FELONY CONVICTIONS AND CHARACTER ISSUES

Graduates of any Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program must pass the certification examination administered by the National Board for the Certification of Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) in order to work as an occupational therapist. Applicants must be aware that felony convictions and other character issues could disqualify them from taking the NBCOT exam. The NBCOT describes the nature of the questions asked on exam candidate applications as follows:

Individuals applying for the NBCOT Certification Examination for OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST REGISTERED OTR® (OTR) or CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT COTA® (COTA) must answer each of the following questions on the examination application:

1. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a felony? (NOTE: Applicants must answer affirmatively if records, charges, or convictions have been pardoned, expunged, released or sealed.)

2. Have you ever had any professional license, registration, or certification revoked, suspended or subject to probationary conditions by a regulatory authority or certification board?

3. Have you ever been found by any court, administrative, or disciplinary proceeding to have committed negligence, malpractice, recklessness, or willful or intentional misconduct which resulted in harm to another?

4. Have you ever been suspended and/or expelled from a college or university?

(2011, NBCOT)

For more information regarding this and other certification questions, or to obtain an Early Determination Review prior to starting your program, please contact the NBCOT.

Credentialing Services at NBCOT,
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www.nbcot.org