



State Licensure Exemptions and Requirements for PTs and PTAs during COVID-19

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy

As of May 8, 2020

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STATE	LICENSURE EXEMPTION FOR DISASTERS	CHANGES TO STATE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS
ALABAMA	Section 34-24-215. Temporary licenses. (a) On payment to the board of a fee set by the board, and on submission of a written application on forms provided by the board, the applicant shall be issued without examination a temporary license to practice physical therapy or to act as a physical therapist assistant in this state for a period not to exceed one year, if said person meets the qualifications set forth in Section 34- 24-211 and submits evidence satisfactory to the board that he is in this state on a temporary basis to assist in a case of medical emergency or to	

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	engage in a special physical therapy project. Such special projects may be research and education programs. Each request will be judged by the board on its individual merits.	
ALASKA		Offering limited permit-valid 120 days, non-renewable. May only be issued once in a calendar year and 3 time lifetime maximum
ARIZONA	<p>C. The following persons are exempt from the licensure requirements of this chapter:</p> <p>4. A physical therapist who is licensed in another jurisdiction of the United States or who is credentialed in another country if that person by contract or employment is providing physical therapy to persons who are affiliated with or employed by established athletic teams, athletic organizations or performing arts companies temporarily practicing, competing or performing in this state for not more than sixty days in a calendar year.</p> <p>5. A physical therapist who is licensed in another jurisdiction of the United States and who enters this state to provide physical therapy to victims of a declared local, state or national disaster or emergency. This exemption applies for the duration of the declared emergency but not longer than sixty days. The physical therapist must also register with the board before practicing.</p>	Governor Duey's Executive Order 2020-17 extends licensure renewal dates, defers continuing education requirements, provisional licenses for 6 months to be issued if an applicant is unable to take a professional examination due to current closure of private testing centers and unavailability of an electronic or remote testing option
ARKANSAS	<p>(c) The following persons are exempt from the licensure requirements of this chapter when engaged in the following activities:</p> <p>(6)(A) A physical therapist who is licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States and who enters this state to provide physical therapy during a declared local, state, or national disaster or emergency.</p> <p>(B) The exemption under subdivision (c)(6)(A) of this section is applicable for only sixty (60) days following the declaration of the disaster or emergency.</p> <p>(C) In order to be eligible for this exemption, the physical therapist shall</p>	<p>Continuing Education Waiver</p> <p>COVID-19 PT Reopening Guidelines</p>

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	<p>notify the board of his or her intent to practice physical therapy in this state under subdivision (c)(6)(A) of this section;</p> <p>(7)(A) A physical therapist licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States who seeks to practice physical therapy in this state because he or she is forced to leave his or her residence or place of employment due to a declared local, state, or national disaster or emergency.</p> <p>(B) The exemption under (c)(7)(A) of this section is applicable for only sixty (60) days following the declaration of the disaster or emergency.</p> <p>(C) In order to be eligible for this exemption, the physical therapist shall notify the board of his or her intent to practice physical therapy in this state under subdivision (c)(7)(A) of this section; and</p> <p>(8) A physical therapist assistant who is licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States and is assisting a physical therapist engaged in physical therapy services under the exemption in subdivision (c)(2), (c)(3), (c)(5), (c)(6), and (c)(7) of this section.</p>	
CALIFORNIA	<p>§2630.5. Persons Exempt from Licensure Requirements</p> <p>The following persons are exempt from the licensure requirements of this chapter when engaged in the following activities:</p> <p>(g) A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who has a valid and unrestricted license in a jurisdiction of the United States who is forced to leave his or her residence in a state other than California due to a governmentally declared emergency. This exemption applies for no more than 60 days following the declaration of the emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption, the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant shall notify the board of his or her intent to practice in this state and provide a valid mailing address, telephone number, and email address.</p>	<p>Policies and procedures governing the use of out-of-state medical personnel to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak pursuant to the Governor’s Emergency Proclamation</p> <p>DCA Waiver Request Information includes waiver of reinstatement of licensure, renewal fees and required continuing education in certain cases.</p>
COLORADO	<p>12-41-114. Scope of article - exclusions. (1) Nothing contained in this article 41 prohibits:</p> <p>(f) The practice of physical therapy in this state by a legally qualified physical therapist from another state or country when providing services in the</p>	<p>Guidance for Healthcare Professionals Not Currently Licensed in Colorado</p>

