

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control _____ Department or Agency Alabama Board of Physical Therapy
Rule No. 700-X-2-.09
Rule Title: Renewal of License

_____ New X Amend _____ Repeal _____ Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety?

NO

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare?

YES

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public?

NO

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree?

NO

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule?

NO

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public?

YES

Does the proposed rule have an economic impact?

NO

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Reference Service.

Signature of certifying officer *Glenn Davis*

Date March 20, 2015

ALABAMA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Board of Physical Therapy

RULE NO. & TITLE: 700-X-2-.09 Renewal of License

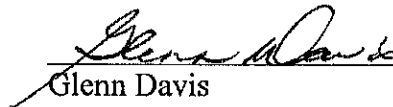
INTENDED ACTION: The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy proposes to amend the rule pertaining to continuing education course approval process and continuing education requirements for license renewal.

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The proposed amendment to rule 700-X-2-.09 will update the board's license renewal requirements to remove unnecessary impediments to availability of continuing education courses and to update the continuing education requirements for license renewal.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Interested persons may present their views in writing or in person through the close of business on May 5, 2015. Those wishing to present views in person should contact the Board of Physical Therapy at 334/242-4064.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE: May 5, 2015.

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Glenn Davis
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Glenn Davis
Executive Director

700-X-2-.09 Renewal of License.

- (1) Annual Renewal Required. Each license expires on October 1 of the year following its issuance.
- (2) Renewal Fee Required. A renewal fee shall be required for annual renewal of license. The renewal fees shall be set from time to time by resolution of the Board.
- (3) Continuing Education Required. Continuing education activities are required to assure continued competency of licensees and thereby public protection. Successful completion of continuing education activities shall be a requirement for the renewal of licenses ~~Continuing education activities shall be measured using a system of continuing competence units (CCUs). Licensees shall provide the Board with documentation of successful completion of CCUs with license renewals, and for initial licensure without examination.~~
- (4) Effective October 1, 2014, the Board does not pre-approve continuing education providers, sponsors or individual programs. It is the licensee's responsibility, using her/his professional judgment, to determine if the continuing education activities they complete are applicable, appropriate, and meet the requirements of the Board. All continuing education offerings, regardless of source will be accepted provided that it is directly related to the licensee's practice of physical therapy and meets the following general guidelines.

(a) General Guidelines

~~1. Continuing education activities meeting the Board's requirements are activities which:~~
All continuing education activities must meet the following general guidelines:

- (1) Maintain, improve or expand skills or knowledge of the practice of physical
- (2) Contribute to the professional competency of the licensee by means of an organized program activity with clearly described or outlined course content, dates or timelines for completion, and times of instruction or activity engagement expectations
- (3) Pertain to common subjects related to the practice of physical therapy and are based upon referenced scientific evidence; practice-based evidence; case studies; clearly identified anecdotal experience; current or proposed regulation of practice; accepted professional guidelines; policy documents; or best practices
- (4) ~~Are e~~Conducted by experts in the subject matter - individuals with special education, training, and experience, and are accompanied by a paper, CD, manual or outline
- (5) Include Have-stated program goals/objectives.
- (6) Identify target audience or describes prerequisite levels of experience

(7) Describe requirements for successful progression or completion when using self-directed methods of learning (i.e., self-study, online, video, audio, teleconference, etc.). Self-directed methods of instruction may utilize a post-test but cannot result in a pass/fail grade

(8) Include a certificate or other sufficient proof of completion -For a concurrent session conference that does not provide documentation of individual session(s) completed, each individual course attended must be verified by having a conference official or course instructor sign or stamp the session description in the conference program if the conference does not use an automated format that allows for individual course verification

(b) Non-traditional continuing education activities shall have the following credit values:

1. Completion of physical therapy related academic coursework – awarded fifteen (15) hours of credit per semester hour completed

2. Participation in a physical therapy related clinical residency or fellowship program – awarded fifteen (15) hours of credit for each 1,000 hours completed

3. Completion of a physical therapy related specialty certification or recognition of advanced proficiency – awarded three (3) hours of credit for the initial certification or recognition and one (1) hour of credit for recertification or subsequent recognition

4. Publication in a peer-reviewed publication – awarded five (5) hours of credit for a book, three (3) hours of credit for a chapter or single author publication, or two (2) hours of credit for a multi-author publication

5. Teaching or lecturing in a physical therapy related continuing education activity – awarded two (2) hours per hour taught. Teaching or lecturing in the academic setting is also included, if teaching is not the licensee's primary occupation

6. Once every five (5) years, a formal internal or external peer review of practice, with verification of acceptable practice – awarded three (3) hours of credit

(c) Limited non-traditional continuing education activities are also permitted by the Board but shall not exceed forty percent (40%) of a licensee's total annual continuing education requirement and shall have the following credit values:

1. Publication in a peer-reviewed publication of an abstract, scientific review of a research paper, or book review - awarded one (1) hour of credit

2. Participation as a book or manuscript reviewer – awarded one (1) hour of credit

3. Database publication of a clinical practice guideline - awarded one (1) hour of credit

4. Authorship of a presented scientific poster or platform presentation – awarded one (1) hour of credit

5. Acting as the primary clinical instructor for CAPTE accredited PT or PTA program students – awarded one (1) hour for each 200 hours completed

6. Developing alternative media materials, including computer software, programs, and digital instructional materials – awarded one (1) hour for each project released for public access

~~2. — Effective October 1, 2013 continuing education courses, other than those meeting 700-X-2-.09(3) (b) (7) through 700-X-2-.09(3) (b) (8), shall be evaluated by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in order to meet the above stated requirements.~~

(b)(d) Requirements

1. Each physical therapist and physical therapist assistant licensed to practice by this Board shall complete for each compliance period, a minimum of ten (10) CCUs ~~from courses approved by the FSBPT~~ hours of continuing education activities. One hour of continuing education is defined as 50 minutes of engagement in the continuing education activity. October 1 through September 30 of the next year shall constitute a compliance period.

