



April 2017
Volume 19, Number 4

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy

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Important May Deadlines

Board Chairs & Administrators: Complete your jurisdiction's Credentialing Process

If you have not done so, elect your voting delegate, funded alternate delegate and administrator for 2017. We need Administrators to complete the Credentialing process **by May 15, 2017**. If you need assistance with the process or cannot credential by the deadline, please [email](#) us before the deadline.

Your voting delegate and funded administrator are expected to attend the Leadership Issues Forum and the Annual Meeting. Your funded alternate delegate is expected to attend the Annual Meeting.

We're planning a great year of meetings for your delegates and administrator and we look forward to hosting them!

Call for Presentation Proposals for the 2017 Annual Meeting

We have extended the deadline for submitting presentation proposals for the 2017 annual meeting. Before **9am ET Friday, May 12, 2017**, [email](#) us your proposal in a Word document. Please include:

1. Title
2. Course description
3. Course objectives
4. Tentative outline of time and content (*Note: Programs are limited to one-hour sessions.*)
5. Biographical information for each speaker, including degrees/credentials, institution, city, and state.

If your proposal is chosen, two presenters will be funded to attend the annual meeting in New Mexico November 2-4, 2017. If you have a topic of interest but your board is not prepared to speak, please share the topic with us via email. We welcome ideas!

Tenth State Signed! Physical Therapy Licensure Compact Established

Washington became the tenth state to enact the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact after Governor Jay Inslee signed House Bill No. 1278 into law on April 25, 2017, triggering the formation of the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact Commission.

Now that ten states have enacted the Compact legislation, the Compact Commission, established within the Compact legislation, will meet later this year to write the rules and by-laws governing the compact as well as discuss the management and administration. The member states appoint one current physical therapy board member or board administrator to serve on the Commission as Delegate.

The Commission will administer the streamlined process for qualified physical therapists and physical therapist assistants to obtain a Compact Privilege, the authority to practice or work in multiple jurisdictions participating in the Compact, rather than a license. Once the Commission has established its rules and the data system required to administer the Compact are in place, the Compact will become operational. Licensees will begin to see the benefit of the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact in the first half of 2018.

Washington joins Arizona, Kentucky, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, Tennessee, and Utah as states that have formally enacted the Compact. For more information about the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact, visit: www.ptcompact.org. To read the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact legislation, [click here](#).

New Jersey Confirms Credit for oPTion

On April 25, 2017, New Jersey became the 18th board to confirm that licensees can obtain continuing competence/continuing education credit for completing **oPTion**. FSBPT developed this self-directed assessment tool to assist PTs with periodically ascertaining their knowledge, strengths and opportunities for development. **oPTion** uses scenarios and multiple-choice questions that emphasize clinical application of knowledge necessary for safe, effective practice. To learn more about **oPTion**, [click here](#).

Email competencestaff@fsbpt.org if your board is interested in learning more about **oPTion**. To see a list of the boards that currently confirm credit, [click here](#).

USCIS reauthorized FCCPT for the 3rd 5-year period through March of 2020

The Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy (FCCPT), founded in 1998, has again been recognized by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for visa screening through March 2020. Unrelated to states' licensure requirements, effective April 2017 FCCPT will require satisfaction of Coursework Tool (CWT) 6, a post baccalaureate degree, and a total of 210 credit hours for consideration of a Type I credentials evaluation for USCIS visa screening purposes. FCCPT is glad after 15 years of recognition by USCIS to be reauthorized as the agent of USCIS and looks forward to an ongoing working

relationship and dialogue with USCIS. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Kathleen Luedtke-Hoffmann via [email](#) or (703) 299 3100 ext. 410.

Licensure Portability & Pass Rates: Are Your Rules Stuck in the 1990s?

Prior to 1996, individual states determined the passing score for the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) in their state. Typically, language includes the passing score identified as the national score plus or minus a certain standard deviation or refer to a converted score.

In 1996, all member jurisdictions adopted the uniform passing score for the NPTE, which is criterion referenced and is widely accepted as the methodology for establishing performance standards for high-stakes examinations. This was a huge step forward in allowing greater mobility of PTs and PTAs throughout the U.S. However, some states still have requirements that vary for those that tested prior to the universal pass rate.

Many jurisdictions have taken steps to remove the pre-1996 language from the practice act/regulations and improve the mobility for all licensed PTs and PTAs that tested prior to 1996. *The model practice act states:

3.02 Qualifications for Licensure [and Certification]

A. An applicant for a license as a physical therapist shall:

1. Complete the application process including payment of fees.
2. Submit proof of graduation from a professional physical therapy education program accredited by a national accreditation agency approved by the board.
3. Pass an examination approved by the board.
4. Submit to a criminal records check.
5. Meet the requirements established by board rule if applicable.

3.03 Licensure [and Certification] by Endorsement

The board shall issue a license to a physical therapist or a license [certificate] to a physical therapist assistant who has a current unrestricted license [certificate] from another jurisdiction of the United States if that person meets all qualifications prescribed in [*Qualifications for Licensure and Certification, Article 3.02*] at the time of the applicant's initial licensure.