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	<p>absence of a physical therapist licensed in this state, so long as the unlicensed physical therapist is acting in accordance with rules established by the board. A person shall not practice without a license under this paragraph (f) for more than four weeks' duration or more than once in any twelve-month period.</p>	
CONNECTICUT		<p>Department of Public Health Order temporary suspension of licensure requirements for 60 days for health care workers including physical therapists</p>
DELAWARE	<p>§ 2605 License required; exceptions.</p> <p>(h) This chapter shall not prohibit a physical therapist or athletic trainer who is licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States from providing physical therapy or athletic training services in this State during a declared local, jurisdictional, or national disaster or emergency. This exemption applies for no more than 60 days following the declaration of the emergency, so long as such person abides by Delaware laws, rules, and regulations relating to physical therapy and athletic training. In order to be eligible for this exemption, the physical therapist or athletic trainer shall notify the Board of his or her intent to practice in this State pursuant to this subsection.</p> <p>(i) This chapter shall not prohibit a physical therapist or athletic trainer licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States who is forced to leave his or her residence or place of employment due to a declared local, jurisdictional, or national disaster or emergency from practicing physical therapy or athletic training in this State. This exemption applies for no more than 60 days following the declaration of the emergency, so long as such person abides by Delaware laws, rules, and regulations relating to physical therapy and athletic training. In order to be eligible for this exemption, the physical therapist or athletic trainer shall notify the Board of his or her intent to practice in this State pursuant to this subsection.</p>	<p>Joint Order of the Department of Health and Social Services and the DE Emergency Management Agency Allows students currently enrolled in, or graduate of, an approved PT or PTA program who is not yet licensed to practice under supervision of a physical therapist with an active DE license. See paragraph 9 and 10.</p>
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		<p>DC Health Regulation & Licensing Administration Waiver of Licensure Requirements for Healthcare Providers</p>

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FLORIDA	<p>Florida Statutes 456.47 Use of telehealth to provide services NOT AN EMERGENCY PROVISION- STATUTE A health care professional not licensed in FL may provide health care services within the applicable scope of practice established by Florida law or rule to a patient located in this state using telehealth if the health care professional registers with the applicable board, or the department if there is no board, and provides health care services</p>	<p>Department of Health Emergency Order Suspension of Statutes, Rules, and Orders No 20-002 allows and individuals holding a valid, unrestricted, and unencumbered license in any state, territory, and/or district may render such services in Florida not to exceed 30 days</p>
GEORGIA	<p>(d) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed as preventing or restricting the practice, services, or activities of:</p> <p>(7) A person currently licensed in another state who is present in this state providing physical therapy services during a declared local, jurisdictional, or national disaster or emergency, such services not to exceed a total of 60 days during any 12 month period.</p>	
HAWAII		
IDAHO		
ILLINOIS	<p>This Act does not prohibit:</p> <p>(3) The practice of physical therapy for a period not exceeding 6 months by a person who is in this State on a temporary basis to assist in a case of medical emergency or to engage in a special physical therapy project, and who meets the qualifications for a physical therapist as set forth in Sections 7 and 8 of this Act and is licensed in another state as a physical therapist.</p>	
INDIANA	<p>IC 25-27-1-3.3Exempt persons</p> <p>Sec. 3.3. The following persons are exempt from the licensure or certification requirements of this article:</p> <p>(5) A physical therapist who is licensed in another state and who provides physical therapy during a declared local or national disaster or emergency. However, the exemption may not exceed sixty (60) days following the declaration of the emergency. To be eligible for the exemption the physical therapist must notify the board of the person's intent to practice.</p>	<p>Waivers for health care providers without an active license including retired and out-of-state health care professionals, temporary licenses</p>

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	<p>(6) A physical therapist licensed in another state who is forced to leave the person's residence or place of employment due to a declared local or national disaster or emergency and due to the displacement seeks to practice physical therapy. However, the exemption may not exceed sixty (60) days following the declaration of the emergency. To be eligible for the exemption the physical therapist must notify the board of the person's intent to practice</p>	
IOWA		<p>March 22nd Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency suspended a number of regulatory provisions applicable to physical therapists including license renewal, continuing education, and criminal background checks.</p>
KANSAS		<p>Kansas Board of Healing Arts published emergency actions and guidance statements to facilitate access to care during COVID-19 emergency declaration period. Includes temporary emergency licensure requirements and procedures, and previously existing expedited practice options for PTs/PTAs</p>
KENTUCKY	<p>License required-exceptions: The provisions of subsections (1), (2), and (4) of this section shall not apply to volunteer health practitioners providing services under KRS 39A.350 to 39A.366, which defines "declared emergency"</p>	
LOUISIANA	<p>§2416. EMERGENCY EXEMPTIONS</p> <p>No license is required by this Chapter under the following circumstances:</p> <p>(1) A physical therapist who is licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States and who enters this state to provide physical therapy during a declared local, state, or national disaster or emergency. This exemption applies for no longer than sixty days following the declaration of the emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption the physical therapist shall notify the board of his intent to practice within the state.</p>	<p>Louisiana PT Board has provided waivers including renewal deadline, waiver of late renewal fee, and allowing online CE for renewal.</p>

