANZCOTE) – one member
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Occupational Therapy Network (NATSOTN) – one member

The Board of Directors must not exceed nine persons and is comprised of the members nominated by the sponsors (above), a community representative and two additional persons with suitable skills and experience nominated by the members.

One Zoom meeting and three face-to-face meetings were convened during the year, and the number of meetings attended by each director is shown in brackets.

Assoc Prof Lynne Adamson – nominated by ANZCOTE [retired February 2023]	(3/4)
Dr Jill Hummell – nominated by OTBA	(4/4)
Assoc Prof Margaret Cook – nominated by OTBA	(4/4)
Ms Jan Erven – nominated by OTA [retired November 2022]	(2/4)
Ms Kathryn Martin – nominated by NATSOTN	(4/4)
Ms Alison Sinclair – community representative – nominated by members pursuant to Clause 22.2.2 of the Constitution	(4/4)

Ms Laila Hakansson Ware – nominated by members as a person with suitable qualifications, skills and experience pursuant to Clause 22.2.3 of the Constitution [retired February 2023] (3/4)

Mr Michael Piu – nominated by members as a person with suitable qualifications, skills and experience pursuant to Clause 22.2.3 of the Constitution (4/4)

Assoc Prof Genevieve Pepin – nominated by ANZCOTE [appointed February 2023] (2/4)

Ms Susan Gilbert-Hunt – nominated by OTA [appointed November 2022] (3/4)

Ms Tania Brown – nominated by members as a person with suitable qualifications, skills and experience pursuant to Clause 22.2.3 of the Constitution [appointed February 2023] (2/4)

As at 5 November 2022, following the Annual General Meeting, the structure of the OTC was as follows:

Assoc Prof Margaret Cook – Chair
 Ms Kathryn Martin – Deputy Chair
 Dr Jill Hummell
 Assoc Prof Lynne Adamson
 Ms Alison Sinclair
 Mr Michael Piu
 Ms Susan Gilbert-Hunt

Ms Jan Erven retired as a director at the meeting in November 2022.

As at February 2023, OTC Board was comprised as follows:

Assoc Prof Margaret Cook – Chair
 Ms Kathryn Martin – Deputy Chair
 Dr Jill Hummell
 Ms Alison Sinclair
 Mr Michael Piu
 Ms Susan Gilbert-Hunt
 Assoc Prof Genevieve Pepin
 Ms Tania Brown

Associate Professor Adamson and Ms Laila Hakansson Ware retired as directors at the meeting in February 2023.

Associate Professor Genevieve Pepin and Ms Tania Brown were welcomed to the OTC Board in February 2023

Directors' qualifications, experience and special responsibilities

Name	Qualification	Experience	Special responsibilities
Lynne Adamson	PhD, M App Sci (OT), B App Sci (OT), Grad Cert Higher Ed (Teach & Learn)	Director since 2012. Retired as director, February 2023. Health academic, casual appointments. Previously Associate Professor of Occupational Science and Therapy, with 30 years' experience as an occupational therapy academic. Practice	Chair from April 2014 Chair, Program Accreditation Committee.

		experience in a range of areas and management of occupational therapy services. Former Australian delegate to the World Federation of Occupational Therapists.	
Jill Hummell	PhD, MA, BA, Dip OT	Director of the Occupational Therapy Council since 2012. OTC national program accreditation assessor. Has worked as a manager, clinician, academic and researcher in a range of workplace settings. Previous involvement with occupational therapy association activities at state, national and international levels.	Chair, Program Accreditation Committee from November 2022 Deputy OTC Chair from April 2014 to November 2022. Member Governance and Strategic Affairs Committees 2017 to 2022
Margaret Cook	B OT (Hons), GDOHS, M Hlth Sci, PhD, FAIHS, FHFESA MAICD	Director of the Occupational Therapy Council since 2012. Associate Professor and Academic Lead in the discipline of Occupational Health and Safety at the University of Queensland. Expert member of various government boards and panels.	Chair, OTC Member, Governance and Strategic Affairs Committee
Jan Erven	Dip (OT) Cumberland 1976; Grad Cert (Management) Western Sydney 2001	Board member of OT Australia for seven years, and president of the NSW association for four years before a national organisation was established. Chair of National Allied Health Classification Committee, on the Independent Hospitals Pricing Authority Clinical Advisory Committee and represent Occupational Therapy on the National Aged Care Alliance.	Chair Overseas Qualification Assessment Committee from May 2014 to November 2022 and member since 2012
Kathryn Martin	OT; Diploma Leadership and Management	Murri (Qld Aboriginal) woman	Deputy Chair from November 2022,

		Associate Lecturer in Occupational Therapy - University of Queensland. Affiliate Associate Lecturer in the UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health. Completed MPhil, now enrolled in PhD studies. Seven years community-based OT experience at LifeTec Australia and Vision Australia. Co-chair of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Occupational Therapy Network (NATSOTN) and member Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA)	Overseas Qualification Assessment Committee
Alison Sinclair	BA (SW); Grad Diploma (PHC)	Carer for mother receiving occupational therapy service in the community and in hospital/rehabilitation facilities. Former community member on the Occupational Therapy Registration Board SA. Twenty-five years' experience in quality, standards and accreditation in the health and community services sectors. Previous board director for DLI (Disability Service) and member of Adelaide Primary Health Network board's clinical governance subcommittee. Currently Director of ASC & Associates. Approved assessor for the Australian Service Excellence, QIC, National Mental Health Service Standards and the NDIS Practice Standards.	Community Member, Member Governance and Strategic Affairs Committee and Chair, Governance and Strategic Affairs Committee from 1 May 2017 Member of Program Accreditation Committee from 1 May 2017 to November 2022.
Laila Hakansson Ware	BA, Dip.Ed, Barrister-at-Law; Graduate of Australian Institute of Company Directors	Retired Barrister. 20 years' board member experience on State and National Health Practitioner Regulation boards, OT Board Qld. DT&DP Board Qld., DT Board Qld, 3 years' experience Policy, Codes & Guidelines Committee -	Skills based OTC Board member, and member Governance and Strategic Affairs Committee and Overseas Qualified Assessment Committee from 1 May 2017 to November 2022.

		<p>Pharmacy Board of Australia (PBA), 3 years' experience Finance & Governance Committee- PBA.</p> <p>Past Panel Member AHPRA's List of Approved Persons (formerly known as Performance & Professional Standards Hearing Panel".)</p>	
Michael Piu	<p>BA (SocSc); LLB; FIPAAWA; FANZCN; FGIA; AFAIM;</p> <p>Barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Western Australia and Supreme Court of Victoria, and High Court of Australia.</p> <p>Public Notary for the State of Western Australia</p>	<p>Former Member of Occupational Therapists' Registration Board of Western Australia 2007 – 2009 including Complaints Assessment Committee. Former National Board Member, Pharmacy Board of Australia, and Notifications Committee of the Board; former Member, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Working Group for NRAS; Former Member WA Board (and Chair, WA Registration Committee) of the Nursing Board of Australia. Former Member, Physiotherapists' Registration Board of WA 2008 – transition to National Registration and Accreditation Scheme in October 2010. Member of National RNC of the Physiotherapy Board of Australia to December 2015. Former member RNC, WA Committee of the Dental Board of Australia. Experience as a board member (and Chair) in community sector, NGO, peak body and statutory boards for over 30 years; including currently Deputy Chair Shelter WA, Board Member WA Council of Social Service, and Independent Director of the Whadjuk Aboriginal Corporation (the recognised Regional Noongar Corporation for the Whadjuk Noongar</p>	<p>Member, Governance and Strategic Affairs Committee (Chair until 1 May 2017) Member. Program Accreditation Committee from May 2017 – November 2022</p>

