



Hand Therapy Certification Examination

Exam is administered in May and November please contact HTCC or go to www.htcc.org for exact dates of exam.

The Recognized Specialist in Hand Therapy

Application Information

Spring Examination:

- ▶ The spring exam is administered the last week of April and first two weeks of May. See www.htcc.org for specific dates.
- ▶ Application period: Mid January to April 15th

Fall Exam:

- ▶ The fall exam is administered the last week of October and first two weeks of November. See www.htcc.org for specific dates.
- ▶ Application period: Mid July to Oct. 15th

To Apply

- ▶ **Online** – download the Candidate Handbook as part of the online application process. Supporting documents must be uploaded, faxed or emailed before the application deadline

Fees (U.S. Funds)

Spring Examination

Online Applications

Mid January to April 15th \$500
 \$425 refundable before April 15th

Fall Examination

Online Applications

Mid May to October 15th \$500
 \$425 refundable before October 15th

Candidate Handbook

The Candidate Handbook for the Hand Therapy Certification Examination can be downloaded as a free pdf.

You can download a free pdf copy or a printed copy at www.htcc.org.



HAND THERAPY CERTIFICATION COMMISSION

Hand Therapy Certification Commission, Inc.

Phone: (916) 566-1140 Fax: (916) 922-0210

Email: info@htcc.org www.htcc.org

Overview of CHT Credentialing Program

Hand Therapy Certification is a voluntary credentialing program established in 1989, by the Hand Therapy Certification Commission, Inc., (HTCC) to certify occupational therapists and physical therapists in the advanced clinical specialty of upper limb rehabilitation.

From its inception, the Board of Directors of HTCC envisioned a two-step process of Certification and Recertification in order to:

- ▶ serve the public and hand therapy community by maintaining high standards in the practice of hand therapy,
- ▶ enhance the quality of patient care,
- ▶ recognize occupational therapists and physical therapists who have achieved this advanced level of professional knowledge, and
- ▶ encourage participation in continuing education and professional development.

The Certified Hand Therapist (CHT) credential distinguishes an occupational therapist or physical therapist as someone who has met the minimum eligibility requirements, including 4,000 hours or more in direct practice in hand therapy, and who has successfully completed a comprehensive test of advanced clinical skills and theory in upper limb rehabilitation.

Certification is granted for a five-year period, after which a therapist must recertify by examination or through a combination of work and professional education. Recertification provides assurance to the public that the Certified Hand Therapist continues to meet the high standards set by HTCC.



Eligibility Requirements

- ▶ You must be an occupational therapist or physical therapist with a current professional credential to practice. Depending on your profession and where you practice, a professional credential may include a license, certificate, or registration. In all cases, it is the credential that you need to legally practice in that location. This credential must be active, and you must be in good standing with the agency that issued it.
- ▶ You must have been certified or licensed for a minimum of three years, based on date of issue of the certificate or license.
 - For the spring exam, the date of issue must be on or before the start of the spring exam window, three years prior.
 - For the fall exam, the date of issue must be on or before the start of the fall exam window, three years prior.
- ▶ You must have a minimum of 4,000 hours of Direct Practice Experience* in hand therapy.
 - Direct practice experience may have been accrued at any time during your career as a licensed occupational therapist or physical therapist.

** Direct Practice Experience is the direct provision of patient care through assessment and implementation of an individualized treatment plan including but not limited to orthotics/splinting, modalities and/or exercise to prevent dysfunction, maximize functional recovery, or influence the effect of pathology in the upper quarter. It does not include time spent in administration, research, teaching, or consultation.*

- ▶ HTCC welcomes international candidates. Since 2011, HTCC accepts work hours obtained in any country towards eligibility for the certification examination, and candidates may be licensed, registered or certified as an occupational therapist or physical therapist

Examination Information

The Hand Therapy Certification Examination is administered twice a year in the spring and fall. The Hand Therapy Certification Examination is a computer-based test. Candidates will be able to sign up to take the test at any of PSI Assessment Centers located worldwide. A current listing of PSI Assessment Centers may be viewed at PSI's website located at <https://schedule.psiexams.com>.

Since its formation, the Hand Therapy Certification Commission has been committed to offering a valid and reliable certification examination using the highest standards of examination development methodology.

The content of the examination has been determined by the results of the 2019 Practice Analysis Survey. Each question was carefully written, referenced, and validated by practicing Certified Hand Therapists. The examination consists of 200 multiple-choice questions. The candidates are asked to choose the best answer from four options.