



Orthotist and Prosthetist Advisory Committee

October 14, 2022

Committee members present: Michael Smith, Orthotist, Prosthetist, Chair
David Hensley, Orthotist, Prosthetist
Erin Andrade, Physician
James Devine, Public Member
Julie Quinn, Public Member

Staff members present: Kristina Bell, Program Manager
Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director
Noelle Chung, Assistant Attorney General
Jenni Osbun, Credentialing Supervisor
Shawna Fox, Director, Office of Health Professions
Jeff Wise, Policy Analyst
Madi Schatz, Administrative Assistant

On October 14, 2022, the Orthotist and Prosthetist Advisory Committee met via web conference. Notice of the meeting was published on the [Orthotist and Prosthetist website](#) and was sent out through the GovDelivery listserv.

Call to Order and Introductions – Michael Smith, Chair

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m.

1. Virtual or In-Person Meetings

2. The committee discussed the rescission of [Proclamation 20-28](#), waiving and suspending laws and rules concerning [RCW 42.56, the Public Records Act](#), [RCW 42.30, the Open Public Meetings Act](#).

Mr. Devine moved that the committee continue holding virtual meetings until it is reasonably feasible to hold an in-person meeting. The motion was seconded and adopted.

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Devine moved that the committee approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and adopted.

3. Approval of Minutes – April 29, 2022, Business Meeting

Mr. Devine moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. The motion was seconded and adopted.

4. Open Forum – Michael Smith, Chair

Hilary Sakita CPO, LPO, questioned if there are upcoming updates regarding education standards.

Mr. Smith shared that the committee does not have the authority to update RCWs; however, they have been working to update [Chapter 246-850 WAC](#). A CR-103P was filed on August 17, 2022, as [WSR 22-17-083](#). The department is adopting amendments to clarify language on examination requirements for licensure. The department identified several needed clarifications regarding the date of when applicants complete their education and take the national certification examination.

Ashley Carvalho, LPO, asked if there are any plans in the future to clarify language regarding finishing residency and not being able to practice a second discipline for an extended period of time.

Mr. Smith shared [RCW 18.200.070](#), “(c) The applicant has completed a clinical internship or residency in the professional area for which a license is sought in accordance with the standards, guidelines, or procedures for the clinical internships or residencies inside or outside the state as established by the secretary, or that are otherwise substantially equivalent to the standards commonly accepted in the fields of orthotics and prosthetics as determined by the secretary pursuant to subsections (3) and (5) of this section. The secretary must set the internship as at least one year. (2) An applicant for licensure as either an orthotist or prosthetist must pass all written and practical examinations that are required and approved by the secretary in consultation with the advisory committee.” The committee does not have the authority to change RCWs.

Ms. Sakita questioned how to seek legislative change.

Mr. Smith suggested seeking the help of state legislators.

Ms. Santiago shared that the Department of Health could suggest changes to the RCWs during the 2024 legislative session.

Reports

5. Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director and Kristina Bell, Program Manager: Legislation, Rules, Budget, and Credentialing Statistics

Ms. Santiago shared the 2021-23 Biennium Budget Status Report for the period of July 01, 2022, through June 30, 2022. The program's budget is doing well. The expenses are currently outpacing the revenue, so the fund balance is expected to decrease.

Ms. Osbun shared the following licensing statistics.

Active status counts:

Orthotist license- 190

Prosthetist license- 177

Pending status counts:

Orthotist license- 5

Prosthetist license- 0

Applications received:

April- 1

May- 5

June- 4

July- 4

August- 0

September 5

Credentials expiring by month:

April- 2

May- 5

June- 6

July- 2

August- 2

September- 4

Overall application processing time (days):

April- 18

May- 35

June- 94

July- 28

August- 0

September- 50

Ms. Santiago shared licensing statistics from previous years:

2015- 330

2017- 334

2019- 350
2021- 335

6. Noelle Chung, Assistant Attorney General: Update and Report

[Order of the Secretary of Health Amending Order 20-03, Face Coverings](#)- Ms. Chung shared that masks continue to be required in some settings, including healthcare, long-term care, and correctional facilities.

[Proclamation by the Governor Amending Proclamations 20-05 and 20-25, “Washington Ready”](#)- The Governor’s state of emergency declaration expires on October 31, 2022. Federal government declarations of emergency remain in place, such as the [Stafford Act](#) and the [Administration for Strategic Preparedness & Response: Renewal of Determination that a Public Health Emergency Exists](#).

Committee Business

7. Health Equity Continuing Education Legislation

A CR-102 was filed on August 23, 2022, as [WSR 22-17-141](#). The Department of Health is proposing model rules establishing minimum standards for health equity continuing education (CE) for health professions credentialed under [RCW 18.130.040](#) with a CE requirement.

Ms. Bell submitted a Statement of Inquiry Proposal for [Chapter 246-850 WAC](#) to Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health, on September 25, 2022. Stakeholder meetings will take place after the CR-101 has been filed.

8. Advisory Committee Meetings 2023 – Michael Smith, Chair

Mr. Devine moved that the committee approve the following proposed dates for 2023:

April 28, 2023
October 13, 2023

The motion was seconded and adopted.

9. Open Public Meetings Act – Noelle Chung, Assistant Attorney General

Ms. Chung shared a presentation regarding the [Open Public Meetings Act, RCW 42.30](#).

10. Succession Planning and Recruitment – Michael Smith, Chair

The following committee member’s terms expire on January 01, 2023:

Michael Smith
David Hensley
James Devine
Julie Quinn

Ms. Bell shared that the program has not received any applications for committee.

11. Future Agenda Items – Michael Smith, Chair

The committee discussed agenda items for the next meeting.

- Examination residency and licensure rules

Adjournment of Open Session

Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:56 a.m. The motion was seconded and adopted.

Submitted by:
Kristina Bell, Program Manager
Orthotist and Prosthetist Advisory Committee

Approved by:
TBD
Orthotist and Prosthetist Advisory
Committee

on file

SIGNATURE

DATE

on file

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