

NCBRTL 2015-2016 Overview

2015-2016 was a transition year due to a new website launched in May 2015 and actions from the legislative APO Committee.

Website: New website included online complaints, online applications, online maintenance, online renewal and payment for all fees.

Issues surrounding the new website along with learning the new system of transferring data and movement of due dates (2014 to birth months) caused some confusion, the hosting company went offline several times and the web consultant was out of the country for several weeks. Licensees were frustrated with inconsistent functionality, inability to change User Name/email, incorrect dates and log in issues. Action was taken by moving the site to a new host company. There were also many requests for “date issued” to be corrected on licenses and directions on how to use the new website for increased clarity and function. Continue to work with website designers to correct issues. Added report for NCDOR including SSN as required. Website changes are being implemented and licensees are reporting improved usage of the new online procedures.

The APO Committee made recommendation for elimination of certain Boards in a draft that was not accepted. In June 2016, HB 1007 was passed in the House requesting additional reporting, improved complaint procedures and clarification of the use of Injunctive procedures. It included a list of 55 accepted Boards, including NCBRTL. In June, the Senate Finance Committee suggested amendments....to date no action has been taken on these amendments.*

Rules-

Ten Rules were updated and two new Rules were adopted. Currently updating five additional Rules including complaint process, disciplinary procedures and letters of concern.

Overview-

NCBRTL had a 14% increase of new licensees. There was a slightly higher non-renewal and maintenance submission for first time licensees of 12%. Some reports suggest this may be due to incorrect rumors of NCBRTL elimination; some are returning by “Reinstatement”.

NCBRTL finances remain stable, but saw substantial increase in disability insurance charges. NCBRTL notes a reduction in some administrative costs with new online processes and expect this to improve as licensees use the website applications more consistently. Board needs to consider fee increase, investing savings and reviewing training.

Disciplinary Actions- All disciplined licensees are required to attend the next Compliance and Ethics training.

- 3 application denials for not meeting coursework requirement
- 1 applicant denied for below expectations review on internship rating form; applicant allowed to repeat hours of an internship under LRT supervision; Board will grant license if rating meets expectations at end of hours
- 1 LRT for 3 month suspension, alcohol consumption during work
- 3 LRTAs received Letters of Reprimand for leaving a patient behind on a Community Outing; requested agency develop a new policy on risk management
- 1 LRTA placed on probation with no restrictions for neglect for leaving a patient behind on a community outing; requested agency to implement a new policy to reduce risk
- Issued 3 letters of correction and Reinstatement for practicing with an expired license
- Issued a letter of education for student claiming to practice RT during summers; agency confirmed the student did not practice
- Individual claimed during a television spot to be providing recreational therapy using the credential “CTRS” without being licensed; individual left the state before any sanctions or injunctive measures could be sought; was requested that the agency rewrite the job description and specs clarifying provision of activities vs recreational therapy

-Issued plan of correction letter for RT graduate who registered at SRTs as a CTRS

Board members-

Dr. Megan Janke, "educator" resigned March 2016 due to relocation to Ohio
Replacement Appointed in June 2016, Dr. Judy Kinney
Doretha Maxwell, LRTA was reappointed
Tracey Warren, public Member was reappointed
Michael Atkins, public member (consumer) was reappointed

July 2015- June 2016

126 New LRTs
4 New LRTAs
15 Inactive

New Licensee by schools

ECU 41
UNCW 17
WCU 19
UNCG 15
WSSU 6
Mt Olive 4
Catawba 2
NCCU 0
Shaw 0
Out of State Schools 16

New Licensees by Month (Avg. 10.5 per month for LRTs, .3 for LRTA)

Note: (change in monthly pattern due to additional exam dates)

2015 July 9

August 15
September 16
October 9
November 6
December 9

2016 January 8

February 8

March 10

April 7

May 18

June 10

Maintaining licensees:

12% Licensees are not maintaining beyond first year. Transitioning to grad school, advancement, and moving out of state are stated as reasons.