Updated language removes specific score requirements prior to 1996 and simply states the requirement for a passing score on the exam. A few options for statutory language to remove the pre-1996 state-specific requirements include:

- *1. The applicant must submit proof the he/she has passed the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant examination provided by a Board-approved examination service; or
2. The applicant must submit a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination sent directly to the board by the board-approved reporting service

***It is very important that in the case of licensure through endorsement, the regulations supporting the statute clearly require that the NPTE score must be sent directly to the board by the board-approved reporting service.**

When a PT tested before 1996 attempts to move and does not meet the jurisdiction's test score requirement, s/he is unable to become licensed without re-testing. The therapist's continuing education, experience, etc. are not taken into account for licensure and the jurisdiction may lose a qualified licensee and potential tax payer.

Another benefit to the jurisdiction when simply requiring a passing score is to minimize the administrative burden. Staff does not have to look up the converted score or the standard deviations on the national score based on that one year when determining licensure eligibility. PTs and PTAs that tested prior to 1996 have over 20 years of experience and an established license history upon which a licensure board should feel confident making a licensure decision.



Our Gratitude for Volunteers Hard at Work

This month, we thank the generous volunteer members of these groups for their support of our mission with work on-site:

- Exam Development Committee- PT
- Exam Development Committee- PTA
- Item Bank Clean Up Committee
- ProCert Trainees

Chris Decaro
Linda Gustafson
Krista Kleinig
Andrew Mix
Terry Messmer
Sherri Paru
Stacy Potvin
Liyongo Tolin



Spotlight on Member Resources: Remediation Resources

Does your Board need some options for ethics continuing education or remediation as part of disciplinary action? This [Remediation Resources Report](#) provides detailed information on ethics remediation courses oriented specifically for physical therapy and more general ethics remediation courses available to jurisdictions.

Board of Directors Report

This month, to advance the business of the Federation, the board of directors approved the motions listed.

To approve up to \$800,000 for a Line of Credit (LOC) in support of the Physical Therapy Licensing Compact.

Rationale: To provide a credit facility for the actualization of the anticipated Physical Therapy Licensure Compact, and similar to the credit facility created earlier for FCCPT's launch.

Fiscal impact: As noted.

To approve \$5,000 as a sponsorship donation to INPTRA for the 2017 conference.

Rationale: To provide financial support to a conference focused on international physiotherapy regulation issues and education.

Fiscal impact: As noted.

To approve \$5,000 as a donation for the new Healthcare Regulatory Research Institute.

Rationale: FSBPT has formed the Institute and FSBPT Board members will be the board of this entity. The Institute's purpose is to create a forum for the exchange of information and ideas, and for the pursuit of research and education of the public, to enhance healthcare regulation in support of public protection. It may be a 501(c)(3) so that donations can be tax deductible.

Fiscal impact: As noted.

To adopt the revised Excellence in Regulation Award criteria policy.

Rationale: To further clarify the criteria for the Excellence in Regulation Committee members as they review submissions.

Fiscal impact: None.

To appoint the following person to the Education Committee:

Sherry Paru Term: April 3, 2017 – December 31, 2018

Rationale: Committee members are appointed or reappointed as positions become vacant.

Fiscal Impact: None. Committee meetings are approved separately.

To appoint the following people to the NPTE Standards Setting Task Force Physical Therapist Assistant.

- Marie Cole, PTA (WA)
- Matthew Connel, PT (FL)
- Tracy Douthard, PT (MO)
- Anna Evans, PT (FL)
- Charlene Jensen, PT (VA)
- Barnett Keitt, PTA (SC)
- Kenneth Mailly, PT (NJ)
- Victoria McDowell, PTA (LA)
- Elissa Ranes, PTA (CA)
- John Reichard Marius, PTA (LA)
- Mary Suarez, PT (AZ)
- Bruce Wassung, PTA (OH)
- Angela Webb, PT (MA)
- Deanne Yates, PTA (KS)
- Peter Zawicki, PT (AZ)
- Tina Livingston, PTA (NY)

- Perry Flowers, PTA (TX)
- Kevin VanWart, PT (FL)
- George Chudleigh, PT (ID)
- Sidney Morgan, PTA (OK)

Rationale: To complete the NPTE standards setting.

Fiscal Impact: None; already budgeted.

To appoint the following people to the NPTE Standards Setting Task Force Physical Therapist.

- Kunal Bhanot, PT (TX)
- Tricia Blalock, PT (TX)
- Jennifer Brilmyer, PT (PA)
- Katie Brittain, PT (LA)
- Katie Carberry, PT (IL)
- Larry Chinnock, (CA)
- Paul-Neil Czujko, PT (NY)
- Maryrose De Guzman, PT (FL)
- John Rocco De Lara, PT (LA)
- Sonya Dick, PT (KY)
- Mario Moncada, PT (CA)
- Lindsey Robinson, PT (LA)
- Suzanne Trojanowski, PT (MI)
- Robert Whittaker, PT (WY)
- Stacia Troshynski Brown, PT (MO)
- Rohini Chandrashekar, PT (TX)
- Lynne Sturgill, PT (DE)
- Burke Selbst, PT (OR)
- Tracey Collins, PT (PA)
- Samantha Satterfield, PT (KS)

Rationale: To complete the NPTE standards setting.