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	<p>(2) A physical therapist licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States who is forced to leave his residence or place of employment due to a declared local, state, or national disaster or emergency and as a result of such displacement seeks to practice physical therapy. This exemption applies for no more than sixty days following the declaration of the emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption the physical therapist shall notify the board of his intent to practice within the state.</p> <p>(3) A physical therapist assistant who is licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States and is assisting a physical therapist engaged specifically in activities related to Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Section.</p>	
MAINE	Department of Professional & Financial Regulation Memo alleviating certain licensing requirements including waiving CE requirements and expiration date extensions, expedited return of retired licensees, and temporary licenses.	
MARYLAND		
MASSACHUSETTS		MA Extension of license, certificate, registration expiration
MICHIGAN		
MINNESOTA		
MISSISSIPPI	<p>(6) During a lawfully declared local, state or national disaster or emergency, the board may issue a temporary license to any otherwise qualified physical therapist or physical therapist assistant licensed and in good standing in another state or territory of the United States and who meets such other requirements as the board may prescribe by rule and regulation.</p>	<p>Disaster/Emergency Waiver of licensure intended for any PT or PTA temporarily practicing in Mississippi during the state of emergency and effective for the duration of the State Emergency Declaration status at the time of application.</p>
MISSOURI		Licensed professionals who wish to come to Missouri to assist with COVID-19 are not required to meet requirements if their practice is solely related to COVID-19. Exempts physical therapists and physical therapy

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		<p>assistants who are licensed in another state from applying for licensure in the state of Missouri if they are coming to Missouri to assist with COVID-19. Note: Physical Therapy Assistants that fall under these licensure waivers do not have to make application or notify the Board of their intent to practice in Missouri. They may be required to show proof of licensure in another state to the employers and third party payers.</p>
MONTANA		<p>Interstate Licensure Registration The Montana Department of Labor and Industry has implemented an interstate licensure registration for out of state licensees in response to COVID-19. Licensed professionals from out of state can register in Montana to work for a defined period of time. We will evaluate your home state license according to licensing regulation in Montana, to verify it is currently active, unrestricted, and in good standing, and issue you a registration to work in Montana. If you are looking to work in Montana longer than the current state of emergency is in effect, please also submit a full application through our regular online process.</p>
NEBRASKA		
NEVADA	<p>NRS 640.120 Temporary license for medical emergency; temporary exemptions from licensing for certain students and applicants.</p> <p>1. The Board may issue, without examination, a license to practice physical therapy for a period not to exceed 6 months to any person who meets the qualifications set forth in NRS 640.080, except subsection 3 thereof, upon certification that the person has been assigned to the State of Nevada on a temporary basis to assist in a medical emergency.</p>	
NEW HAMPSHIRE		<p>Emergency Order #15 Temporary Authorization for out of state medical providers to provide medically necessary service and provide service through telehealth</p>

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NEW JERSEY	<p>h. Prohibit an individual who is licensed as a physical therapist in another jurisdiction of the United States from entering this State to provide physical therapy during a declared local, State or national disaster or emergency, including a public health emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to the "Emergency Health Powers Act, P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.). This exemption applies for no longer than 30 days following the declaration of the emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption the physical therapist shall notify the board of his intent to practice;</p> <p>i. Prohibit an individual who is licensed as a physical therapist in another jurisdiction of the United States who is forced to leave his residence or place of employment due to a declared local, State or national disaster or emergency and due to such displacement seeks to practice physical therapy . This exemption applies for no more than 30 days following the declaration of the emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption the physical therapist shall notify the board of his intent to practice; or</p>	
NEW MEXICO	<p>PROVISIONS FOR EMERGENCY LICENSURE: A. Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants currently licensed and in good standing, or otherwise meeting the requirements for New Mexico licensure in a state in which a federal disaster has been declared, may be licensed in New Mexico during the four months following the declared disaster upon:</p>	<p>Memo on Requests to Boards and Commissions</p>
NEW YORK		<p>Professions Exempt from Licensure (does not include PT/PTA)</p> <p>Executive Order #202.10 Any healthcare facility is authorized to allow students, in programs to become licensed in New York State to practice as a healthcare professional, to volunteer at the healthcare facility for educational credit as if the student had secured a placement under a clinical affiliation agreement, without entering into any such clinical affiliation agreement</p>
NORTH CAROLINA	<p>90-270.34. Exemptions from licensure; certain practices exempted. (a) The following persons shall be permitted to practice physical therapy or assist in the practice in this State without obtaining a license under this Article upon the terms and conditions specified herein:</p>	