		<p>People (Perth metropolitan area) under the SW Native Title Settlement).</p> <p>CEO of a non-government charitable organisation providing health, housing, and support services to people at risk of homelessness.</p>	
Genevieve Pepin	Assoc Prof School of Health and Social Development, Deakin University, Victoria.	Higher Degree by research (HDR) Coordinator, Faculty of Health, Deakin University, Victoria.	OTC Board member nominated by ANZCOTE February 2023.
Susan Gilbert-Hunt	M.Hlth.Sc.(Aus); Dip.COT (UK); Cert in Edu (UK)	<p>Retired Senior Lecturer in Occupational Therapy with over 30 years' experience as an occupational therapy academic.</p> <p>Previously a Board member of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OT Australia • Occupational Therapy Registration Board SA <p>and President of the SA OT Association.</p> <p>Director of the Occupational Therapy Council since 2022.</p>	Chair Overseas Qualification Assessment Committee from November 2022 member since 2013.
Tania Brown		<p>Over 30 years' experience within Aboriginal Affairs, within government and the Aboriginal Community Control Health sector.</p> <p>Tania is a proud Aboriginal woman from the Wonnarua Nation, Hunter Valley NSW.</p> <p>Areas of expertise include policy, research, governance, primary and allied health.</p>	

Directors must retire from office after three years and are eligible for re-appointment on two further occasions. This can be extended, following an amendment to the Constitution, in special circumstances as required.

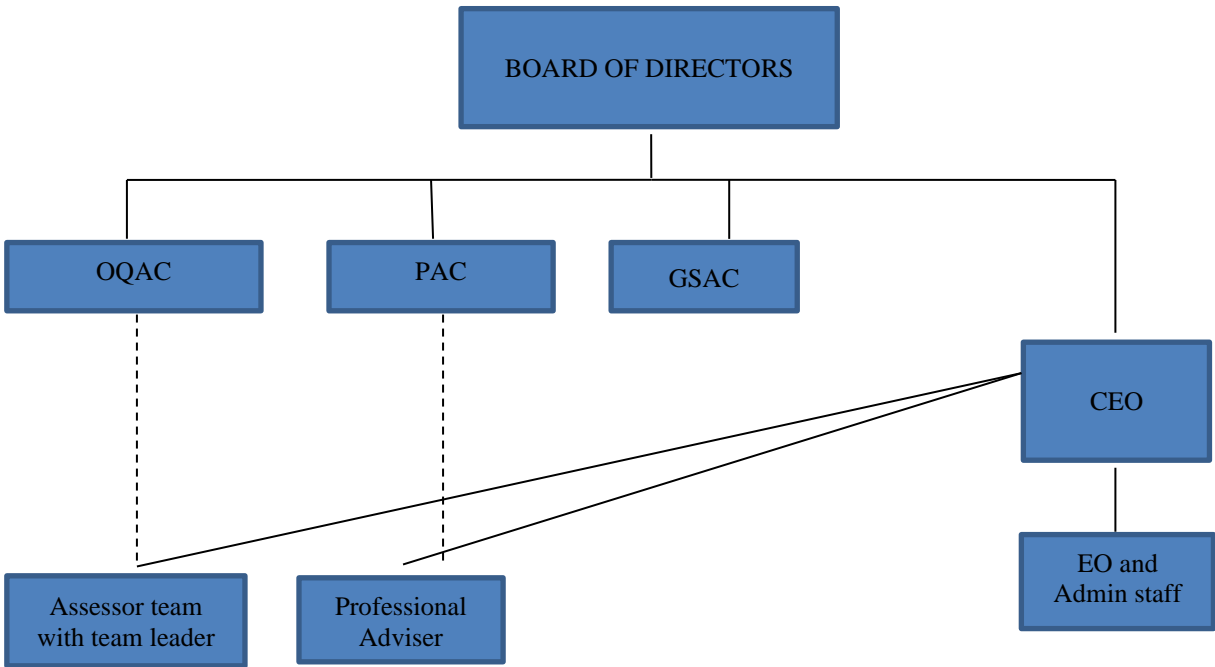
STRUCTURE

To fulfil its responsibilities in compliance with the National Law as the nominated assessment and accreditation authority, the directors established three committees to assist with the requirements of these roles:

- Overseas Qualification Assessment Committee (OQAC)
- Program Accreditation Committee (PAC)
- Governance and Strategic Affairs Committee (GSAC)

To assist with specific aspects of these committees, the structure of the OQAC was changed to allocate one of the two assessors to each Stage 2 assessment as team leader, thus negating the need for a specific professional adviser. This new approach has been reviewed as very successful.

A professional adviser dedicated to the PAC remains. As at 30 June 2023, the structure of the OTC is depicted below:



COMMITTEES

In accordance with its objectives, the OTC has formed the following committees:

a) Overseas Qualifications Assessment Committee (OQAC)

The primary purposes of the committee are to:

- (a) Ensure provision of an effective and cost-efficient process to assess the professional suitability for practice in Australia of overseas-qualified occupational therapists.
- (b) Manage the executive functions associated with the process.

In pursuing these purposes, the committee will be cognisant of the OTC's objects and the need to conduct regular evaluation of the effectiveness of the assessment functions.

The committee will also work in conjunction with the OTBA to align processes relating to the assessment of internationally qualified occupational therapists.

Membership:

At 5 November 2022, this committee comprised:

Ms Jan Erven – Chair
Ms Susan Gilbert-Hunt
Ms Laila Hakansson Ware
Mr Francis Gomes

Secretariat: Mr Kim Bradbury – Chief Executive Officer
 Ms Julia Savage – Executive Officer
 Ms Alison Baker – Administrative Assistant

Mr Gomes was appointed to the OQAC in December 2021.

Additional assessors appointed to assist with the Stage 2 assessment of internationally qualified occupational therapists are:

Ms Elaine Lee
Mr Ngoni Mandiringana
Ms Catherine Greenway

The team of assessors as at 30 June 2023 comprises:

Ms Susan Gilbert-Hunt
Mr Francis Gomes
Ms Jan Erven
Ms Deborah Maiden
Ms Irena Gordon
Ms Elaine Lee
Mr Ngoni Mandiringana

At 5 November 2022, following the Annual General Meeting, this committee comprised:

Ms Susan Gilbert-Hunt - Chair
Ms Kathryn Martin
Ms Jan Erven
Ms Laila Hakansson Ware
Mr Francis Gomes

As at 30 June 2023, the committee comprised:

Ms Susan Gilbert-Hunt - Chair
Ms Kathryn Martin
Ms Jan Erven
Mr Francis Gomes

Secretariat: Mr Kim Bradbury – Chief Executive Officer
Ms Julia Savage – Executive Officer
Ms Alison Baker – Administrative Assistant

b) Program Accreditation Committee (PAC)

The PAC has the role of advising the OTC directors on accreditation for entry-level occupational therapy programs including:

- the accreditation standards established for educational programs leading to registration as an occupational therapist;
- assessing programs and education providers to determine if they meet approved accreditation standards, and
- monitoring programs and education providers to ensure they continue to meet the accreditation standards.

