

Strategic Plan

2026-2030



Acknowledgement

The Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands where we work and live. We celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Art work and Artist:
'Wirimbirra' - *to take care of*—by Katrina Graves

About us

The Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd (OTC) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission. Occupational therapy was included as a registered profession in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme on 1 July 2012. The OTC was appointed by the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (OTBA) as the independent organisation to ensure that standards of education, training and assessment of occupational therapists are maintained and developed so the Australian public is assured of safe and proper practice.

The OTC has also been appointed by the Department of Home Affairs as the relevant assessing authority for the purposes of skilled migration in the category of ANZSCO 252411 – Occupational Therapist.

Our purpose

Fostering excellence in Australia's occupational therapy workforce through program accreditation and assessment of internationally qualified practitioners.

Our vision

An innovative, safe and culturally responsive occupational therapy workforce that meets the evolving needs of the Australian community.

Our functions

The OTC is an independent organisation established to:

- develop and apply program accreditation standards in occupational therapy
- accredit and monitor occupational therapy programs of study and education providers
- contribute to the assessment of internationally qualified occupational therapists who are seeking registration in Australia
- assess occupational therapists for skilled migration purposes.

OTC Values

Culturally safe and responsive

We uphold cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and actively embed culturally responsive practice throughout our organisation.

Ethics and integrity

We act with integrity, uphold the highest ethical standards, and take accountability for our decisions and actions.

Collaboration and community focus

We work in genuine partnership with key stakeholders, grounded in trust and shared purpose, to ensure our accreditation standards and processes uphold public safety.

Diversity and inclusion

We value and respect individual differences and perspectives and are committed to creating inclusive, equitable environments where everyone feels safe, seen, heard, valued and respected.

Innovative and future focused

We meet the evolving needs of the community in an innovative and responsive way.

Strategic pillars



Excellence in accreditation and assessment to support a capable, diverse and sustainable workforce, responsive to evolving community needs.

Goal:

Accreditation and assessment systems are rigorous, future-focused and transparent – supporting continuous improvement in the profession and enabling the growth of a safe, capable and responsive occupational therapy workforce.

Key actions:

We will:

- regularly review and enhance accreditation and assessment processes to reflect contemporary best practice and a strong focus on public safety, workforce needs and system impact
- ensure accreditation and assessment criteria, processes and timelines are clearly defined, transparent and accessible
- ensure accreditation and assessment systems support workforce readiness to meet the needs of vulnerable populations and communities in rural and remote areas
- advocate for and support robust, fair and transparent processes that enable safe and effective practice by internationally qualified occupational therapists seeking to work in Australia
- collaborate with other accreditation authorities to share insights, remain responsive to emerging workforce trends and community needs, and align practices where appropriate.



Commitment to culturally safe occupational therapy practice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

Goal:

Champion the development and embedding of culturally safe occupational therapy practice in genuine partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, organisations and institutions.

Key actions:

We will:

- foster a culturally safe, respectful and inclusive environment across all areas of our work
- recognise, support and uphold the self-determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in our work
- build and maintain strong, reciprocal partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, organisations and institutions
- embed the priorities of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Implementation project – Occupational therapy program accreditation across all strategic and operational processes.
- strengthen the cultural capability of our team through ongoing, meaningful cultural learning and development
- advocate for cultural safety to remain a central priority in the assessment of internationally qualified occupational therapists.



Working in partnership to ensure public safety.

Goal:

Contribute to the quality and public safety of occupational therapy services through collaborations and stakeholder engagement.

Key actions:

We will:

- maintain regular engagement with key partners to foster a community of practice and facilitate the exchange of insights and best practices
- actively participate in cross-sector forums, working groups, and policy discussions that advance improved health outcomes and enhance efficiency and quality of our services
- clearly communicate with stakeholders to improve understanding of how the OTC contributes to public safety
- provide timely and transparent updates to stakeholders on processes, impact, and opportunities for future collaboration.



Ethical, innovative, and sustainable organisational governance and operations.

Goal:

Organisational governance and operations reflect contemporary best practice, and are ethical, effective, and sustainable—supporting collective success and long term impact.

Key actions:

We will:

- foster and support a high-performing, ethical, and sustainable Board
- value our people by supporting their well-being, growth, and capability development
- embrace new technologies and digital solutions that enhance our service delivery, effectiveness, and efficiency
- leverage data and evidence to evaluate and continuously improve our services
- manage financial and organisational resources responsibly, transparently and ethically
- maintain robust risk management processes that support resilience and compliance.