#### TEXAS BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

# Communiqué



May 2025

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#### **Physical Therapy Board**

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#### **Next Board Meeting**

July 11, 2025

1801 Congress Ave, Ste.10.900 Austin, Texas 78701

## **New Licensing System Rollout**

After a year of development and testing, the Executive Council of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Examiners (ECPTOTE) transitioned to a new online licensing system on March 17, 2025. The rollout has not been without a few "hiccups", but corrective measures have been implemented and are ongoing for issues that have not yet been resolved.

So how is the new system going to affect applicants and licensees?

#### **First Time Users**

Whether you're an applicant for an initial license by either examination or endorsement or you're already a licensee who needs to renew your license, you will need to create an online account in the new licensing system. Step-by-step instructions on how to **Create an Online Account** are available online at <a href="https://ptot.texas.gov/user-guides/">https://ptot.texas.gov/user-guides/</a>.

#### **Applicant Prior to Rollout**

If you have an open application that was submitted prior to March 17<sup>th</sup>, you need to create an online account then onboard your existing application. Step-by-step instructions on how to **Onboard Your Current Application** are available online at https://ptot.texas.gov/user-guides/.

#### **Applicant for Initial License**

You need to create an online account then complete the appropriate application — Initial by Exam or Initial by Endorsement with the appropriate designation of either Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant. Step-by-step instructions on how to **Apply for an Initial License** by Exam and Apply for an Initial License by Endorsement are available online at <a href="https://ptot.texas.gov/user-guides/">https://ptot.texas.gov/user-guides/</a>.

#### **Applicant for Temporary License**

Only an applicant by examination who has never taken the national exam is eligible for a Temporary License. You can apply for an optional temporary license through your online account only after you complete the Initial Application by Examination. Step-by-step instructions on how to **Apply for a Temporary License** are available online at <a href="https://ptot.texas.gov/user-guides/">https://ptot.texas.gov/user-guides/</a>.

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#### **License Renewal**

The renewal application for Active, Inactive, and Retired licenses either prior to license expiration date or late up to one year is available through the new online licensing system. To avoid moving into restoration status, licensees need to submit and complete their late renewals (up to one year late) before the last day of the renewal year.

You need to create an online account then add your license to your online account before you start the renewal application. Step-by-step instructions on how to **Add Your License to Your Account** and **Renew Your License** are available online at <a href="https://ptot.texas.gov/user-guides/">https://ptot.texas.gov/user-guides/</a>.

#### **Reporting Your CCUs**

You will need to report your CCUs on the Continuing Competence Activity Summary in addition to completing the renewal application and paying the renewal fee. Follow the instructions at Reporting Your CCUs. Information on the continuing competence requirements is available online at <a href="https://ptot.texas.gov/renew-a-license/">https://ptot.texas.gov/renew-a-license/</a>.

#### **Manage Your License Information**

Once you have an account and a license, you will be able to change your contact information, print a wallet card version of your license, replace your license or request a name change, and request verification of your license be sent to another licensing entity through the online licensing system.

The new online licensing system is available at <a href="https://vo.licensing.hpc.texas.gov/datamart/login.do">https://vo.licensing.hpc.texas.gov/datamart/login.do</a>.

# Tips for Renewing Your License

You must report your CCUs, submit the renewal application and pay the renewal fee to complete the renewal process. Here are some helpful tips to ensure that your online license renewal is successful.

- Plan Ahead: Start obtaining your CCUs well before your license expiration date. The two-year renewal period in which you must obtain your CCUs is the first day of the month following your license expiration date through the following license expiration date. First time renewals are extended beyond twenty-four months to transition to birth-month renewal.
- Keep Accurate CCU Records: Maintain thorough records of your CCUs including the TX approval number for each course/activity. You can use the CCU Tracker at <a href="https://ccap.tpta.org/">https://ccap.tpta.org/</a> to help keep track of your CCU documentation. You must maintain the original completion documents for four years after the license expiration date and submit them to the Board if you are randomly selected for the CCU Audit.
- Renew Early: Don't wait until your license is about to expire before starting the renewal process. There is a 90-day eligibility window prior to your license expiration date in which you can report your CCUs and complete the renewal application. Renew early to avoid last minute delays in renewing and to avoid interruption in your eligibility to practice. If your license expires before updated license information is displayed on the online verification system, you may not practice until the renewal process has been completed.

