

**Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
Jurisdiction Licensure Reference Guide
Topic: Taking the NPTE before Graduation**

Important:

1. This information may change without notice. You should always check directly with your jurisdiction for a final answer.
2. This information applies only to students attending U.S. CAPTE-accredited physical therapy programs. It does not apply to international applicants for licensure.

This table provides information on whether states will allow PT and PTA students to take the NPTE prior to the graduation ceremony.

Summary: Number of jurisdictions that allow candidates to take the NPTE prior to the graduation ceremony	
Yes	32
No	15
No data provided	6

State	Take NPTE before graduation?	Comments
AK	No	
AL	Yes	School must send certificate of education verifying completion of education.
AR	Yes	Only for Arkansas residents. School must verify student graduating class in writing.
AZ	Yes	
CA	Yes	School must send P1E form verifying student has already completed all coursework and clinical practice.
CO	Yes	Effective 1/1/2014
CT	Yes	School must verify that they have completed all academic requirements.
DC	Yes	Must submit transcript verifying completion of education and expected graduation date.
DE	Yes	School must verify that the applicant will be graduating and provide expected graduation date.
FL	Yes	School must verify that the student is in the final year and has completed the physical therapy program.
GA	No	
HI	Yes	School must verify that the student is in the final year and has completed the physical therapy program.
IA	Yes	Must complete all requirements to graduate.
ID	Yes	Allowed to test up to 90 days before graduation
IL	No	May submit application prior to graduation, but official approval to take the examination will not be given until certification of graduation is received. If the graduation date is after the final filing date for any given examination, the individual will have to wait until the next examination is given.

State	Take NPTE before graduation?	Comments
IN	No	
KS	Yes	Allowed to test during their last semester.
KY	No	
LA	Yes	Verification from the school of completion of PT/PTA program is required.
MA	No Data Provided	
MD	No	
ME	No Data Provided	
MI	Yes	
MN	Yes	School must send certificate of education verifying completion of education. Certificate not accepted earlier than 13 weeks before graduation.
MO	No	
MS	No	
MT	No	
NC	Yes	Program must certify that graduation is assured and advise the Board that the conferring of the degree is certain to occur. For details, contact Cindy Kiely, Licensing Manager at ckiely@ncptboard.org .
ND	Yes	
NE	No	
NH	Yes	Provide official transcript or letter from school with authenticated transcript stating degree not awarded until graduation ceremony.
NJ	No Data Provided	
NM	Yes	School must verify that student successfully completed all program requirements for graduation and the date that the degree will be conferred.
NV	Yes	If the didactic portion of the education is complete, have the school send an official transcript to the board office.
NY	Yes	School must verify that they have completed all academic requirements.
OH	Yes	Must complete all didactic requirements.
OK	Yes	School must verify that the student will be graduating
OR	Yes	Students must have completed all of their didactic work at the time of their exam application and must be within 90 days of their graduation date as attested to by the program director.
PA	No	
PR	No Data Provided	

State	Take NPTE before graduation?	Comments
RI	Yes	School must verify that the student is in the final year and has completed the physical therapy program.
SC	No	
SD	No Data Provided	
TN	Yes	School must provide letter verifying student has completed all didactic requirements and the graduation date.
TX	Yes	Must complete all didactic requirements.
UT	No	
VA	Yes	The school must fill out the Educational Authorization Form to verify that the student is within 60 days of completion of degree requirements and must return the form directly to the Board of Physical Therapy.
VI	No Data Provided	
VT	No	
WA	Yes	The board must receive a memo from the PT Department chair indicating the anticipated date of graduation for each graduate and that they are on target to graduate on time.
WI	Yes	
WV	Yes	Allowed to test up to 90 days before graduation. School must provide a candidate letter before they are allowed to take the NPTE.
WY	No	