Membership:

As at 5 November 2022, the committee comprised:

Assoc Prof Lynne Adamson – Chair
Assoc Prof Margaret Cook
Dr Jill Hummell
Dr Mandy Stanley
Ms Alison Sinclair
Mr Michael Piu

At 5 November 2022, following the Annual General Meeting, this committee comprised:

Dr Jill Hummell - Chair
Assoc Prof Lynne Adamson
Dr Mandy Stanley

As at 30 June 2023, with the appointment of additional directors in February 2023 and the appointment of Ms Ashleigh Ryan in April 2023, the committee comprised:

Dr Jill Hummell - Chair
Assoc Prof Lynne Adamson
Dr Mandy Stanley
Assoc Prof Genevieve Pepin
Ms Ashleigh Ryan

Secretariat: Ms Rebecca Allen – Professional Adviser
Ms Alison Baker – Administrative Assistant

c) Governance and Strategic Affairs Committee (GSAC)

The primary purpose of this committee is to make recommendations to OTC directors on the overall priorities, strategies and policies related to corporate governance, as well as matters of significant strategic importance to the organisation which have broader impact on the financial, contractual or legal affairs of the OTC. One of the tasks undertaken by the GSAC has been the development of a Governance Charter for directors which will remain a work in progress and maintained for currency.

Membership

At 5 November 2022, the committee comprised:

Ms Alison Sinclair - Chair
Mr Michael Piu

Dr Jill Hummell
Ms Laila Hakansson Ware

At 5 November 2022, following the Annual General Meeting, the committee comprised:

Ms Alison Sinclair - Chair
Mr Michael Piu
Assoc Prof Margaret Cook
Ms Laila Hakansson Ware

As at 30 June 2023, following the retirement of Ms Laila Hakansson Ware in February 2023 and the appointment of an additional directors to the OTC, the committee comprised:

Ms Alison Sinclair - Chair
Mr Michael Piu
Assoc Prof Margaret Cook
Ms Tania Brown

Secretariat: Mr Kim Bradbury – Chief Executive Officer
 Ms Julia Savage – Executive Officer
 Ms Alison Baker – Administrative Assistant

d) Independent Appeal Panel (IAP)

The purpose of the IAP is to consider appeals against decisions of the OQAC for the Stage 1 assessment or the Stage 2 period of supervised practice.

An appeal against a Stage 1 assessment decision may arise if the applicant believes the OTC decision about the recognition of occupational therapy qualifications for skilled migration and/or registration, namely English language proficiency and professional education as an occupational therapist, as per the guidelines on the application form for the Stage 1 assessment have not been considered appropriately.

An appeal against a Stage 2 decision may arise if:

- practitioners believe information provided by the supervisor has been misinterpreted, or the supervisor has omitted relevant information in the supervised practice assessment to inform the OQAC in its decision-making to not issue a COPC;
- processes have not been applied correctly.

The IAP considers appeals in relation to both stages.

The IAP is appointed at the discretion of the Chair of OQAC and comprises:

- a senior occupational therapist independent of the assessment procedure but familiar with occupational therapy education with current registration;
- an overseas-qualified occupational therapist with a minimum of two years' experience in Australia and current registration;
- a person with legal and/or administrative decision-making experience.

No appeals were commenced during the year to 30 June 2021.

DIRECTORS' AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The directors and committees have met via Zoom and face-to-face as follows throughout the 12 months to 30 June 2023:

Annual General Meeting	Adelaide	05 November 2022
Special Meeting	Zoom	17 October 2022
	Adelaide	05 November 2022
	Zoom	27 February 2023
OTC Board Meeting	Adelaide	20 August 2022
	Adelaide	05 November 2022
	Zoom	27 February 2023
	Adelaide	06 May 2023
OQAC	Adelaide	20 August 2022
	Adelaide	04 November 2022
	Zoom	13 February 2023
	Adelaide	05 May 2023
OQAC assessors	Zoom	21 July 2022
PAC	Adelaide	20 August 2022
	Zoom	04 November 2022
	Zoom	30 January 2023
	Zoom	13 February 2023
	Adelaide	05 May 2023
GSAC	Adelaide	18 August 2022
	Zoom	04 November 2022
	Zoom	22 February 2023
	Adelaide	05 May 2023

ADMINISTRATION

The OTC has appointed a Chief Executive Officer on a contractual basis and employs a full-time Executive Officer and a part-time Administrative Assistant.

- Mr Kim Bradbury Chief Executive Officer
- Ms Julia Savage Executive Officer
- Ms Simone Harvey Executive Assistant
- Ms Alison Baker Administration Assistant

The office is located at:

68 South Terrace
South Perth
Western Australia 6151

WEBSITE

The OTC has established a comprehensive website at the address www.otcouncil.com.au

The Constitution, Annual Reports and the Council's publications and forms can be downloaded from this site.

Any person who does not have access to the internet can contact the office of the OTC to obtain these documents.

The website is updated regularly and has many links to associated websites nationally and internationally. The site also features a "What's New" section.

ASSESSMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONALLY QUALIFIED PRACTITIONERS

a) ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

The Australian Government's skilled migration program is implemented through a partnership between government and industry. The OTC has been specified by the Minister, Australian Government, Department of Education and Training (Department of Immigration and Border Protection) in accordance with the Migration Regulations 1994 as the assessing authority for the occupation of Occupational Therapist ANZSCO Code: 252411. For migration purposes, occupational therapy skills are assessed as "suitable" or "not suitable" against the requirements established by the OTC.

Internationally qualified occupational therapists who wish to apply to migrate to Australia under the skilled migration program must have their qualifications and skills assessed by OTC.

The assessment procedure also applies to internationally qualified occupational therapists wanting to practise in Australia. These practitioners wishing to practise in Australia must have their qualification and skills assessed in order to apply for registration with the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (OTBA) via the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra).

Stage 1 of the OTC assessment of international qualifications is undertaken via a desktop assessment of qualifications and English language proficiency.

The practitioner will be assessed against the following criteria (all copied documentation must be certified correctly in accordance with the requirements below):

Proof of Identity

The practitioner must provide the following identification:

- Birth certificate
- Passport
- Driver's licence or ID card where relevant or another official photo-bearing document.

If the name of the practitioner has changed and is different from that shown on the qualification upon which they rely for the assessment, then evidence/proof of this change of name should be provided i.e. marriage certificate, Deed poll, divorce papers.

Face-to-face contact with the applicant will be undertaken by the OTC via FaceTime, WhatsApp or another video link platform.

Qualifications

The practitioner must demonstrate successful completion of a tertiary education programme leading to an award in occupational therapy (undergraduate or graduate entry). This programme must:

- have been accredited by the World Federation of Occupational Therapy (WFOT) at the time of graduation, and
- be comparable to an Australian Bachelor or Graduate Entry Master degree in accordance with Country Education Profiles produced by Australian Government, Department of Education and Training.

A certified copy of qualification papers must be provided i.e. degree, diploma, certificate, together with associated transcript.

WFOT approval must have been in place at the time of graduation and cannot be considered retrospectively i.e. if the institution or programme received WFOT approval after the time of graduation, this will not be sufficient to meet the criteria for assessment.

An approved WFOT programme is taken to mean those courses listed on the WFOT website under “Education – Entry Level Educational Programs WFOT Approved” which at the time of graduation was approved.

Academic Review Committee (ARC)

Applications that fail to meet the qualifications criteria will be referred to the ARC of the OTC who will consider the qualifications that were completed as occupational therapy training, but are:

- WFOT accredited but assessed as not comparable in accordance with Country Education Profiles produced by Department of Employment and Workplace Relations;
or
- assessed as being comparable to an Australian degree in accordance with Country Education Profiles produced by Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, but not WFOT accredited.

The practitioner will be advised of the referral of their application to the ARC and will be asked to provide additional information (e.g. course handbooks, supervisor reports relating to the practitioner’s practical components of the course) to enable the ARC to undertake a thorough assessment of the qualifications.