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# **Disciplinary Actions**

PT Board Formal Disciplinary Actions taken at the April 11, 2025 Board Meeting:

1) Josefina Solis, PTA #2131000 (Waco) - (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.* 

- 2) **Tonya Gray, PTA #2126746 (Fairfield)** (audit) failed to properly renew license by not completing the required amount of continuing education during the audited renewal period. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341 of the Board Rules. **Board Order required (60) hours of community service.**
- 3) **Kelli Horn, PTA #2137859 (Royse 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 (30) hours of community service.**
- 4) Mendy Bush, PT #1062610 (McKinney) 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 (10) days.
- 5) **Brett Daniel, PT #1133320 (China Spring)** 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 (15) days.**
- 6) Alexander Reyes, PTA #2165244 (Houston) 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 (30) days.*
- 7) Sharrian Ellis, PTA #2100670 (Venus) 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 (30) days.*
- 8) **Jessica Martin, PTA #2139180 (Denton)** 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 (30) days.**
- 9) Jeremy Baxter, PT #1183386 (Missouri City) 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 (30) days.
- 10) **Gaurav Khanal, PT #1387255 (San Tan Valley, AZ)** failed to report disciplinary action taken by another licensing authority in another state to the board within 30 days. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 341.21 of the Board Rules. **Board Order accepted the surrender of license to practice.**
- 11) Joanne Borrego, PT #1405862 (Longview) 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 required (30) hours of community service.*
- 12) Blake Reyenga, PTA #2140510 (Houston) 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 (45) hours of community service.
- 13) **Christopher Gray, PTA #2138422 (Arlington)** 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.**

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14) Marcus Pichon, PTA #2041143 (Houston) - 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.

- 15) **Danica Call, PT #1145506 (Quanah)** 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.**
- 16) Jon Clark, PT #1135218 (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.
- 17) Casey Lazic, PTA #2113010 (Del Valle) 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.
- 18) Hansel Ted Gutierrez, PT #1182300 (Cove) 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.
- 19) Clay McCoy, PTA #2139359 (San Marcos) 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 and Chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. *Board Order accepted the surrender of license to practice.*
- 20) **Kelly Pankratz, PTA #2175497 (Dallas)** 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 322.4 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended license to practice for (30) days.**
- 21) Patricia Castro, PTA #2025708 (Abilene) used drugs or intoxicating liquors to an extent that affects the license holder's professional competence and practiced in a detrimental manner by practicing under the influence. 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.
- 22) Rajeshkannan Adaikalamuthu, PT #1375258 (Oshawa, Ontario CAN) had a license to practice physical therapy revoked or suspended by the proper licensing authority of another state, territory, or nation. Violation of Section 453.351 of the Act and Chapter 343.6 of the Board Rules. *Board Order accepted the surrender of license to practice.*
- 23) Paul Lietz III, PT #1331811 (Round Rock) alleged conduct of engaging in sexual contact with a patient/client as the result of the patient/client relationship; failing to conform to the minimal standard of acceptable prevailing practice; performing or attempting techniques or procedures or both in the physical therapist is untrained by education or experience; and causing, permitting, or allowing physical or emotional injury or impairment of dignity to the patient/client constitutes a continuing and imminent threat to the public health and welfare. Violation of Section 453.354 and Chapter 322.4 of the Board Rules. Board suspended license to practice at a Special Meeting on April 4, 2025, and continued suspension at the Board Meeting on April 11, 2025.

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## **Proposed/ Adopted Rules**

The Board took the following rulemaking actions at its April 11, 2025 meeting.

**Proposed Rules**: The Board proposed amending PT Rules §341.2. (g) relating to Continuing Competence Audits to clarify that failure to submit documentation of the required number of approved CCUs taken within the audited renewal period may result in disciplinary action. Additionally, the amendment includes licensees who are more than 90 days up to one year late renewing in the Continuing Competence Audit instead of requiring submission of CCU documentation upon renewal.

**Adopted Rules**: There were no new adopted Rules.

The text of the proposed amendment and the current PT Rules and PT Practice Act are available online at <a href="https://ptot.texas.gov/act-and-rules/">https://ptot.texas.gov/act-and-rules/</a>.

# **Upcoming PT Board Meetings**

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

- July 11, 2025
- October 10, 2025

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

Meeting dates are subject to change. Check for updated information online at: <a href="https://ptot.texas.gov/meeting-dates/">https://ptot.texas.gov/meeting-dates/</a>

## **Agency Holiday Schedule**

The Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners (ECPTOTE) will be closed for the upcoming holidays according to the schedule below:

Memorial Day Monday, May 26, 2025

Emancipation Day Thursday, June 19, 2025

> Independence Day Friday, July 4, 2025