



North Carolina Board of **Recreational Therapy** Licensure

PO Box 2655 Durham, NC (336) 212-1133

www.ncbrtl.org

Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee
North Carolina General Assembly
Legislative Building
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27691

Please let this letter and copy of audit serve as the annual report for the fiscal year 2018-2019

1. Board Members:

2018-2019 NCBRTL Members and Officers

Chair: Joan Sutton

Members: 8

Vice Chair/Tres: Judy Kinney

Term: 3 years

Secretary: Tracy Warren

Cite: GS 90C-5

NCBRTL Executive Director: Becky Garrett LRT/CTRS, e-mail becky@ncbrtl.org

Governor Appointees

LRT Engaged in Training

Judith Kinney PhD, LRT/CTRS

Ethics training 5/15/2018

University of North Carolina Greensboro

Dept. of Community & Therapeutic Recreation

249 Ferguson Building, 524 Highland Ave.

Greensboro, NC 27412

Wk 336 334-4481

jskinney@uncg.edu

Practicing LRT

Cari Sipe-Owens LRT/CTRS

Ethics training 4/22/2019

Carolina Meadows

Chapel Hill, NC

trheel15@yahoo.com

LRTA

Doretha Maxwell, LRTA

Ethics Training 1/17/2018

Cape Fear Valley Med Ctr

3425 Melrose Rd.

Fayetteville, NC

Wk (910) 609-3610

dmaxwell@capefearvalley.com

Physician

Russ Greenfield, MD

Ethics Training 10/15/2019

Novant Health

Charlotte, NC

r.greenfield@me.com

President Pro Tempore Appointees

Practicing LRT

Joan Sutton, LRT/CTRS 6/30/2017-6/30/2020

Ethics Training 9/15/2017

400 Avinger Lane

Davidson, NC 28036

joanmsutton@gmail.com

Public Member

Michael Atkins, 6/30/2010-6/30/2016

Ethics Training 10/17/2016

5913 Carmel Lane

Raleigh, NC 27609

wheelchairwolf@gmail.com

2. **Speaker of the House Appointees**

Public Member

Tracy Warren

Ethics Training 1/6/2018

Tracy Warren tj.warren@me.com

Practicing LRT

Rhonda Walton, LRT

Ethics Training 12/29/2017

P.O. Box 6028 - BH Recreational Therapy

Greenville, NC

rwalton@vidanthealth.com

Staff

Becky Garrett, MS LRT, CTRS, FDRT

Ethics Training 4/1/2019

NCBRTL, Executive Director

PO Box 2655

Durham ,NC 27715

336 212-1133

e-mail: becky@ncbrtl.org

2. the number of persons who applied to the board for review. 150
3. the number of who were refused examination. There is not a separate state exam, applicants pass national exam
4. the number who took the examination. All applicants must pass national exam before applying for state license
5. the number to whom initial licenses were issued. 147
6. the number who applied for license by reciprocity or comity. 0
7. the number who were granted licenses by reciprocity or comity. 0
7a the number of official complaints received involving licensed and unlicensed activities. 4
7b the number of disciplinary actions taken against licensees, or other actions taken against non-licensees, including injunctive relief. 7 Corrective action compliance plans, 5 placed on Probation with no restrictions, 2 placed on Probation with restricted intern supervision permitted, 123 Attended Compliance and Ethics Training
8. the number of licenses suspended or revoked. 3
9. the number of licenses terminated for any reason other than failure to pay the required renewal fee. 1
10. the substance of any anticipated request by the occupational licensing board to the General Assembly to amend statutes related to the occupational licensing board. None
11. the substance of any anticipated change in rules adopted by the occupational licensing board or the substance of any anticipated adoption of new rules by the occupational licensing board. 5

2018-2019 North Carolina Board of Recreational Therapy Licensure (NCBRTL) Report

During 2018-2019 NCBRTL has increased our online presence with the majority of applications, renewals and maintenance applications were completed and paid online; the majority of complaints/misconduct incidents were also submitted on line.

A Records Manager was hired to separate financial duties, maintain hard files and receive mailed items. Executive Director moved from Durham Location but files remained as well as post office mailing address in Durham.

