

# 3

---

## Credentialing

*Karen Brady, DEd, OTR/L and Lisa Burns, PhD, OTR/L*

ACOTE Standard explored in this chapter:

- B.7.3. Demonstrate knowledge of applicable national requirements for credentialing and requirements for licensure, certification, or registration under state laws.

### KEY VOCABULARY

**Accredited Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program:** One that meets standards established by the ACOTE.

**Certification:** Process of meeting eligibility requirements for and passing the national certification examination.

**Credentialing:** Process of assessing and confirming the qualifications of a licensed or certified health care practitioner.

**License, registration:** State or jurisdiction documentation indicating permission to practice.

**Standards of Practice:** Requirements that OTAs must follow in the delivery of occupational therapy services.

OTAs trained in the United States must meet several specific requirements in order to practice. The requirements include graduating from an OTA program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). They also include passing the nationally recognized entry-level exam and fulfilling state requirements for licensure, certification, or registration. OTAs must abide by all applicable stipulations, whether they stem from federal or state leg-