



# Communiqué

February 2022

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## Physical Therapy Board

*Harvey Aikman, PT, Chair*  
*Liesl Olson, PT, Secretary*  
*Manuel "Tony" Domenech, PT*  
*Melissa Skillern, PT*  
*Kathryn "Kate" Roby, PT*  
*Donivan Hodge, Public Member*  
*Jacob Delgado, Public Member*  
*Glenda Clausell, Public*  
*Member*

## Next Board Meeting

**April 22, 2022**  
333 Guadalupe, Ste. 2-510  
Austin, Texas

## Specialty Exams/Certifying Entities

At its January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, the PT Board approved an additional specialty examination that qualifies to meet CCUs toward the renewal requirement and a certifying entity for qualifying a DPT to treat a patient without a referral.

A request to add the American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association's **Medical Rehabilitation Management Certification (MRMC) examination** to the list of Specialty Examinations Pre-Approval List was submitted by an individual licensee. The Education Committee reviewed the different aspects of the examination against the Board's established criteria and determined that the MRMC examination meets the criteria. A value of 15 CCUs was assigned to the successful completion of the examination.

The **Specialty Examination Pre-Approval List** is available online at <https://www.ptot.texas.gov/page/cc-ce>.

The Rules & Practice Committee reviewed a request to add the **University of St. Augustine (USA) Specialty Certification** to the list of certifying entities for treatment without a referral. Specifically, the specialty certifications in Manual Therapy (MTC) and Cranio-Facial (CFC) were determined to meet the Board's established criteria. Any DPT who holds one of these specialty certifications from USA is now eligible to treat a patient for not more than 15 consecutive days without a referral.

A list of the **Board-approved Treatment without Referral Certifying Entities** and established criteria are available online at <https://www.ptot.texas.gov/page/home>.

If you have a specialty examination or a specialty certifying entity that you would like reviewed for Board approval, send your request to [ptemail@ptot.texas.gov](mailto:ptemail@ptot.texas.gov).

## Board Member Resignation

Dr. Barbara Sanders, PT, PhD, FAPTA recently resigned from the PT Board after retiring from her position of Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy at Texas State University. Her resignation was effective 1/31/2022.

Prior to being appointed to the Board to an open, unexpired term in October 2014, Dr. Sanders served as the liaison from the Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA) to the PT Board. She received a reappointment from Governor Greg Abbott on 2/13/2019 to a term that would have ended on 1/31/2023.

During her tenure on the Board, Dr. Sanders served as the Board's Vice Chair, Education Committee Chair, member of the Investigation Committee, and the Board's representative to the Executive Council. Her contributions have been too numerous to list. Dr. Sanders' expertise and historical perspective will truly be missed.



## Call for Stakeholder Input on Telehealth

With the increased utilization of telehealth to provide physical therapy services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic over the last several years, the PT Board will be reviewing the provisions in §322.5. Telehealth for possible proposed amendments at its April meeting.

Stakeholder input is being requested for consideration during the review and can be provided by emailing [ptemail@ptot.texas.gov](mailto:ptemail@ptot.texas.gov) by April 8, 2022.

If submitting input, remember that the Board does not have authority over billing, coding, or reimbursement issues.



## Upcoming PT Board Meetings

The following dates have been set for the Board's upcoming quarterly meetings:

- April 22, 2022
- July 29, 2022
- October 14, 2022

Meeting dates are subject to change. Check for updated information online at <https://www.ptot.texas.gov/page/meeting-dates>

## Disciplinary Actions

PT Board Formal Disciplinary Actions taken at the January 14, 2022 Board Meeting:

- (1) **Cardell Redd, PTA #2047835 (Cypress)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (2) **Marie Mansaray, PT #1312173 (Richmond)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (3) **Adam Brazil, PT #1319215 (Spring)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service.**
- (4) **Dawn Gray, PT #1296763 (Allen)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service.**
- (5) **Aleen Elliott, PTA #2126328 (Houston)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for ten (10) days.**
- (6) **Toni Kramer, PTA #2144581 (San Antonio)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (7) **Arthur Mazuca, PT #1151779 (Houston)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (8) **Shan Khan, PTA #2144959 (Richmond)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (9) **Kristyn Jones-Goodwin, PTA #2144702 (San Leon)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing the required amount of CCUs prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (10) **Britni Thomas, PT #1191018 (Los Angeles, CA)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing the required amount of CCUs prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (11) **Jaydeep Patel, PT #1228647 (Macomb, MI)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service.**
- (12) **Jeremy Givens, PTA #2078158 (Buda)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required thirty (30) hours of community service + approved human trafficking course.**
- (13) **Jason Abney, PT #1148017 (Corinth)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing the required amount of CCUs prior to renewal. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (14) **Nicholas Wendt, PTA #2140861 (Perrin)** - failed to properly renew license by not meeting the fingerprint requirement in a timely manner. Violation of Section 453.255 of the Act and chapter 341.1 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for fifteen (15) days.**