Fiscal Impact: None; already budgeted.

In the News

“Cornyn, Peters Lead Bipartisan, Bicameral Bill to Ease Burdensome Occupational Licensing Requirements”, Press Release appearing April 26, 2017 on *Public*

“WASHINGTON - Today, U.S. Senators John Cornyn (R-TX) and Gary Peters (D-MI) introduced a bipartisan occupational licensing reform bill that will give state governments tools to help initiate reforms to ensure bureaucratic requirements are not creating unnecessary barriers for those seeking to enter the workforce. Representatives Tim Walberg (R-MI-07) and Henry Cuellar (D-TX-28) introduced companion legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives. The **New Hope and Opportunity through the Power of Employment Act (New HOPE Act)** will help states decide if they want to eliminate or reduce burdensome licensing requirements that are serving as an impediment to job creation:

'Every day job seekers in certain professions face bureaucratic hurdles like costly fees and unnecessary training time,' Sen. Cornyn said. 'By equipping state leaders with tools to eliminate or reduce burdensome licensing requirements, we can give more folks across the country a chance to pursue good-paying jobs that can lead to meaningful careers.'"

Read the full release [here](#).

"Florida business regulators fear lawsuit," by David Hodges, Published on NBC2 April 3, 2017

"Florida's many volunteer regulatory board members can no longer do their job without the potential of being sued, leaving some disciplinary cases in limbo. Several regulatory board members have resigned because of the legal threat they now face.

"'I'm not happy that I had to resign but in good conscience for my family, my friends and my future, I felt I had to,' said Dr. Chet Evans.

"Evans was the chair of Florida's Board of Podiatry until he stepped down in February. He said his resignation was supposed to be a statement about the lack of progress to protect board members."

Read the full article [here](#).

George Mason Law Review's 20th Annual Antitrust Symposium, February 23, 2017

Acting Chairman, U.S. Federal Trade Commission, Maureen K. Ohlhausen, discussed advancing economic liberty, particularly the role of occupational licensing and the FTC Economic Liberty Task Force, at the Law Review's 20th Annual Antitrust Symposium. Read the full speech [here](#).

Board Liaisons to Jurisdictions

Members of the board of directors serve as liaisons to multiple jurisdictions. Current liaison relationships are listed here for your reference.

Jurisdictions	Board Liaison
Delaware, District of Columbia, Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia	 Ron Barbato
Arizona, Colorado, Oklahoma, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah	 Charles Brown
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina	 Tom Caldwell
Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Wisconsin	 Natalie Harms
Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Washington	 Jim Heider
Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Vermont	 Nancy Kirsch
Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming	 David Relling

Staff Contact Information

If you have questions, challenges or ideas, we want to hear from you! FSBPT: (703) 299-3100 FCCPT: (703) 684-8406 (Call FSBPT unless otherwise noted after name)	
Subject	Point of Contact/Email Address
ADA accommodations	Shana Smith
aPTitude	competencestaff@fsbpt.org
Assessment or examination development questions	Lorin Mueller, PhD Susan Layton
Continuing competence	Jeffrey M. Rosa Heidi Herbst Paakkonen competencestaff@fsbpt.org
Credentials review	Jaime Nolan, FCCPT Kathleen Luedtke-Hoffmann, PT, PhD, FCCPT
ELDD- Exam, Licensure and Disciplinary Database participation	eldd@fsbpt.org
Exam registration processing	Christine Sousa
Foreign educated issues	Mark Lane Kathleen Luedtke-Hoffmann, PT, PhD, FCCPT
Immigration	Kathleen Luedtke-Hoffmann, PT, PhD, FCCPT
JAM- Jurisprudence Assessment Module	competencestaff@fsbpt.org
Legislation or Model Practice Act	Mark Lane Leslie Adrian
Meeting arrangements	Paul Delaney
NPDB reports/questions	Angela Burnham
oPTion	competencestaff@fsbpt.org
PTLC- Physical Therapy Licensure Compact	compact@fsbpt.org
PEAT- Practice Exam & Assessment Tool	peat@fsbpt.org
ProCert	competencestaff@fsbpt.org
Reimbursement of expenses Other financial matters	Bill Aronson Linda Michelsen
School reports	schoolreports@fsbpt.org
Score transfer & reporting	Christine Sousa
SCP PET- Supervised Clinical Practice Performance Evaluation Tool	scppet@fsbpt.org
Security issues	Susan Layton
Anything else, including news to share with members	William A. Hatherill Jessica Happel



Sign off:

That's all the news today from the pansies & cabbage covered banks of the Potomac, where the fish are faster, the fishing boats are longer, and the fishermen are still full of stories.

- *William A. Hatherill, CEO*