Two new Board members were appointed, Cari Sipe Owens, LRT, employed with Carolina Meadows, Chapel Hill, Dr. Russ Greenfield, employed with Novant, Dr. Judith Kinney, UNCG was re-appointed. The Practicing LRTA Member's term ends June 30, 2019.

Rules: NCBRTL completed the ten-year Periodic Review with Rules Review successfully with no changes. NCBRTL anticipates a few updates to Rules in Fall 2019

NCBRTL issued new 147 licenses to applicants

Out of State applicants increased slightly this year.

As well, a 22% increase of Inactive Status Requests,

Approved Inactive Status 34

Issued 12 Reinstatements (74% increase)

Issued Denials

 LRT requests

 -one with unacceptable Internship rating

 - two that did not have required coursework

 (all have responded they are attempting to obtain the missing requirements so applications remain open)

Total Licensees as of June 30, 2019

 LRT 932

 LRTA 54

 Inactive Status 34

 11 Reinstatements 2018-19

By NC School

 ECU 37 (down 19)

 UNCG 24 (up 2)

 UNCW 22 (up 3)

 WCU 19 (down 10)

 WSSU 8 (up 1)

 Catawba 2

 Mt Olive 4

 UNCCH 1

Out of State Schools 21(up 3) (note:Clemson 6)

Two year NC Schools (Assistant level)

 WPPC 4

 PCC 4 (Program ended)

Licenses issued by month

 July 2018 16

 Aug 2018 18

 Sept 2018 10

 Oct 2018 19

 Nov 2018 8

 Dec 2018 9

 Jan 2019 18

Feb 2019 11
Mar 2019 7
Apr 2019 5
May 2019 19
June 2019 17

NCBRTL eased the application process by removing all deadlines for new applicants. New license applications are processed and issued licenses as packets are received complete. New licenses and numbers are assigned online the day of approval. On average, NCBRTL approved 12 license per month; the larger months being, May (19), October (19) due to completion of internships and exam offering dates. January (18), August (18) and June (17) being the next lower months. The least received in April, March and November.

Compliance and Ethics Training continues to assist licensees in understanding the law, Rules and requirements. NCBRTL continues to have fewer compliance issues and disciplinary actions due to these issues. It was offered four times this year. This included a special request by one hospital to have their entire staff attend therefore it was offered in-house. Outside participants were welcome. It was offered for the first time through webinar services at the August session. It was well received especially those licenses out of state. NCBRTL will set deadline for accepting webinar registrations for credit to postmark two weeks following the session.

Four sessions offered this year resulted in:

August 2018 (19 Attendees) (Offered by webinar as well as live presentation)
October 2018 (30 Attendees)
November 2018 (53 Attendees)
March 2019 (42 Attendees)
Total 107

Disciplinary Actions take in 2018-2019

Compliance Issues:

12 Missed Maintenance, they were placed on Probation for the amount of time they practiced with expired license, required to attend Compliance and Ethics Training, issued reinstated license. Reinstated after completion of application and missing requirement (Maintenance or Renewal)

Issued (3) Notifications to individuals reportedly practicing or using credential prior to being licensed

Issued three (3) Letters of Education about NC RT License law to agencies advertising for RTs without indicating state licensure requirement.

Contacted 5 agencies by phone to discuss position postings that as stated would allow for violations of the state law. All agencies responded by changing their postings or explained they advertised out of a central office nationwide but were aware of state laws.

Misconduct:

One license was Revoked for repeated offences involving patients and inappropriate behavior by the therapist and one incident of physical harm to patient.

Two licenses Suspended for practicing without a license.
by the therapist and one incident of physical harm to patient.

One Licensee was placed on Probation and restricted from Internship supervision for one year for resigning without prior notice, leaving a student without supervision during an internship.

Unsubstantiated Report investigated.

One Complaint against a LRT by coworker filed but was unsubstantiated by Agency Supervisor.
No action taken

Future Goals and Plans

NCBRTL reinitiated the Internship Supervisor Training Task Force in May 2017. NCBRTL plans to complete these training modules for Recreational Therapy Internship agencies to assist in the development of more consistent internship programs and manual development across the state.

NCBRTL is developing an update of the website to include additional option for online payments, ability to upload required documents and ease of use. Anticipate completion by end of the summer or early fall.

Respectively.

Becky Garrett, MS, LRT, CTRS, FDRT
NCBRTL Executive Director