

Fall 2014

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy

Welcome to aPTitude & ProCert

Welcome to the current issue of the **aPTitude & ProCert** newsletter for vendors of physical therapy continuing competence activities! Periodically we will provide important system and program updates, and share guidance for purposes of helping you reach prospective learners and achieve certification of your continuing education courses and conferences.

What is aPTitude? What is ProCert?

[aPTitude](#) and [ProCert](#) are physical therapy continuing competence tools built by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy ([FSBPT](#)) as directed by our members, the 53 U.S. state and jurisdiction physical therapy licensing boards. [aPTitude](#) is the free online continuing competence management system; vendors (providers) of physical therapy continuing education courses and conferences use [aPTitude](#) to:

- Access complete information on states' continuing competence requirements for PTs and PTAs
- Market activities directly to over 13,000 PTs and PTAs
- Receive feedback on activities from participants
- Research the marketplace to inform the design and scheduling of activities

If you have not already done so, [register](#) for your free account. Learn more about [aPTitude](#) by viewing [this video](#).

[ProCert](#) is a comprehensive certification (approval) program that evaluates the content of continuing competence activities and awards continuing competence units (CCUs) based on how well the activity meets the [FSBPT Standards for Continuing Competence Activities](#). Any course or conference published in [aPTitude](#) may be submitted to [ProCert](#). Answers to your questions on [ProCert](#) and a recorded orientation and demo can be found at www.continuingcompetence.org.

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Check Out What's New with aPTitude

You asked for it, and we delivered! A number of enhancements have recently been made and are coming soon to [aPTitude](#) including:

- For activities submitted to [ProCert](#), a streamlined entry process for content and the level of learning demand associated with that content.
- Ability to display contact information for your company or organization to licensees that is different than that for the person managing your submissions to [ProCert](#).
- Verifying attendance for your activity participants for on-going activities will soon be easier as multiple dates can be processed with a single uploaded file. Look for this announcement in the coming days!

Contact [FSBPT Continuing Competence Staff](#) to learn more about these improvements.

ProCert Update

As of October 10, 2014 Illinois is the most recent state to accept [ProCert](#) certification of continuing education courses and conferences. Any [ProCert](#) certified activity will be accepted by the licensing board for purposes of meeting continuing education and licensure renewal requirements for PTs and PTAs in this state. Illinois joins Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin. Additionally we are clarifying the status of Colorado's acceptance and will soon have an update. Several more states are updating their laws to accept [ProCert](#) certification in the future. Learn more about ProCert [here](#), or contact FSBPT Continuing Competence Staff for more information.

Current ProCert Pricing

Below are the current [ProCert](#) submission fees for continuing education courses and conferences:

- ? Single Activity: \$60
- ? Subscription I: \$495 for 1-20 submissions within 1 year
- ? Subscription II \$995 for 1-100 submissions within 1 year
- ? Subscription III \$1,995 for 1-500 submissions within 1 year

All purchases include one free re-submission and review for each activity.

Consider purchasing your next subscription now as pricing changes could come in 2015. Additional states accepting [ProCert](#) in 2015 will increase the value of your subscription and the reach of your certified activities.

ProCert Certification Statistics

The demand for [ProCert](#) certification continues to grow. Following is some data on utilization of the program:

- ? 1,291 activities have been certified since program inception

- ? 988 activities are currently certified
 - ? 74 vendors (providers) have achieved certification of their activities
 - ? ~100 activities are currently in the review process
 - ? ~250 activities are currently in the submission process
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ProCert Guidance - Levels of Evidence

Some vendors submitting continuing education courses to [ProCert](#) have requested guidance specific to what content constitutes a case study for purposes of meeting criteria under Standard 10 – Evidence Based Practice. One resource to consider is the article “[All Evidence is Not Created Equal: A Discussion of Levels of Evidence](#)” as it is specific to physical therapy and discusses levels of evidence. Additionally the article discusses strengths and weaknesses of case reports/studies. If this article were required reading for participants, and the course reflected time on the agenda or assessment questions devoted to levels of evidence were produced, the criteria specific to case studies could potentially be met.
