

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Full Board**

**AGENDA ITEM: 12 – F**

**DATE: August 12, 2015**

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**SUBJECT: Request to Seek Accreditation – USD**

Board of Regents [Policy 1:10 Relationship of Curriculum and Instruction to Statutory Objectives](#) specifies that “Each campus must seek and receive Board approval before applying for initial accreditation or an expanded scope of accreditation for academic programs.” In accordance with Board policy, the University of South Dakota requests approval to seek accreditation from the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) for its Occupational Therapy Doctorate, O.T.D., program (Attachment I).

To be eligible to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy exam, students must graduate from an occupational therapy program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). The USD program has been accredited by ACOTE continually since 1993. As the USD OT program transitions to doctorate entry, the last students to graduate at the MS will be the Class of 2017. MS accreditation expires in 2016, thus USD must seek reaccreditation at the MS level, while also seeking accreditation for the new Occupational Therapy Doctorate.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Approve USD’s request to seek accreditation from the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) for its Occupational Therapy Doctorate, O.T.D., program.

## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

### Request to Seek Accreditation Under BOR Policy

**1. Institution:** The University of South Dakota

**2. Program(s) seeking accreditation:** Occupational Therapy Doctorate, O.T.D.

**3. Level of program(s) involved in accreditation:**

	Master's Degree
Associate Degree	X
Bachelor's Degree	Doctoral Degree

**4. Accrediting Agency:** Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE)

**5. What are the advantages of accreditation?**

To be eligible to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy exam, students must graduate from an occupational therapy program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). The USD program has been accredited by ACOTE continually since 1993. As the USD OT program transitions to doctorate entry, the last students to graduate at the MS will be the Class of 2017. MS accreditation expires in 2016, thus USD must seek reaccreditation at the MS level, while also seeking accreditation for the new Occupational Therapy Doctorate.

**6. What are the anticipated costs involved in accreditation, including:**

**A) Costs involved in undergoing self-study and preparing the application for accreditation.**

Two external reviewers visited in December to complete an external assessment for the BOR. Those costs were covered through a combination of OT operating resources and support from the School of Health Sciences Dean's office.

- Adjunct faculty - course release for Dr. Brockevelt: \$3750.00
- Adjunct faculty - course release for Dr. Smallfield/Professor Nissen: \$4950.00

Costs will be covered through a combination of OT operating resources and support from the School of Health Sciences Dean's office.

**B) Out-of-pocket costs related to dues or site visits.**

2015-2016 Annual reaccreditation fee for the MS

- \$3,650.00
- There are no additional costs for the onsite visit.

2015-2016 Initial accreditation fees for OTD

Application Fee: \$3,325.00

Initial Review Fee: \$3,940.00 due August 3, 2015 (with self-study)

Initial Onsite Fee: waived for programs transitioning from the MS to the OTD

**C) Base budget implications including incremental costs and minimum base resources required (dollars and FTE).**

No change once the transition occurs; an annual reaccreditation fee is currently paid for the MS.

**7. What is the source of the resources needed?**

Costs will be covered through a combination of OT operating resources and support from the School of Health Sciences Dean's office.

**8. What is the estimated date for submission of accreditation application?**

The self-study for the OTD is due August 3, 2015. This was moved nearly 8 months earlier than originally planned in order to provide the opportunity for current Year 1 students to transition to the doctorate during their second year. The self-study for the MS is due November 9, 2015. The self-study is an electronic document and must be submitted separately for each degree since the standards are different. The onsite visit will be combined for the two degrees and will be held March 21-23, 2016. Please refer to the timeline below.

(Note: The word “transition” below refers to the current Year 1 class that is transitioning to the OTD during the second year of the curriculum. It does not refer to a transitional degree such as the tDPT).

Initial Accreditation Steps	Initial OTD Accreditation	MS Reaccreditation
Candidacy Received	May 1, 2015	
Year 1 & Incoming students select degree option	May 2015	May 2015
OTD Transition Class of 2017 begins (enrolls in OCH 732 for 4 cr rather than 3 cr)	May 2015	
Incoming OTD Class of 2018 starts	July 28, 2015	
Incoming MS Class of 2017 starts		July 28, 2015
Self-Study due	August 3, 2015	November 9, 2015
ACOTE Action on Initial OTD Review	December 2015	
Initial on-site for OTD	Jan-April 2016 (Mar 21-23 tentative)	
MS Reaccreditation On site		March 21-23, 2016
ACOTE Accreditation Decision (Action on Report of On-Site)	April 2016	April 2016
MS Class of 2016 begins Level II FW		June 2016
Transition OTD class of 2017 begins Level II FW	June 2016	
MS Class of 2016 Graduates		December 2016
Transition OTD Class of 2017 begins Capstone	January 2017	
Transition OTD Class of 2017 Graduates	May 2017	




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Institutional Authorization (President)