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Communiqué

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Physical Therapy Board

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Next Board Meeting

January 26, 2024
1801 Congress Ave, Ste.10.900
Austin, Texas 78701

CCU Compliance

Being compliant with all of the CCU requirements could mean the difference between a successful and timely renewal of your license or a referral to the Investigation Department and possible disciplinary action.

How can you assure that you are compliant? Ask yourself the following questions prior to beginning the renewal process.

Do I have the required number of CCUs? PTs must obtain 30 CCUs, and PTAs must obtain 20 CCUs.

Are the CCUs obtained during my renewal period? Your renewal period is the first day of the month following your previous license expiration date through your current license expiration date.

Are the courses I took approved for TX renewal requirements? All continuing education courses submitted to satisfy PT/PTA renewal requirements must be approved through the Continuing Competence Approval Program (CCAP) which is administered by the Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA) for the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (PT Board) or offered by a TX Accredited Provider. Information on CCAP is available online at <https://ccap.tpta.org/>.

Does the activity I participated in qualify for CCUs? PT Rules §341.3 lists the qualifying continuing competence activities that can be used to satisfy the renewal requirement. A pdf of the current PT Rules is available online at <https://ptot.texas.gov/act-and-rules/>. A list of pre-approved categories is available online at <https://ptot.texas.gov/cc-ce/>.

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CCU Compliance, cont. from pg. 1

Have I taken and passed the mandatory TX Jurisprudence Assessment Module (TX JAM)? The TX JAM must be taken and passed during each renewal period and is valued at 2 CCUs toward the total requirement. You do not need to wait until you are in the process of renewing your license to take the TX JAM. Information is available online at <https://ptot.texas.gov/pt-jam/>.

Have I taken a mandatory HHS-approved Human Trafficking Prevention Training course? Only courses on the HHS-approved list meet this requirement, and a minimum of 1 CCU must be taken during each renewal period. For the list of HHS-approved courses go to <https://www.hhs.texas.gov/services/safety/texas-human-trafficking-resource-center/health-care-practitioner-human-trafficking-training>.

Taking a few minutes to ensure that you meet **ALL** of the CCU renewal requirements prior to beginning the renewal process could prevent an adverse action against your license in the long run.



Adopted/Proposed Rules

The Board took the following rulemaking actions at its October 13, 2023 meeting.

Adopted Rules: §329.1. General Licensure Requirements and Procedures - the amendment is adopted in order to eliminate reference to an address of record, changes the wording from residential to home address, and adds phone numbers and email addresses to the change of information that a licensee is required to report to the board. Additionally, the amendment clarifies that name changes must be submitted on a form prescribed by the board with the appropriate fee and a copy of legal documentation enacting the name change, and eliminates the requirement of making a name change with the renewal application.

§329.6. Licensure by Endorsement and §329.7. Exemptions from Licensure - the amendments are adopted in order to authorize a military service member to engage in the practice of physical therapy without obtaining a license as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant if the military service member is currently licensed in good standing by another jurisdiction that has licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to the requirements for the licensure in this state and the military service member is stationed at a military installation in this state. The amendments are adopted pursuant to SB 422 amendment of Sec. 55.0041. RECOGNITION OF OUT-OF-STATE LICENSE OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS AND MILITARY SPOUSES, of Chapter 55, Occupations Code during the 88th Legislative Session.

Proposed Rules: §341.3. Qualifying Continuing Competence Activities - the amendments broaden the category of residencies and fellowships by allowing completion of a residency or fellowship accredited by an entity other than the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE) to qualify for CCUs and requires the Board to maintain a list of approved residencies and fellowships. Additionally, the amendments eliminate oPTion as a qualifying activity as the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) has discontinued the self-assessment tool.

The text of the adopted and proposed amendments is available online at <https://ptot.texas.gov/act-and-rules/>, and the proposed amendments will appear in the December 1, 2023 edition of the *Texas Register*, <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml>, for public comment.

Disciplinary Actions

PT Board Formal Disciplinary Actions taken at the October 13, 2023 Board Meeting:

- 1) **Mario Bravomalo, PT #1067213 (Arlington)** - 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 (30) hours of community service.**
- 2) **Richard Merta, PT #1023729 (San Antonio)** - 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 (10) hours of community service.**
- 3) **Petros Coutinho, PTA #2104719 (Spring)** - 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 (10) hours of community service.**
- 4) **Jessica Rummans, PTA #2127419 (Jermyn)** - 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 (10) hours of community service.**
- 5) **Ravneet Singh, PTA #2043263 (Houston)** - 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 (30) hours of community service.**
- 6) **Miguel Aguilar, PTA #2053176 (Midland)** - 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 (45) hours of community service.**
- 7) **Crystal Murphy, PTA #2088639 (Hazelwood, MO)** - failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course and the required amount of continuing education 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 (30) days.**
- 8) **Cindy Pham, PT #1211748 (Houston)** - (audit) failed to properly renew license by not completing a required course during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (10) hours of community service.**
- 9) **Jennifer Alexander, PTA #2066451 (Magnolia)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (30) hours of community service.**
- 10) **Raymond Holmes III, PTA #2104410 (Houston)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (30) hours of community service.**
- 11) **Karen Geddes, PT #1127637 (Fort Worth)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (30) hours of community service.**
- 12) **Derek Castro, PTA #2161699 (San Antonio)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (30) hours of community service.**

Disciplinary Action, cont. from pg. 3

- 13) **Travis Houser, PT #1253997 (Greenville)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order required (30) hours of community service.***
- 14) **Jordan Shivers, PTA #2144048 (League City)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order required (60) hours of community service.***
- 15) **John Nelson, PT #1048007 (Denison)** - practiced with an expired license. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (60) days.***
- 16) **Charles Walthall, PTA #2174997 (Lakewood, CO)** - failed to disclose criminal history on application for licensure. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 343.6 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.***
- 17) **Anna Williams, PT #1378033 (Bandera)** - failed to disclose criminal history on application for licensure. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 343.6 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.***
- 18) **Natasha Hentz, PTA #2175344 (Denison)** - failed to disclose criminal history and disciplinary action on application for licensure. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 343.6 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (30) days.***
- 19) **Mihir Patel, PT #1284530 (McKinney)** - 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 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order required (90) hours of community service.***
- 20) **Jacob Schultz, PTA #2114759 (North Richland Hills)** - 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 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (15) days.***
- 21) **Jake Hoelting, PT #1246359 (Fort Worth)** - 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 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (30) days.***
- 22) **Kari Hughes, PTA #2060323 (Gladewater)** - 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 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (45) days.***
- 23) **Cole Bruce, PTA #2096226 (Angleton)** - 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 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (60) days.***
- 24) **Sheila Sales, PTA #2090223 (Kyle)** - 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 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order suspended license to practice for (60) days.***
- 25) **Vicente Vitug Jr., PT #1036531 (Mesquite)** - 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 322.4 of the Board Rules. ***Board Order accepted the surrender of license to practice.***

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Disciplinary Action, cont. from pg. 4

- 26) **Marta Cisneros, PTA #2148263 (Laredo)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by failing to document physical therapy services, inaccurately recording, falsifying, or altering patient/client records; and, 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 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (90) days.**
- 27) **Shaquala Price, PTA #2155619 (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 and failing to document therapy services. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (45) days.**
- 28) **Jake Strain, PT #1371999 (Tyler)** - practiced in a detrimental manner by obtaining or attempting to obtain or deliver medications through means of misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception and/or subterfuge in Oklahoma and Kansas; and, failing to disclose the pending disciplinary action as a result. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required Licensee to random drug screen(s) at the Board's discretion for the next (36) months and refrain from practice in the home health environment (interminable).**
- 29) **Merle Lane, PTA #2003166 (Houston)** - failed to comply with a previous Board Order by not completing the provisions listed in the Order. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act; chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order accepted the surrender of license to practice.**



Upcoming PT Board Meetings

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

- January 26, 2024
- April 19, 2024
- July 19, 2024

Committee meetings will be scheduled prior to the Board meetings as needed.

Meeting dates are subject to change. Check for updated information online at:

<https://www.ptot.texas.gov/meeting-dates>

License Expiration 12/31/2023

The Executive Council of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Examiners (ECPTOTE) will be closed according to the Agency Holiday Schedule below.

If your PT or PTA license expires on December 31, 2023 do not wait until the last minute to renew. Online renewals through Texas Online are not received and processed by ECPTOTE until the next business day. Waiting until Friday, December 29th through Sunday, December 31st to renew your license could cause your license not to appear as renewed through the online verification system until at least Tuesday, January 2nd which will be the first business day after you renew your license online.

If you are renewing with a paper renewal form, allow sufficient time for delivery and processing prior to Friday, December 29th to ensure timely renewal.

In order for you to continue providing physical therapy services, your license must show that it is current through the online verification system at <https://ptot.texas.gov/look-up-a-license/> whether you renew online or mail a paper renewal form.



Agency Holiday Schedule

ECPTOTE will be closed for the upcoming holidays according to the schedule below:

Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 22, 2023
Thursday, November 23, 2023, and
Friday, November 24, 2023

Christmas

Monday, December 25, 2023
Tuesday, December 26, 2023

New Year

Monday, January 1, 2024

*Wishing you and your family a
Safe and Happy Holidays!*