English Language Proficiency

High-level competence in English language is essential for the practice of occupational therapy in Australia. The practitioner must submit evidence to demonstrate sufficient English language skills to work as an occupational therapist in an English language environment. Practitioners applying for skilled migration or practice in Australia must provide, evidence of either:

1. English is your **primary language** and you have undertaken and satisfactorily completed:
 - a. all of your primary and **secondary education** which was taught and assessed solely in English in a **recognised country**, and

- b. tertiary qualifications in the relevant professional discipline, on which you are relying to support your eligibility for registration under the **National Law**, which were taught and assessed solely in English in a **recognised country**.
2. You have a combination of **secondary education** and tertiary qualifications, where you have undertaken and satisfactorily completed:
 - a. at least two years of your **secondary education** which was taught and assessed solely in English in a **recognised country**, and
 - b. tertiary qualifications in the relevant professional discipline, on which you are relying to support your eligibility for registration under the **National Law**, which were taught and assessed solely in English in a **recognised country**.

OR

3. You have undertaken and satisfactorily completed at least **six years' (full time equivalent) continuous education** taught and assessed solely in English, in any of the **recognised countries**, which includes tertiary qualifications in the relevant professional discipline which you are relying on to support your eligibility for registration under the **National Law**.

Recognised countries:

Australia
New Zealand
United States of America
United Kingdom
Republic of Ireland
Canada
South Africa

A certified copy of the educational transcripts or letter must be provided from the secondary school and tertiary institution in Canada or South Africa attesting that courses were taught and assessed in English (including subjects, hours, examination results and, where applicable, details of clinical education when relating to the tertiary education).

If documents are unavailable, there is a process below to address this (Documents Unavailable).

OR

4. complete, to the level specified, one of the OTC-approved English language tests outlined below:

International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination (Academic Module) – results must be from **one** test sitting or a **maximum** of **two** test sittings in a **six-month period**:

- a minimum overall score of seven (7) in each sitting;
- a minimum score of 7 in each component across the two sittings;
- no score in any component of the test is below 6.5.

Occupational English Test (OET) – results must be from **one** test sitting or a **maximum** of **two** test sittings in a **six-month period**:

- you are tested in all four components in each sitting;
- a minimum grade B in each of the four competencies (listening, reading, writing and speaking) across two sittings;

- no score in any component of the test is below C.

PTE Academic - results must be from **one** test sitting or a **maximum** of **two** test sittings in a **six-month period**:

- a minimum overall score of 65 is achieved in each sitting, and
- a minimum score of 65 in each of the communicative skills across two sittings, and
- no score in any of the communicative skills is below 58.

Test of English Language internet-based test (TOEFL iBT) - results must be from **one** test sitting or a maximum of **two** test sittings in a **six-month period**:

- a minimum total score of 94 and the following minimum score in each section of the test across two sittings:
 - 24 listening
 - 24 reading
 - 27 writing
 - 23 speaking
- No score in any of the sections is below:
 - 20 listening
 - 19 reading
 - 24 writing
 - 20 speaking

Test results for all the recognised tests above will be accepted if:

- the results were obtained within two years prior to the date of application, or
- the results are older than two years if, since the test result was obtained, you have been in continuous employment as an occupational therapist (which commenced within 12 months of the date of the test) in one of the recognised countries where English was the primary language of practice, or
- the results are more than two years old before the date the application is lodged if, in the period since the test result was obtained;
- you have been enrolled continuously in an OTC accredited program of study which commenced within 12 months of the date of the test and undertook subjects in each semester with no break from study apart from the education provider's scheduled holidays, and
- the application is lodged within 12 months of completing an OTC accredited program of study.

The Department of Home Affairs (DoHA) may also require occupational therapists to meet English language proficiency standards even though the OTC has assessed the practitioner as meeting all its requirements.

Certification

All copied documentation must be certified appropriately as true copies of the original by an appropriate person. In Australia, people who are authorised to certify copies are:

- Justices of the Peace (JP).
- Legal practitioners.
- Persons eligible to sign statutory declarations
- Employees authorised by the OTC.

In countries outside Australia:

- Notary public.
- Registered legal practitioners.

- Australian Embassy or Australian High Commission personnel.

To have copies certified, the practitioner must present both the original and the copy to the person carrying out the certification.

Each copy of the document must be certified separately and must show clearly:

- the words "certified true copy of the original";
- the signature of the certifying officer; and
- the name, address, position and phone number (with international dialling codes) of the certifying officer legibly printed below the signature. It must be possible, from the details provided, for the OTC to contact the certifying officer if necessary.

Translation of Documents

If the practitioner's qualification has been undertaken in a language other than English, a translated document must accompany the certified copy of the original qualification document. In Australia translation should be undertaken by an accredited NAATI (National Accreditation Authority for Translations and Interpreters Ltd) translator. Further information can be found on its website at www.naati.com.au

An assessment will not be undertaken unless translations are provided.

Authenticity of Documents

If queries arise as to the authenticity of documents they will be provided by the OTC Executive Officer to DoHA for an opinion. The OTC will not progress with the assessment until advice has been received from DoHA. The assessment fee will not be refunded.

Documents Unavailable

Practitioners who cannot obtain the required documents should attach a letter to the application form identifying which documents they cannot obtain and explaining the reasons for this. Each case will be considered, and a Statutory Declaration from the practitioner explaining why documents are unavailable may be required if the assessment outcome relies on unobtainable documents. In this situation, the OTC Executive Officer will refer the information to the Overseas Qualification Assessment Committee (OQAC) for consideration during assessment.

Number of Attempts

Practitioners may make an unlimited number of attempts for a Stage 1 assessment. Each repeat application must be accompanied by the appropriate fee. If the practitioner has previously been found to be unsuitable, the practitioner must provide additional evidence to demonstrate how they meet the criteria.

The practitioner has two years in which to commence the Stage 2 period of supervised practice before needing to undertake a review of the assessment.

Advice and Feedback to Practitioners

Practitioners considering or preparing an application for the Stage 1 assessment may seek advice from the OTC Executive Officer. Where applications fail to meet the OTC requirements for the Stage 1 assessment, practitioners are advised in writing giving reasons where their assessment fails to meet the requirements. They will be asked to provide additional information for the assessment to continue. This documentary evidence must be received within 12 months of the OTC mailing the results.

b) MODIFIED DESKTOP ASSESSMENT

A Modified Desktop Assessment is available for Australian trained occupational therapists holding qualifications recognised by the OTBA for registration purposes, seeking an assessment for skilled migration purposes. Successful persons will not be required to undertake the Stage 2 period of supervised practice.

c) **STAGE 2 PERIOD OF SUPERVISED PRACTICE**

Comprehensive guidelines, examples and templates are available on the website for supervisors and applicants undergoing the Stage 2 period of supervised practice which is based on six months full-time equivalent (12 months part-time). Documentation has been reviewed to remove any duplication of information, and the assessment process by the OQAC revised to enable practitioners to complete the period of supervised practice in less than the six or 12-month timeframe. This has been achieved by two OQAC members reviewing the midway progress report to establish whether the practitioner has met goals and is competent to practise independently. Following positive assessment by both committee members, the practitioner and supervisor are then invited to submit final reports for confirmation a Certificate of Practical Completion may be issued, enabling the practitioner to apply for general registration.

