TEXAS BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

Communiqué



November 2025

1801 Congress Ave, Suite 10.900 Austin, Texas 78701

512-305-6900 ptot.texas.gov

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Physical Therapy Board

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Next Board Meeting

January 16, 2026

1801 Congress Ave, Ste.10.900 Austin, Texas 78701

License Renewal – Reporting CCUs

In addition to completing the license renewal application and paying the renewal fee, you must report the CCUs that you obtained during your renewal period on the Continuing Competence Activity Summary. Your renewal period is from the first day of the month following your previous license expiration date through your current license expiration date. Your license renewal is not complete until you have obtained all the required CCUs and reported them in one of the following ways:

- If you are renewing an Active License (including late renewal up to one year) and have taken all of your CCU requirements within your renewal period prior to the license expiration date, record your CCUs on the Continuing Competence Activity Summary by <u>logging in</u> with your license number and last name.
- If you are late renewing an Active License and took any of your required CCUs after your license expiration date, you must record your CCUs on the Continuing Competence Activity Summary form available on the <u>Forms</u> page and email the completed form to <u>exam@ptot.texas.gov</u>.
- If you are renewing an Inactive License (including late renewal up to one year) record your CCUs on the Continuing Competence Activity Summary form available on the <u>Forms</u> page and email the completed form to exam@ptot.texas.gov.

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License Renewal – Reporting CCUs, cont. from pg. 1

• If you are renewing a Retired License (including late renewal up to one year), record your CCUs on the Continuing Competence Activity Summary, complete the Voluntary Charity Care Attestation, and email both completed forms to exam@ptot.texas.gov. The forms are available on the Forms page.

For each biennial renewal, PTs must complete and report a minimum of 30 continuing competence units (CCUs); PTAs must complete and report a total of 20 CCUs. All CCUs submitted to satisfy the 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 PT Board, be offered by a TX Accredited Provider, or be a Board pre-approved activity.

You must complete the 2 mandatory courses/activities for each renewal: the TX Jurisprudence Assessment Module (TX JAM) and an HHS-approved Human Trafficking Prevention Training (for Active and Retired licenses). Both will count toward the total number of required CCUs with the TX JAM = 2 CCUs and the Human Trafficking calculated as 1 contact hour = 1 CCU. A pre-approved number has been assigned for both activities.

Information about and registration for the TX JAM is available through <u>FSBPT</u>. Any of the courses on the <u>HHS-approved list</u> will meet the renewal requirement even if it does not indicate that it is approved for PTs/PTAs.

Before you start reporting your CCUs in the Continuing Competence Activity Summary, make sure you have the following:

- The course or activity title,
- The course/activity category,
- The approval number,
- The number of CCUs awarded,
- The course/activity completion date.

For courses approved through CCAP, there should be a TX approval number on the certificate of completion. Courses offered by a TX Accredited Provider should have the APS# on the certificate of completion. The APS# is used as the approval number, and a list of TX Accredited Providers is available online under the CCAP Information tab. The PT Board's Pre-Approved Categories with associated approval number can also be found online.

PT Rules §341.3. Qualifying Continuing Competence Activities. describes the different categories that can be utilized to fulfill the CCU renewal requirement. A pdf of the current PT Rules is available <u>online</u>.



Wishing you and your family a Safe and Healthy Thanksgiving!

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Disciplinary Actions

Disciplinary Actions taken at the October 10, 2025 Board Meeting:

1. Martin Martinez, PTA #2077941 (Sanger) - failed to respond to agency correspondence addressed to the license holder's official address within 90 days, failed to notify the board in writing of changes in address of record, and residential, mailing or business addresses within 30 days of the change, and 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 Chapters 322 and 341 of the Board Rules. Board Order suspended license to practice for (45) days.

- **2.** Tanner Buenzli, PT #1362721 (Irving) 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.*
- 3. Catherine Russell, PT #1359878 (Latham, NY) 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. Amy Hernandez, PTA #2037406 (Lockney)** 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.**
- 5. Katie Hayes, PTA #2158010 (Dallas) 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. JT Marcus, PTA #2187681 (Haslet) 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.*
- 7. Cristian Rodriguez, PTA #2187650 (El Paso) 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.*
- 8. Kimberly Carroll, PTA #2058640 (Manvel) 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.
- 9. Oscar Abalos, PT #1075190 (Spring) failed to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable prevailing practice, failed to assess and evaluate a patient's/client's status and causing, permitting, or allowing physical or emotional injury or impairment of dignity or safety to the patient/client. 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.
- 10. Dawn Duncan, PT #1075646 (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 322.4 of the Board Rules. Board Order suspended license to practice for (30) days.

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Disciplinary Action, cont. from pg. 3

11. Charles Lewis, PTA #2080098 (Keller) - requested previous Board Order restrictions be removed following a grand jury no-bill decision. Board Order to remove the existing restrictions that prevent the licensee from working in both the home health and pediatric settings was approved.

- 12. Kelly Pankratz, PTA #2175497 (Dallas) 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.
- **13. Dylan Mecham, PTA #CP032468A (Gilbert, AZ)** 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 and 453.501 of the Act and Chapters 322.4 and 348.2 of the Board Rules. *Board Order suspended Compact Privilege to practice in Texas for (30) days.*
- **14. Joseph Birdsong, PT #CP029976T (Grand Prairie)** 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 and 453.501 of the Act and Chapters 322.4 and 348.2 of the Board Rules. **Board Order suspended Compact Privilege to practice in Texas for (30) days.**

Agency Holiday Schedule

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

Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 26, 2025 – Friday, November 28, 2025

Christmas

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 – Friday, December 26, 2025

New Year's

Thursday, January 1, 2026 - Friday, January 2, 2026

Renewal Advisory

With the upcoming agency holiday closures, 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, complete the renewal application and pay the renewal fee. Renew early to avoid last minute delays in renewing and to 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. The online verification system can be accessed here.

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Proposed/ Adopted Rules

The Board took the following rulemaking actions at its October 10, 2025 meeting.

Adopted Rules:

§322.1 Provision of Services - amendment adopted to implement changes to the PT Practice Act pursuant to HB 4099, 89th Regular Session (2025).

§322.5 Telehealth – amendment adopted regarding informed consent to implement changes to Texas Occupations Code §111.004 pursuant to HB 1700, 89th Regular Session (2025).

§329.1. General Licensure Requirements and Procedures and

§329.7. Exemptions from Licensure - amendments adopted to implement changes pursuant to HB 5629, 89th Regular Session (2025) relating to the occupational licensing of military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.

§341.2. Continuing Competence Requirements - amendment adopted to implement changes pursuant to SB 912, 89th Regular Session (2025) relating to continuing education requirements and verification of continuing education compliance through the establishment of continuing education tracking systems.

Proposed Rules: No amendments to the PT Rules were proposed.

The text of the adopted amendments and the current PT Rules and PT Practice Act are available online.

To view the text of the bills, search <u>Texas Legislature Online</u>.

Upcoming PT Board Meetings

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

- January 16, 2026
- April 17, 2026

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

Meeting dates are subject to change. Updated information will be posted online.