(i) For licensure without examination, the applicant must demonstrate a total of twenty (20) hours of acceptable continuing education in the twenty-four (24) months prior to application.

~~2. — Practicing licensees who teach continuing education courses that are pre-approved by the FSBPT shall be awarded one CCU for each CCU taught.~~

~~3(ii) Applicants who are approved for initial licensure between October 1 and December 31 are not required to accrue hours the first licensure period. New graduates Individuals licensed within one year of graduation from a CAPTE approved program will not be required to meet the continuing education requirement for one licensure period initial licensure or he first renewal.~~

~~4-2. Beginning with the compliance period starting October 1, 2015, Licensees shall begin retaining a five (5) year maintain a record of completed courses for five (5) years, including an agenda, brochure or other documentation that substantiate how the activities meet the accepted general guidelines, as well as and documentation to establish the completion of those activities courses using an online recording and reporting system approved by the Board. Licensees shall grant provide the Board access to a copy of their records, or grant access to any online within the recording and reporting system the licensee elects to use for purposes of the Board verifying completion of the continuing education requirements.~~

~~53. CCUs Continuing education hours earned by a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant in excess of ten (10) CCUs-hours during a compliance period, may be carried forward into the next compliance period; but, no more than ten (10) CCUs-hours may be carried forward.~~

~~64. Beginning with the compliance period starting October 1, 2015, Licensees complete at least one approved two (2) hours of continuing education every fifth year ~~course every other years~~ on the topic of Alabama physical therapy jurisprudence, covering both the Practice Act and the Administrative Code. Both PTs will be required to fulfill this requirement when renewing their license in even numbered years; and PTAs will be required to fulfill this requirement when renewing their~~

license in odd-numbered years ending in zero (0) or five (5) (i.e., 2020, 2025, 2030, etc.). Individuals licensed without examination shall also complete this expectation as part of their continuing education requirements for initial licensure renewal.

~~7—Practicing licensees who successfully complete a residency or fellowship program approved by the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE) shall be awarded fifteen (15) CCU for each 1,000 hours completed.~~

~~8—Practicing licensees who successfully complete a college credit course offered by a CAPTE accredited PT or PTA program shall be awarded one (1) CCU for each semester hour completed.~~

~~9—For the compliance periods ending in 2013 through 2018, practicing licensees who complete continuing education courses provided by a University/College program that has a CAPTE accredited PT/PTA program, or an IACET approved provider, FSBPT, or components of the APTA that meet the requirements described in 700 X 2 .09(3)(a)(1)(i) through 700 X 2 .09(3)(a)(1)(v) shall be awarded one (1) CCU for each contact hour completed.~~

(c) Approval of courses

~~1.—Any organization, other than those meeting 700 X 2 .09(3)(b)(7) through 700 X 2 .09(3)(b)(8), seeking approval of a continuing education activity should apply to the FSBPT for approval in advance of the commencement of the activity.~~

~~(d)~~ (e) Unacceptable activities for continuing education:

1. Regularly scheduled education opportunities provided within the employment setting such as Orientations, and-in-services, staff meetings, informal rounds, case conferences, equipment or procedural updates, CPR, blood-borne pathogens, etc.

2. Meetings for purposes of policy decisions

3. Non-educational meetings at annual conferences, chapter or organizational meetings

4. Entertainment or recreational meetings or activities

5. Committee meetings, holding office, serving as an organizational delegate

6. Visiting exhibits, poster presentations

7. Entry-level coursework, activities, or presentations made by the lay public or non-medical professionals

8. Activities of less than fifty (50) minutes duration

(e) (f) Failure to Meet Requirement

1. No license will be renewed in the absence of satisfactory evidence that the required hours have been earned. The Board may consider exceptions in extenuating circumstances

2. ~~The Board may consider exceptions in extenuating circumstances. Upon audit, the licensee is responsible for demonstrating that the completed continuing education activities were of an acceptable nature. Should an audited activity prove to be unacceptable the licensee will have sixty (60) days to successfully meet the continuing education expectations. Failure to meet the continuing education requirements within that timeframe will result in disciplinary action.~~

3. A licensee that is licensed without examination who is unable to document twenty (20) hours of continuing education activities in the twenty-four (24) months prior to application shall have one hundred twenty (120) days after the initial issuance of the license to successfully meet this requirement. This requirement is in addition to the annual renewal requirement of ten (10) hours. Failure to meet the continuing education requirements within that timeframe will result in disciplinary action.

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Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-24-193, 34-24-216.

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