d) **ASSESSMENT RESULTS for Stage 1 and Stage 2 for the period to 30 June 2023**

(i) **Stage 1**

Totals 2022/2023 Stage 1			
Country	Male	Female	Total
Argentina		8	8
Australia	55	146	201
Bangladesh		1	1
Brazil		3	3
Canada		2	2
Chile		2	2
Colombia		2	2
France	1		1
Germany		1	1
Hong Kong	2	6	8
India	2	13	15
Iran	1	1	2
Ireland	1	5	6
Japan		1	1
Kenya		1	1
Netherlands		1	1
New Zealand		2	2
Pakistan		2	2
Philippines	14	48	62
South Africa		67	67
Taiwan		1	1
UK	5	30	35
USA	1	4	5
Zimbabwe	5	6	11
Total	87	353	440

Applications Received since Commencement of Assessment Process

30 June 2001

94

30 June 2002	87
30 June 2003	116
30 June 2004	120
30 June 2005	124
30 June 2006	148
30 June 2007	203
30 June 2008	208
30 June 2009	187
30 June 2010	176
30 June 2011	180
30 June 2012	195
30 June 2013	189
30 June 2014	138
30 June 2015	147
30 June 2016	160
30 June 2017	181
30 June 2018	168
30 June 2019	187
30 June 2020	235
30 June 2021	267
30 June 2022	369
30 June 2023	440
Total	<u>4,119</u>

Appeals

No appeals have been received during the year ended 30 June 2022.

(ii) Stage 2 – Period of Supervised Practice

Completed during the year to 30 June 2023

• New South Wales	44
• Victoria	27
• Western Australia	11
• Queensland	19
• South Australia	9
• Australian Capital Territory	4
• Tasmania	10
• Northern Territory	2
Total	126

Note: A number of persons assessed as suitable for migration/registration were not required to undertake a practice audit in Australia as they were holders of Australian qualifications.

In progress as at 30 June 2023

• New South Wales	35
• Victoria	17
• Western Australia	6
• Queensland	17
• South Australia	3
• Australian Capital Territory	3
• Tasmania	6
• Northern Territory	0

Total	87
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Stage 2 Applications Received since Commencement of Audit Process

30 June 2001	7
30 June 2002	19
30 June 2003	10
30 June 2004	31
30 June 2005	29
30 June 2006	32
30 June 2007	40
30 June 2008	68
30 June 2009	72
30 June 2010	61
30 June 2011	64
30 June 2012	68
30 June 2013	72
30 June 2014	84
30 June 2015	76
30 June 2016	67
30 June 2017	83
30 June 2018	91
30 June 2019	95
30 June 2020	101
30 June 2021	78
30 June 2022	164
30 June 2023	267

Total	<u>1679</u>
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Appeals

No appeals have been received during the year to 30 June 2023.

FEE SCHEDULE – INTERNATIONALLY QUALIFIED PRACTITIONERS

Stage 1 – Desktop Assessment			
a.	(i)	Application for assessment of qualifications	A\$1200.00*
	(ii)	Fee for cultural responsiveness training (compulsory for internationally qualified practitioners)	A\$ 300.00**
		TOTAL for Australian qualified practitioners	A\$1200.00
		TOTAL for internationally qualified practitioners	A\$1500.00
b.	Review of previous application for skill migration purposes only – this fee applies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">occupational therapists with an accredited Australian qualification seeking a review of a previous OTC Stage 1 application for a skills assessment for migration purposes; andinternationally qualified occupational therapists seeking a review of a previous OTC Stage 1 skills assessment for skilled migration purposes, following successful completion of the OTC Stage 2 period of supervised practice.		A\$ 500.00
c.	Review of previous OTC Stage 1 application for international-qualified practitioners for registration purposes (requiring practitioners to complete the OTC Stage 2 period of supervised practice) and the cultural responsiveness training.		A\$800
Stage 2 – Period of supervised practice			
Application for Stage 2 period of supervised practice			A\$1000.00
A refund of A\$300 will be made to the practitioner’s nominated Australia bank account upon successful completion of the OTC Stage 2 period of supervised practice.			
Appeals			
Level 1 appeal (OQAC)			A\$ 600.00
Level 2 appeal (IAP)			A\$ 600.00

RISK MANAGEMENT

A comprehensive risk review of the organisation including the enterprise risk management framework was undertaken in August 2022. The framework includes mechanisms for more regular ongoing operational and strategic risk management and review at all levels of the organisation.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

An Operational Plan has been developed to guide implementation of the Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025 approved by the Board in August 2022.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (DoHA) AND ASSESSING AUTHORITY POLICY AND ASSURANCE (AAPA)

The Australian Government's Skilled Migration programme is implemented through a partnership between government and industry. The Department of Home Affairs (DoHA) and Assessing Authority Policy and Assurance (AAPA) work with industry, represented by professional migration assessing authorities, (OTC has been appointed to assess occupational therapy qualifications) to ensure policies and procedures for assessing the skills of prospective migrants are appropriate, transparent and do not pose unreasonable barriers to migration. This includes assessment of qualifications and English language to meet the OTC standards posed in the Stage 1 desktop assessment.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACCREDITATION COLLABORATIVE FORUM (HPACF) (formerly HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACCREDITATION COUNCILS' FORUM)

The main purposes of this group are to:

- work together on issues of national and international importance to the regulated health professions;
- identify areas of common interest and concern in relation to the regulated health professions;
- work towards a position of consensus on identified issues and concerns;
- take joint action in areas of importance to the regulated health professions;
- develop joint position statements which provide recommended policy directions for governments and other relevant stakeholders.

The group was convened in 2010 following the introduction of the national registration and accreditation scheme, and membership of the group is comprised of those professions with external accreditation authorities appointed pursuant to the National Law and the Committees of national boards. The OTC was invited to be a part of the forum from 1 July 2012 when the profession became part of the national scheme.

Regular meetings have been held at which the OTC has been represented as follows:

15 July 2022	Zoom	Assoc Prof Lynne Adamson and Mr Kim Bradbury
30 September 2022	Canberra	Mr Kim Bradbury
16 December 2022	Zoom	Assoc Prof Lynne Adamson and Mr Kim Bradbury

17 February 2023	Canberra	Assoc Prof Margaret Cook and Mr Kim Bradbury
28 April 2023	Zoom	Assoc Prof Margaret Cook and Mr Kim Bradbury

Assoc Prof Adamson and Ms Kathryn Martin are members of the Forum's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Outcomes Working Party. This group met on:

28 July 2022	Canberra	Ms Kathryn Martin
07 September 2022	Zoom	Assoc Prof Lynne Adamson and Mr Kim Bradbury

OTHER MEETINGS AND FORUMS

The OTC has also been represented at the following meetings:

30 September 2022	OTBA	Assoc Professor Adamson, Mr Kim Bradbury, Ms Jan Erven, Ms Julia Savage
10 February 2023	OTA	Ms Sue Gilbert-Hunt
28 March 2023	OTBA	Assoc Professor Margaret Cook, Dr Jill Hummell, Mr Kim Bradbury and Ms Rebecca Allen
09 June 2023	OTBA	Assoc Professor Margaret Cook, Mr Kim Bradbury and Ms Rebecca Allen
05 August 2022	Accreditation Managers' Meeting	Ms Rebecca Allen
07 December 2022		

CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS TRAINING

The OTC directors have approved a three-level cultural responsiveness training program facilitated by Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) for directors, staff, professional advisers, committee members, and accreditation and assessment assessors.

The first two levels were undertaken individually on line with the third level via a facilitated workshop in Adelaide in August 2022.

Following from the Level 3 facilitated workshop in Adelaide, the directors attended a Level 4 workshop in Adelaide in May 2023 to seek guidance from IAHA on the development of a Cultural Responsiveness Action Plan.

