

ACOTPA ANNOUNCE NATIONAL FEE SCHEDULE FOR CANADIAN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

The Alliance of Occupational Therapy Professional Associations (ACOTPA), representing the provincial associations and the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapist's (CAOT) Chapters, has developed a National Fee Schedule following a survey of occupational therapists (OTs) across Canada.

This fee guide, which is based on 732 respondents representing solo practitioners to large firms and the OTs that work for them, has been issued for professional information purposes only. It provides OTs across Canada with aggregate information on the prevailing range of fees being charged for occupational therapy services in community and clinic settings outside of the public health system. This schedule reflects what occupational therapists are currently charging in Canada for primarily clinical services. Services that require additional education and expertise are not outlined in detail in this schedule. Further details supplemental to the fee schedule can be found in CAOT's National Fee Report.

The seven ACOTPA organizations and four CAOT Chapters do not require their members to adjust or amend their service pricing to conform with the national fee schedule. OTs are encouraged to evaluate and set their individual service fees based on their own business models and local market conditions. They should consider a variety of factors when determining their fees, including, but not limited to, the availability and cost of treatment equipment, training and registration of staff, office space, local market conditions, and travel. Third-party payers that fund occupational therapy services can set their own reimbursement rates.

CLINICAL RATES:

PROVINCE (N)	AVERAGE
BC (263)	126.17
AB (138)	127.56
MB (13)	142.50
SK (44)	139.96
ON (216)	136.95
NFLD (9)	133.63
NB (36)	125.80
NS (17)	126.56
QC (8)	139.43

MEDICAL LEGAL:

Data related to medical legal practice costs was present to varying degrees across the provinces with OTs from British Columbia, Ontario, and Alberta replying the most frequently in this category.

Functional Capacity Evaluations (FCEs) may be billed at an hourly rate, ranging from \$130 to \$250 per hour, or a flat rate ranging from \$900 to \$2,954 per basic FCE. Medical legal, cognitive, and FCEs for those with other catastrophic injuries can cost significantly more and require two to three days of assessment time. These rates range between \$2,300 (basic) to \$7,000 (multi-day, complex). If an FCE is needed urgently, rush flat rates may be as high as \$3,600 for a one-day basic FCE.

- Cost of Future Care and Life Care Planning is charged at an average hourly rate of \$194, with rates ranging from \$130 to \$250 per hour. This rate is consistent for both direct and indirect time (e.g., assessment, report writing, and court appearance). Some therapists charge a flat fee instead of an hourly rate, with variations depending on clients' needs and conditions. Rates vary depending on therapists' experience and qualifications.
- Other legal consultation costs are billed at the same hourly rate as Cost of Future Care or FCE averages.

REHABILITATION ASSISTANT SERVICES / OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS (OTAS)

- Rehabilitation assistant time, including treatment, reporting, and charting, is typically charged hourly. Rates range from \$22 to \$150 per hour, with an average of \$63.22 per hour, but can vary depending on insurer/fee payer, experience, and training level.

CLINICAL / NON-CLINICAL

	NON-CLINICAL		ONLY CLINICAL
low (n=105)	\$ 127.67	Low (n=625)	\$ 125.59
high (n=51)	\$ 164.20	high (n=216)	\$ 154.43

Low and high billing averages were calculated from non-clinical and only clinical OT responses. OT responses were labelled as non-clinical if they responded to the following open-ended question: "If your organization provides occupational therapy consultations for non-clinical services, please describe below." OT responses were labelled as only clinical if they left the response blank or answered in the negative (e.g., No, N/A, etc.). Non-clinical responses were grouped into the six categories listed below. Each category lists examples of non-clinical services in parenthesis.

- Personal and professional development coaching (e.g., mentorship and parent coaching)
- Government consultation (e.g., advisory panel for government, transit policy development)
- Occupational health and safety (e.g., ergonomics, workplace assessments)
- Private consultation (e.g., medical-legal, product development, home modifications)
- Program services and advising (e.g., college program advising)
- Teaching/education services (e.g., workshops, train the trainer, Indigenous culturally safer care)