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	<p>(8) Physical therapists or physical therapist assistants licensed in another jurisdiction of the United States who enter this State to provide physical therapy during a declared local, State, or national disaster or emergency. The exemption applies no longer than the standard annual renewal time in the State. To be eligible for the exemption, the licensee shall notify the Board of the licensee's intent to practice physical therapy pursuant to this subdivision;</p> <p>(9) Physical therapists or physical therapist assistants licensed in another jurisdiction of the United States who are forced to leave their residence or place of employment due to a declared local, State, or national disaster or emergency and, due to such displacement, need to practice physical therapy. The exemption applies no longer than the standard annual renewal time but may be renewed by the Board for additional periods. To be eligible for the exemption, the licensee shall notify the Board of the licensee's intent to practice physical therapy pursuant to this subdivision."</p>	
NORTH DAKOTA		<p>In light of the Governor's Executive Orders 2020-05.1 and 2020-07 regarding the easing of health professional licensing to enable more health professionals to help the pandemic in North Dakota, the Board of Physical Therapy is immediately:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. waiving most of its licensing requirements to allow out-of-state physical therapists and physical therapist assistants a fast track pathway to practice in North Dakota. These therapists must be CAPTE graduates and have taken and passed the NPTE. They will need to send a copy of their score report from FSBPT and a notarized affidavit stating that they are licensed and in good standing in another state and have no disciplinary proceedings pending against them. The board will accept these documents via electronic means. Please e-mail to: ndptboard@gra.midco.net or fax to: 701-352-3093. 2. the North Dakota Board of Physical Therapy is enacting this temporary order to allow graduates of a

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		<p>CAPTE approved physical therapist or physical therapist assistants programs to be issued a temporary permit to practice in North Dakota under the onsite supervision of a physical therapist licensed and working in North Dakota.</p> <p>Temporary permits will only be available for applicants if their test date for the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) has been postponed due to a declared state or national emergency that closes down testing centers. Temporary permits are not available to those who have previously failed the NPTE. The board may, upon completion of the application process, issue a temporary permit to practice physical therapy under onsite supervision to an applicant for licensure as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who has graduated from a CAPTE accredited program.</p> <p>A temporary permit may be issued only once and cannot be renewed. It will expire 14 days after the first available examination date for licensure. The holder of a temporary permit is allowed to practice fully if the entire practice is under the onsite supervision of a person holding a valid license to practice physical therapy in this state.</p> <p>These temporary orders from the North Dakota Board of Physical Therapy will be considered rescinded once the Governor has rescinded Executive Orders 2020-05.1 and 2020-07.</p>
OHIO		
OKLAHOMA		<p>Any medical professional who holds a license, certificate, or other permit issued by any state that is a party to the Emergency Management Compact shall be deemed licensed to practice in OK so long as this Order shall be in effect. Applies to Medical and Allied Licenses issued by</p>

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		<p>the Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (includes PT). The medical professional shall first apply with and receive approval from appropriate board.</p> <p>Extension of occupational licensure expiration date</p>
OREGON		Extension of licensure renewal
PENNSYLVANIA	<p>A physical therapist holding an unrestricted license in another jurisdiction of the United States or credentialed in another country may enter this Commonwealth to provide physical therapy during a declared State or national disaster. This exemption applies for no more than 60 days within a consecutive 12-month period following the declaration of the emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption, the physical therapist shall notify the board of their intent to practice</p>	<p>PA has waived and suspended licensing regulations for many professions, but Physical Therapy has not been included.</p>
PUERTO RICO	<p>(1)Physiotherapists meeting the requirements established in § 245 of this title who present satisfactory evidence of the fact that they are in Puerto Rico temporarily to render services of an emergency nature, or for educational purposes. In such cases, the license shall be issued for an [non]extendable term of not more than six (6) months, counting from the date when issued.</p>	
RHODE ISLAND		<p>Issuing free temporary (90 day) licenses which may be renewed one time to professionals holding valid out-of-state licenses</p>
SOUTH CAROLINA		<p>License renewal period extended</p>
SOUTH DAKOTA		<p>Executive order 2020-07 recognizes licenses held by a medical professional in accordance with the Uniform Emergency Management Assistance Compact</p>
TENNESSEE		<p>Executive order No. 20 regarding licensure fees, notarized applications, CE requirements, gives the Commissioner of Health the authority to grant a license, certificate, or registration to a healthcare professional who is not has been out of practice</p>