From 1 March 2023 it is now a requirement for all new internationally qualified practitioners, seeking registration to practise in Australia, to complete successfully a cultural responsiveness training programme (referred to as "training" in this document) developed by Indigenous Allied Health Australia Ltd (IAHA) on behalf of OTC. The IAHA training is comprised of three levels:

- Levels 1 and 2 are accessible on-line and practitioners need to complete both levels successfully before moving on to Level 3.
- Level 3 can be completed as an online module or, via an on-line webinar "yarning" session hosted by IAHA personnel, which would be the preferred module. These yarning sessions are held on a regular basis and accessed by the IAHA portal.

Upon successful completion of the OTC Stage 1 skills assessment, a link to the IAHA portal is provided.

The IAHA training Levels 1 and 2 must be completed successfully BEFORE submitting the OTC Stage 2 application. The OTC will monitor progress through the training levels via the IAHA portal.

The OTC Stage 2 application needs to be submitted within two weeks of commencing in an approved position once limited registration has been granted.

The IAHA training Level 3 must be completed successfully prior to submission of OTC final reports. A Certificate of Practical Completion will not be issued until Level 3 training is completed successfully.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK (2014)

This project, commenced in 2022 on behalf of the OTBA, will produce a curriculum guideline document with the working title *“Strategies for implementing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Framework (2014) in the accreditation process for Occupational Therapy entry-level programs” (the Framework)*, will apply a framework specifically to the occupational therapy context addressing the Accreditation occupational therapy competency standards (2018).

The aim of the Framework is to support education providers in embedding the Framework in occupational therapy programs, with the intent that occupational therapy graduates engage in culturally safe practice for/with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

The OTC curriculum document will provide clear guidelines and detailed examples for education providers of occupational therapy entry-level programs to meet the accreditation standards with relevance to:

- the Framework ;
- the OTBA *Australian occupational therapy competency standards (2018)* which affect the occupational therapist’s ability to *enhance their cultural responsiveness and capabilities for practice with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples*;
- relevant standards and criteria in the accreditation standards that relate to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership, practice and science.

To 30 June 2023 there has been positive progress with the project under the leadership of Ashleigh Ryan, appointed by the OTC.

A project advisory group has been identified, co-chaired by Ashleigh Ryan and Jade Ryall. This group meets on a regular basis and provides feedback to the directors and the OTBA.

PUBLICATIONS

a) Applications/Information Collection Forms

- Step-by-step process for overseas-qualified practitioners
- Stage 1 – application for desktop audit
- Stage 2 – application form for supervised practice
- Stage 2 – final report for supervised practice
- Intent to submit - application for new programs
- Step by step to accreditation for education providers

b) Guidelines

- Stage 1 – explanatory notes for desktop assessment
- Stage 2 – supervised practice – explanatory notes and procedure
- Stage 2 – guidelines for PREPARING supervised practice plan
- Stage 2 - example of supervised practice plan
- Guidelines and evidence guide for the accreditation of Australian entry-level occupational therapy programs

c) Templates

- Stage 2 – supervision log
- Stage 2 – supervised practice implementation plan
- Stage 2 – midway and final progress report
- Occupational therapy program self-assessment template
- Competency standards: learning outcomes and assessment mapping template
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health curriculum framework mapping template

d) General

- Complaints and appeal Process
- Accreditation guidelines for education providers
- Accreditation standards (December 2013)
- Accreditation standards (December 2018)
- Explanatory notes for simulation in practice education
- List of accredited programs in Australia
- Directors' Report
- Communiqués from Directors' meetings
- Constitution
- Role clarification OTC/OTBA/OTA/Ahpra

e) Policies

- Complaints about accredited programs and providers
- Complaints about program accreditation decision – internal review
- Confidentiality
- PAC assessor recruitment

ACCREDITATION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAMS

Following approval by the OTBA, revised Accreditation Standards (December 2018) came into effect on 1 January 2020.

The following is a list of Australian entry-level qualifications in occupational therapy recognised by the OTC as at 30 June 2023:

University and campus		Qualification	Accreditation status	Next accreditation review due before
1	Australian Catholic University: Melbourne campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2026
	Australian Catholic University: Sydney campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2026

	Australian Catholic University: Brisbane campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2026
2	Bond University	Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited	Re-accreditation assessment in progress
3	Charles Sturt University: Albury-Wodonga campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2024
	Charles Sturt University: Port Macquarie campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2026
4	Central Queensland University: Rockhampton campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [Honours]	Accredited	31 December 2027
	Central Queensland University: Bundaberg campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [Honours]	Accredited	31 December 2027
5	Charles Darwin University	Bachelor of Health Science/Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited with Conditions	31 December 2023
		Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited with Conditions	31 December 2023
6	Curtin University	Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited	Re-accreditation assessment in progress
		Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy)	Accredited	No new student intake Re-accreditation assessment in progress
		Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours	Accredited	Re-accreditation assessment in progress
7	Deakin University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2026
8	Edith Cowan University	Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy) [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2023
9	Federation University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	Accredited with	31 December 2023

		Honours	Conditions	
10	Flinders University	Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited	31 December 2023
		Bachelor of Health Science/Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited	31 December 2023
11	Griffith University: Gold Coast Campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass and honours]	Accredited	31 December 2026
	Griffith University: Nathan Campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass and honours]	Accredited	31 December 2026
12	James Cook University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2025
13	La Trobe University: Melbourne campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours	Accredited	31 December 2025
		Bachelor of Applied Science and Master of Occupational Therapy Practice.	Accredited	31 December 2025
		Master of Occupational Therapy Practice	Accredited	31 December 2025
	La Trobe University: Bendigo campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours	Accredited	31 December 2025
		Bachelor of Applied Science and Master of Occupational Therapy Practice	Accredited	31 December 2025
		Master of Occupational Therapy Practice.	Accredited	31 December 2025
14	Monash University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours	Accredited	31 December 2024
		Master of Occupational Therapy Practice	Accredited	31 December 2024

15	Southern Cross University: Gold Coast campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	Accredited with Conditions	Re-accreditation assessment in progress
	Southern Cross University: Coffs Harbour campus	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	Accredited with Conditions	Re-accreditation assessment in progress
16	Swinburne University of Technology	Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited	Re-accreditation assessment in progress
17	University of Adelaide	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours	Accredited with Conditions	31 December 2024
18	University of Canberra	Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited	31 December 2026
		Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (pass and honours)	Accredited	31 December 2026
19	University of Newcastle	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours	Accredited	31 December 2026
20	University of Queensland	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours	Accredited	31 December 2027
		Master of Occupational Therapy Studies	Accredited	31 December 2027
21	University of South Australia	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2025
		Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited	31 December 2025
22	University of Southern Queensland	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours	Accredited with Conditions	31 December 2026
23	University of Sydney	Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) [pass & honours]	Accredited	31 December 2027
		Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited	31 December 2027

24	University of the Sunshine Coast	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours	Accredited	31 December 2027
25	Western Sydney University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [pass and honours]	Accredited	31 December 2023
		Bachelor of Health Science /Master of Occupational Therapy	Accredited until 31 December 2023	No new student intake.

FEE SCHEDULE – PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

Programs currently accredited

Annual fee (2019/2020 financial year)	\$9,600.00
Annual fee (2020/2021 financial year)	\$9,850.00
Annual fee (2021/2022 financial year)	\$10,100.00
Annual fee (2022/2023 financial year)	\$10,350.00
Annual fee (2023/2024 financial year)	\$10,600.00
Annual fee (2024/2025 financial year)	\$10,850.00

Programs of study offered across multiple campuses receive a 50 per cent discount to the annual fee for each additional campus.

