



## **What is PLAN and why might you care?**

Connecting foreign educated physical therapists with physical therapy academic programs

Sixty percent of the foreign-educated physical therapists (FEPT) evaluated by the FCCPT\* are *not* found to be substantially equivalent to a US (first professional) physical therapy degree without supplemental coursework.

*\* Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy*

FCCPT uses the FSBPT Coursework Tool (CWT) for evaluations. Since April 2012, all 53 licensing jurisdictions have accepted the results of the CWT.

Since 2007, FCCPT's Planned Learning and Assistance Network (PLAN) has provided FEPTs with potential academic resources to fulfill identified deficiencies in general and professional education. To date, PLAN has provided academic assistance to more than 1,500 FEPTs.

### **PLAN provides the following information for the FEPT:**

- A summary of the CWT findings, including the jurisdiction and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) petition, as needed.
- A list of academic requirements (general and professional education), including semester credits, courses, and content areas.
- A list of courses and academic institutions that have been approved.
- A review of courses proposed by the FEPT to determine if the courses would be accepted for their academic deficiencies.
- In addition, the PLAN counselor communicates with the academic institution about potential courses that contain specific professional education content, as well as to answer questions.

In 2012, FCCPT began offering PLAN services for foreign-educated applicants seeking to become physical therapist assistants. PTA educational programs and transitional DPT programs offer courses which have been taken by PTA applicants for their educational deficiencies.

Physical therapy programs have the opportunity to educate foreign-educated physical therapists in a collaborative relationship with the FCCPT's Planned Learning and Assistance Network program. Learn more at [www.fcctp.org](http://www.fcctp.org).