

School-Based OT and PT: Credentialing Initiative

OTAC & CPTA support the ongoing effort to obtain School-Based Credentials for OTs and PTs working in California public schools.



Why Credentialing?



Occupational Therapists (OTs) and Physical Therapists (PTs) have been providing services to students in public schools since the 1970s and are the only Individual with Disabilities Education Act mandated professionals who are not included in a credential opportunity afforded to teachers, school psychologists, school counselors, social workers, nurses, audiologists, and speech and language pathologists. Correcting this professional inequity is long overdue.

Credentialing OTs and PTs will elevate our professional status, expanding opportunities to help us better serve children and families.

What's Next?

OTAC leaders and lobbyists continue to hold meetings with CTC, legislators, and Union representatives to garner support. OTAC will share updates as information is available.

What Can I Do?

- Talk to your Union Representatives about why you support this initiative
- Reach out to your local legislators
- Sign up for OTAC Alerts



A Brief Timeline



2007	Initial contact with California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)
2017	AB 1087 (Jacqui Irwin) Requested inclusion of OT and PT in Education Code 44268 mandating CTC to design services credential for OT and PT. Bill revised and resubmitted.
2018	AB 2386 (Blanca Rubio) Bill to authorize CTC to design a services credential for OT and PT.
2020	AB 2684 (Blanca Rubio) An act to add Section 44268.2 to the Education Code, requiring CTC to convene a workgroup to consider development of a services credential. Held in appropriations committee.
2023	AB 381 (Blanca Rubio) Bill to amend Section 44267 of the Education Code to authorize health services credential in OT or PT. Held in appropriations committee.

For more information, please visit <https://www.otaconline.org/advocacy/school-based-practice-credential-initiative>