Where an education provider offers multiple programs of study, a 50 per cent discount will be applied to each additional program. A 75 per cent discount will be applied to fully embedded programs e.g. a Master program when it is also delivered as part of a Bachelor/Master program. There is no additional fee for embedded Honours programs when they are delivered concurrently with a Bachelor level program of study.

New programs seeking initial accreditation

Initial accreditation fee levied at the time the Stage 2 accreditation application is received:

2019/2020	\$7,300.00
2020/2021	\$7,500.00
2021/2022	\$7,700.00
2022/2023	\$7,900.00
2023/2024	\$8,100.00
2024/2025	\$8,300.00

An annual fee will commence in the first year of delivery of a new program.

Site visit costs

A site visit fee will be levied at the time of a scheduled accreditation assessment visit. Scheduled visits include the Stage 3 accreditation site visit for new programs and a reaccreditation site visit every 5 years for established programs.

2019/2020	\$7,300.00
2020/2021	\$7,800.00
2021/2022	\$8,000.00

2022/2023	\$8,200.00
2023/2024	\$8,400.00
2024/2025	\$8,600.00

An additional fee, typically \$2000 (+CPI) per day, will apply when a site visit requires concurrent review of programs delivered at more than one campus. Additional site visits e.g. to assess major changes to program of study, will be charged on the same daily fee basis.

Site visits to programs delivered offshore will be charged on a cost recovery basis.

The OTC will appropriately and transparently adjust site visit fees where accreditation and re-accreditation deviates from the usual process; for example, where a site visit requires additional days as described above, or in other specific situations. In these circumstances, liaison will occur with the head of program prior to the site visit.

Payment methods:

Payment of fees may be made as follows:

- Credit card – Visa or Mastercard
- A money order issued by Australia Post.
- A bank cheque drawn by an Australian bank.
- A personal cheque drawn on an Australian bank account.
- Foreign bank draft in Australian dollars and drawn on an Australian bank.
- Direct debit.

The above fees are non-refundable. The fees are GST free under section 38-110 of A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY BOARD OF AUSTRALIA (OTBA)

During the year to 30 June 2023 the OTC Board and/or its representatives have attended meetings to ensure the assessment and accreditation functions undertaken by the OTC continue to meet the OTBA standards and legislative requirements of the National Law.

OTBA and OTC members have met via Zoom during the year.

The OTC currently assesses qualifications and skills of internationally qualified occupational therapists and recommends recognition of accredited programs of study for registration purposes. The OTC has the charter, independence and capacity to undertake the full range of accreditation functions outlined in the National Law.

The accreditation functions are:

- developing accreditation standards for approval by a National Board;
- assessing programs of study, and the education providers that provide the programs of study, to determine whether the programs meet approved accreditation standards;
- assessing authorities in other countries to decide whether persons who complete the program of study conducted or accredited by the authorities have the skills and knowledge to practise the profession in Australia;
- overseeing the assessment of the skills and knowledge of overseas-qualified occupational therapists who are seeking registration in Australia, and
- making recommendations and giving advice to a National Board about the above matters.
-

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AUSTRALIA LIMITED (OTA)

OTC maintains a collaborative and ongoing working relationship with OTA. Regular liaison includes information sharing to assist in OTA processes for verification of education programs meeting WFOT Education Standards. Meetings are held between OTBA, OTA and OTC to address many common issues related to professional registration, accreditation and workforce.

FINANCES

As at 30 June 2023, funds are being used for the purposes of supporting the profession via the development of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Framework, and ensuring internationally qualified occupational therapists undertake cultural responsiveness training.

The OTC has been endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as an income tax exempt charitable entity.

The fees for assessing overseas qualifications are GST free in accordance with Section 38-110 of A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act, 1999.

The OTC is registered for GST and has an ABN – 50 377 833 627.

CERTIFICATE

In our opinion:

- a. The attached Statement of Financial Performance and the Statement of Financial Position, and notes thereto present fairly, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the financial position of the Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd (OTC) as of 30 June 2023 and the results of its operations for the year then ended;

and

- b. Internal controls over financial reporting have been effective throughout the year.



Margaret Cook
CHAIRPERSON
17 October 2023



Kimberley Bradbury
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN: 50 377 833 627

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income**

	Note	2023	2022
		\$	\$
Revenue and Other Income			
Revenue	2(A)	1,371,325	986,625
Other income	2(B)	27,874	4,808
Revenue and Other Income	1.3	<u>1,399,199</u>	<u>991,433</u>
Meeting Costs	2(E)	92,126	4,355
Management and Administration Expenses	2(E)	712,180	474,194
Office Costs	2(E)	91,406	60,459
Expenditure	1.3	<u>895,712</u>	<u>539,008</u>
Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss) for the Year		<u>503,487</u>	<u>452,425</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN: 50 377 833 627

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Statement of Financial Position

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3	2,052,918	1,547,969
Trade and Other Receivables	4	257,804	81,879
Total Current Assets		<u>2,310,722</u>	<u>1,629,848</u>
Non-Current Assets			
Plant and Equipment	5	8,338	3,855
Total Non-Current Assets		<u>8,338</u>	<u>3,855</u>
Total Assets		<u>2,319,060</u>	<u>1,633,703</u>
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade Creditors and Other Payables	6	206,860	33,511
Provisions	7	60,204	51,683
Total Liabilities		<u>267,064</u>	<u>85,194</u>
Net Assets		<u>2,051,996</u>	<u>1,548,509</u>
Funds			
Accumulated Funds	8	2,051,996	1,548,509
Total Funds		<u>2,051,996</u>	<u>1,548,509</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN: 50 377 833 627

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Statement of Changes in Equity

	Note	Funds \$
Balance at 30 June 2021		1,096,084
Net surplus		452,425
Balance as at 30 June 2022		<u>1,548,509</u>
Net surplus		503,487
Balance as at 30 June 2023	8	<u>2,051,996</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN: 50 377 833 627

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Statement of Cash Flows

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from:			
Receipts		1,568,533	1,030,373
Interest Income		11,359	3,892
Payments to suppliers & employees		-1,068,342	(596,274)
Net cash flows from operating activities	9	<u>511,550</u>	<u>437,991</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of plant and equipment		-6,601	-970
Net cash flows used in investing activities		<u>-6,601</u>	<u>-970</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		504,949	437,021
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		1,547,969	1,110,948
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	1.3, 3	<u>2,052,918</u>	<u>1,547,969</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The directors have prepared the financial statements on the basis that the company is a non-reporting entity because there are no users dependent on a general purpose financial report. The financial report is therefore a special purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of section 60.30 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 (ACNC Regulation) and in order to meet the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, AASB 1048 Interpretation of Standards, AASB 1053 Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards, AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures and AASB 1057 Application of Australian Accounting Standards.

Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Limited is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The Company is a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing financial statements under Australian Accounting Standards.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in the notes. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

1.2 New and amended standards adopted by the Company

The Company has adopted all the amendments to Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board, which are relevant to and effective for the Company's financial statements for the annual period beginning 1 July 2022.

The Company has assessed there is no material impact on these financial statements on newly adopted AASB's for the reporting period ending 30 June 2023.

1.3 Significant accounting policies**Revenue**

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

Assessment fees apply to the financial year and no liability arises to refund fees paid in the event of loss or surrender of assessment. Fees are recognised as income in the year they are received.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular category they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Management and administration costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company.