*Disciplinary Action, cont. from pg. 3*

- (15) **Manuel Felipe Donado, PT #1306461 (Ras Al Khaimah, UAE)** - failed to properly renew license by not meeting the fingerprint requirement in a timely manner. Violation of Section 453.255 of the Act and chapter 341.1 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for fifteen (15) days.***
- (16) **KeVonte Cockrill, PTA #2133780 (Dallas)** - failed to report disciplinary action taken by another licensing authority in another state. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 341.21 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for fifteen (15) days.***
- (17) **Benjamin Reeder, PTA #2127669 (Durant, OK)** - failed to report disciplinary action taken by another licensing authority in another state. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 341.21 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for fifteen (15) days.***
- (18) **Tripti Uchil, PT #1337739 (Lawton, OK)** - failed to report disciplinary action taken by another licensing authority in another state. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 341.21 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for fifteen (15) days.***
- (19) **Deltrice Daniel, PT #1271036 (Houston)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by abandoning or neglecting patient(s) under current care without making reasonable arrangements for the continuation of such care. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.***
- (20) **Jennifer Dawkins, PTA #2110957 (Belton)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by abandoning or neglecting patient(s) under current care without making reasonable arrangements for the continuation of such care. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.***
- (21) **Miguel Valle, PT #1280896 (Carrollton)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to document physical therapy services, inaccurately recording, falsifying, or altering patient/client records. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for fifteen (15) days.***
- (22) **Robert Shotwell, PT #1106086 (Lindale)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to document physical therapy services, inaccurately recording, falsifying, or altering patient/client records. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.***
- (23) **Claudia Tarin, PTA #2130892 (Odessa)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to document physical therapy services, inaccurately recording, falsifying, or altering patient/client records. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.***
- (24) **Manpreet Sheabat, PT #1256773 (Dallas)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to document physical therapy services, inaccurately recording, falsifying, or altering patient/client records. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.***
- (25) **Omar Scott, PTA #2094583 (San Antonio)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to document physical therapy services, inaccurately recording, falsifying, or altering patient/client records. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.***

*Cont. on pg.5*

*Disciplinary Action, cont. from pg. 4*

- (26) **Tyler Fagan, PTA #2149593 (Keller)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to document physical therapy services, inaccurately recording, falsifying, or altering patient/client records. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (27) **Martin Laureles, PTA #2036358 (San Antonio)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable prevailing practice by practicing under the influence of alcohol. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for thirty (30) days.**
- (28) **Ellen Hall, PT #1239157 (Prosper)** - failed to comply with the conditions of the Agreed Order after failing to properly renew license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322 of the Board Rules. **Board Order accepted the surrender of license to practice.**
- (29) **Obinna Abuachi, PTA #2040814 (Richmond)** - felony conviction and imprisonment for conspiracy to commit healthcare fraud. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Section 53.021(b) of the Texas Occupational Code. **Board Order revoked license to practice.**



## Proposed/Adopted Rules

The Board took the following rulemaking actions at its January 14, 2022 meeting.

### Adopted Rules:

**§329.3. Temporary Licensure** - the amendment was adopted in order to realign the duration of a temporary license to the issuance of the permanent license instead of until the score report is received from the board as applicants receive their National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) score report directly from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) and not from the board. To be effective 3/01/2022.

The text of the amendment is available online at <https://www.ptot.texas.gov/page/act-and-rules> under PT Adopted Rules.

**Proposed Rules:** No proposed rule amendments.

*PDFs of the current PT Practice Act and the PT Rules are available online at the above link.*

## From the State Office of Rural Health (SORH) at Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)



### TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

#### Rural Communities Health Care Investment Program (RCHIP)

The Rural Communities Health Care Investment Program (RCHIP) is administered by the Texas State Office of Rural Health (SORH) at the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). RCHIP utilizes funds from a permanent endowment established from the tobacco settlement for the State of Texas and authorized under TEX. GOVT CODE Sec. 487.558. The authority for this program is provided in Texas Government Code Chapter 487, Subchapter M, and Texas Administrative Code Chapter 30, Subchapter B.

The SORH awards \$10,000 student loan repayment/stipends to eligible, non-physician, licensed healthcare providers in response to the recruitment and retention needs of medically underserved communities in Texas. Selected participants must agree to work, and complete, a 12-month service obligation in a qualifying community in order the student loan repayment/stipend.

#### Who is eligible to apply?

Licensed, non-physician healthcare providers practicing (or who agree to practice) in a Texas county with a total population of 50,000 or less may to apply. Licensed, non-physician healthcare providers are eligible if they meet the requirements below:

1. Hold a Texas license, permit, or other form of authorization required by state law or regulation to work in a health care profession (herein collectively referred to as a "license"); and
2. Either:
  - a. Received their license in the field under which this application is submitted within the last 24 months [2 years] prior to the application deadline date; or
  - b. Practiced in a county with more than 150,000 people and has moved or will move to practice in a qualifying community in the field under which this application is submitted (applicant may not have been residing or practicing in the qualifying community for more than 12 months [1 year] prior to the application deadline); and
3. Agree to work for a 12-month service period at the eligible healthcare facility.

Eligible health professionals include but are not limited to: physician assistants; nurses; physical and occupational therapists; pharmacists; optometrists; emergency medical technicians; speech pathologists; dentists; and licensed non-physician mental health practitioners.

NOTE: Healthcare providers currently fulfilling an obligation to provide health care services as part of a scholarship agreement, a student loan agreement, or another student loan repayment or reimbursement program cannot simultaneously receive funding from a state-funded loan repayment program for the same period of service. Additionally, a health professional who participates in a program under this subchapter may not use telecommunication technology, including telemedicine, as the sole or primary method of providing services and may not use telecommunication technology as a substitute for providing health care services in person.

*What is a qualifying community?*

To receive a RCHIP award, an eligible healthcare provider must provide care in an eligible community. An eligible community is in a Texas county with a population of 50,000 or less and has been designated under state or federal law as a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) or a Medically Underserved Area (MUA). For more information about HPSA and MUA designations, see: (<http://www.hrsa.gov/shortage>)

*How are participants selected?*

Due to the limited amount of funding available, the RCHIP Program is competitive. Applications are scored and ranked using the following criteria:

- County HPSA score
- Student loan repayment vs stipend
- Applicant medical education from a Texas school
- Full-time employment

E-mail RCHIP inquiries to [Erica.Lozano@TexasAgriculture.gov](mailto:Erica.Lozano@TexasAgriculture.gov)

More information is available at  
<https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RCHIP.aspx>