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TEXAS	<p>(C) licensed in another jurisdiction of the United States, if the person notifies the board of the person's intent to practice in this state, and:</p> <p>(i) is practicing physical therapy for not more than 60 days during a declared local, state, or national disaster or emergency; or</p> <p>(ii) is displaced from the person's residence or place of employment due to a declared local, state, or national disaster and is practicing physical therapy in this state for not more than 60 days after the date the disaster is declared.</p>	<p>Information for licensees unable to renew due to COVID-19</p>
UTAH	<p>(4) Upon the declaration of a national, state, or local emergency, a public health emergency as defined in Section 26-23b-102, or a declaration by the president of the United States or other federal official requesting public health-related activities, the division in collaboration with the board may:</p> <p>(a) suspend the requirements for permanent or temporary licensure of individuals who are licensed in another state for the duration of the emergency while engaged in the scope of practice for which they are licensed in the other state;</p>	<p>Temporary suspension of In-person CE requirements</p> <p>Temporary suspension of fingerprinting requirements for licensure</p>
VERMONT		<p>The legislature passed emergency legislation that was signed by Governor Scott on March 30, 2020 that allows individuals who hold an out-of-state license to practice in Vermont without a Vermont license. If you are providing services to Vermonters in a licensed facility you do need to provide your contact information to the Office of Professional Regulation.</p> <p>OPR Policy on CE and impact of COVID-19</p> <p>Providing for remote notarization</p> <p>Temporary licensure if professional exams impacted due to COVID-19</p>

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		Retired professional or expired license return to work
VIRGIN ISLANDS	(6) A physical therapist who is licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States and who enters the Territory to provide physical therapy during a declared local or national disaster or emergency. This exemption applies for no longer than 60 days following the declaration of the emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption the physical therapist shall notify the Board of their intent to practice.	
VIRGINIA		DHP's Exceptions during COVID-19
WASHINGTON		<p>Health professionals licensed in other states may practice in Washington by registering through the emergency volunteer health practitioner process or by applying for a WA license, which may result in the department issuing a temporary practice permit.</p> <p>WA Secretary of Health has extended health license expiration dates for renewal</p> <p>Waiver of continuing education requirements for returning from expired to active status- The Governor has waived continuing education and training requirements to return from expired to active licensing status by waiving WAC 246-12-040(3)(a)(v), (b)(viii), (c)(vi), (ix), (xi) through April 25,2020.</p>
WEST VIRGINIA	<p>§30-20-17. Exemptions from licensure.</p> <p>(a) The following persons are exempt from licensing requirements under the provisions of this article:</p> <p>(6) A physical therapist who is licensed in another jurisdiction who enters this state to provide physical therapy during a declared local, state or</p>	

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	<p>national disaster or emergency. This exemption applies for no longer than sixty calendar days in a calendar year following the declaration of the emergency. The physical therapist shall notify the board of their intent to practice;</p> <p>(7) A physical therapist licensed in another jurisdiction who is forced to leave his or her residence or place of employment due to a declared local, state or national disaster or emergency and due to the displacement seeks to practice physical therapy. This exemption applies for no longer than sixty calendar days in a calendar year following the declaration of the emergency. The physical therapist shall notify the board of their intent to practice;</p>	
WISCONSIN		<p>Any health care provider with a valid and current license issued by another state may practice under that license and within the scope of that license in Wisconsin without first obtaining a temporary or permanent license from the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS), so long as certain conditions are met.</p>
WYOMING	<p>(vi) A physical therapist licensed in another jurisdiction who enters this state to provide physical therapy during a public health emergency as declared by the governor pursuant to W.S. 35-4- 115(a)(i). Any physical therapist practicing pursuant to this paragraph shall notify the board of the therapist's intent to practice and supply additional information as provided by rules of the board;</p> <p>(vii) A physical therapist licensed in another jurisdiction who is forced to leave his residence or place of employment due to a declared local, state or national disaster or emergency and who seeks to practice physical therapy in Wyoming. An exemption under this paragraph shall be limited to sixty (60) days following the declaration of disaster or emergency. Any physical therapist practicing pursuant to this paragraph shall notify the board of the therapist's intent to practice and supply additional information as provided by rules of the board.</p>	