Meeting costs are those incurred in connection with meetings, conferences and teleconferences paid in accordance with the company's remuneration policy.

Office costs are those costs directly incurred in supporting the objectives of the company.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN: 50 377 833 627

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position comprise cash at bank and in hand and is subject to insignificant risk of changes in value. For the purposes of the statement of cash flow, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above.

Trade and Other Receivables

The carrying amount of the receivable is deemed to reflect fair value. An allowance for doubtful debts is made when there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect the debts. Bad debts are written off when identified.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. impairment losses.

Items of plant and equipment are depreciated over their useful lives to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value basis over the expected useful economic lives of the assets.

	2023	2022
	%pa	%pa
Plant and Equipment	20	20
Computer Equipment	40	40

The carrying values of plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment at each reporting date, with recoverable amounts being estimated when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may be impaired.

The recoverable amount of plant and equipment is the higher of fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss. Any impairment loss exists when the carrying value of an asset exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. The asset is then written down to its recoverable amount.

Any item of plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal, when the item is no longer used in the operations of the company or when it has no sale value. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the asset is included in profit and loss in the year the asset is derecognised.

Trade Creditors and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the company before the end of the financial year that are unpaid. These amounts are usually settled in 30 days. The carrying amount of the creditors and payables is deemed to reflect fair value.

Employee Benefits

Employee benefits comprise wages and salaries and contributions to superannuation plans.

Liabilities for wages and salaries expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in other payables in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date. Liabilities for annual leave in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date that are expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related services are recognised in the provision for annual leave. Both liabilities are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

The company pays contributions to certain defined contribution superannuation plans. Contributions are recognised in the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income when they are due.

Taxation

Income Tax

The company is a not for profit entity and for the purposes of Australian taxation legislation is therefore exempt from income tax. This exemption has been confirmed by the Australian Taxation Office.

Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

GST is not receivable on fees prescribed by the Act and Regulations.

Payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable. The amount of GST recoverable from the ATO is included with other receivables in the statement of financial position. Cash flows are presented on a net basis.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the company.

Key estimates

(i) Impairment - general

The company assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluating conditions and events specific to the company that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using value-in-use calculations which incorporate various key assumptions.

(ii) Other Income

The company estimates fees receivable from Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (OTBA) in relation to the accreditation process of the company as the nominated accreditation authority at the end of each reporting period.

(iii) Committee Expenses

There are three committees to which costs are apportioned: Overseas Qualification Assessment Committee (OQAC); Programme Accreditation Committee (PAC); Governance and Strategic Affairs Committee (GSAC).

Direct costs are charged 100% to the relevant committee. Proportional costs are charged on the following basis: OQAC 45%; PAC 45%; GSAC 10%.

2	Revenue, Other Income and Expenses		
		2023	2022
(A)	Revenue	\$	\$
	Fees received	1,371,325	986,625
	Total Revenue	1,371,325	986,625
(B)	Other Income		
	Interest received	27,874	3,708
	Other Income	-	1,100
	Total Other Income	27,874	4,808
	Total Revenue and Other Income	1,399,199	991,433
(C)	Expenses	2023	2022
		\$	\$
	Depreciation	2,118	1,661
	Auditors remuneration	4,067	3,600
(D)	Employee Benefits Expense	2023	2022
		\$	\$
	Wages and salaries	388,468	259,055
	Workers compensation insurance	1,967	2,008
	Defined contribution superannuation expense	40,789	25,906
	Annual leave provision	5,721	10,630
	Long service leave provision	2,800	-5,813

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN: 50 377 833 627

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

(E)	Committee Expenses	OQAC	PAC	GSAC	2023	2022
		\$	\$	\$	Total	Total
					\$	\$
	Meeting Costs	39,967	43,280	8,879	92,126	2,471
	Management and Administration Costs	361,478	308,009	42,693	712,180	402,110
	Office Costs	41,334	41,288	8,784	91,406	51,225
	Total Costs	442,779	392,577	60,356	895,712	455,806

Costs are apportioned to different committees for the purpose of cost analysis. These committees are described in detail in the Directors' Report.

3	Cash and Cash Equivalents	2023	2022
		\$	\$
	Cash at bank	2,052,918	1,547,969

Cash at bank earns interest at floating rates based on daily deposit rates.

4	Trade and Other Receivables	2023	2022
		\$	\$
	Debtors	189,980	20,518
	Prepayments & other accrued income	67,824	61,361
		<u>257,804</u>	<u>81,879</u>

5	Plant and Equipment	\$
	Cost or fair value	
	At 1 July 2021	8,989
	Additions	<u>970</u>
	At 30 June 2022	9,959
	Additions	<u>6,601</u>
	At 30 June 2023	<u>16,560</u>
	Accumulated Depreciation	
	At 1 July 2021	4,443
	Charge for year	<u>1,661</u>
	At 30 June 2022	6,104
	Charge for year	<u>2,118</u>
	At 30 June 2023	<u>8,222</u>
	Net Carrying Amount	
	At 30 June 2023	<u>8,338</u>
	At 30 June 2022	<u>3,855</u>

6	Trade Creditors and Other Payables	2023	2022
		\$	\$
	Trade Creditors	186,086	9,525
	Other Creditors	<u>20,774</u>	<u>23,986</u>
		<u>206,860</u>	<u>33,511</u>

7	Provisions	2023	2022
(A)	Current	\$	\$
	Annual leave	39,385	33,664
	Long service leave	<u>20,819</u>	<u>18,019</u>
		<u>60,204</u>	<u>51,683</u>

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN: 50 377 833 627

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

8 Total Funds

(A) Movement in Funds

Details of the movement in funds are provided in the statement of changes in funds.

(B) Details of Funds included in Statement of Changes in Funds

Accumulated Funds

Represents the funds that are not designated for any particular purpose.

(C) Members' Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee. In the event of the company being wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$10 towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 30 June 2023 the number of members was 8. (2021: 8)

9 Cash Flow Information

Reconciliation of net surplus for the year to net cash flow from operations

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Net Surplus/(Loss) for the Year	503,487	452,425
Depreciation of plant and equipment	2,118	1,661
(Increase)/Decrease in Accounts Receivables	(175,925)	(26,411)
Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable	173,349	5,499
Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	8,521	4,817
Net Cash Flow from Operations	<u>511,550</u>	<u>437,991</u>

10 Commitment and Contingencies

No contingent liabilities exist at 30 June 2023.

11 Related Parties and Related Party Transactions

(A) Directors' Compensation

During the year, Directors received compensation for their services and were reimbursed for their travel expenses incurred in fulfilling their roles.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Directors' Fees	85,183	47,771
Travel expenses	16,652	4,355

(B) Related Party Transactions

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other persons unless otherwise stated.

12 Additional Company Information

The registered office of the company and its principal place of business is:

68 South Terrace
South Perth WA 6151

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN: 50 377 833 627

**Directors' Declaration
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Limited, the directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

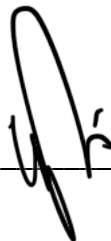
The directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:
(a) comply with the Australian Accounting Standards; and
(b) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company as at 30 June 2023 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.
3. The financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.

Signed in accordance with the resolution of the directors and subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.



Chairperson



Director

Dated: 17 October 2023

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Independent Audit Report to the members of Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the Corporations Act 2001. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the directors determine necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Independent Audit Report to the members of Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Limited

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the directors determine necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Independent Audit Report to the members of Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Limited

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.



Francis A Jones Pty Ltd
Daniel Papaphotis
Registered Company Auditor
- 401503
154 High Street
Fremantle WA 6160

Dated: 19 October 2023