

Bureau of Professional Licensing

Physical Therapy FAQ

1. When must current licensees and individuals seeking licensure complete training for identifying victims of human trafficking?

Administrative rule R 338.17126 requires an individual licensed or seeking licensure to complete training to identify victims of human trafficking. This is a one-time training that is separate from professional development requirement (PDR) credits. Licensees who renewed in 2017 must complete training by renewal in 2019; renewals completed in 2018 must complete training by renewal in 2020; and renewals for 2019 by 2021. Beginning January 6, 2022, completion of training is a requirement for initial license issuance.

The department may select and audit a sample of individuals and request documentation of proof of completion of training.

2. How can I satisfy the requirements for the completion of training in identifying victims of human trafficking?

The one-time human trafficking training may be done through a teleconference or webinar, online presentation, live presentation, or printed or electronic media. Refer to administrative rule R 338.7126 for more information.

The training content must cover understanding the types and venues of human trafficking in the United States, identifying victims of human trafficking in health care settings, identifying the warning signs of human trafficking in health care settings for adults and minors, and identifying resources for reporting the suspected victims of human trafficking.

The training may be acquired through any of the following:

- A nationally recognized or state recognized, health related organization.
- By or in conjunction with a state or federal agency.
- An educational program that has been approved by the board for initial licensure, or by a college or university.
- Reading an article related to the identification of victims of human trafficking as indicated above, and is published in a peer review journal, health care journal, or professional or scientific journal.

If audited, licensees must provide acceptable proof of completion.

3. What is the continuing education/professional development requirement (PDR) credits requirement?

Licensees must complete 24 PDR credits in activities that are approved under administrative rule R 338.7163. The PDR credits must be completed during the 2 years that immediately precede the expiration date of the license, and one of the 24 PDR credits must be in the area of pain and symptom management.

NOTE for Initial Licensure: The PDR requirement does not apply for the first renewal that occurs immediately after initial licensure. For example, if initially licensed in August of 2019, the licensee does not need to complete PDR credits for renewal when the license expires in July of 2020. The licensee will need to complete the PDR requirements for all subsequent renewals. Information regarding acceptable. The specific requirements can be found in the administrative rules located at www.michigan.gov/bplrules.

A licensee must keep documentation of completed PDR credits for 4 years from the date of applying for license renewal. See administrative rule R 338.7163 for more information on what documentation must be kept for each PDR activity type.

4. How do I send documentation on my PDRs to the department when I renew my license?

You do not need to send documentation to the department unless you are selected as part of an audit. If selected, the department will contact you at your address of record filed with the department and instruct you on how to send your documents. Submission of an application for renewal constitutes the applicant's certification of compliance with the requirements of the administrative rules.

5. How long are the Physical Therapist/Physical Therapist Assistant licenses issued for? Can I renew my license early? How will I know when I need to renew?

An initial license is valid until the next license expiration date of the profession unless the license is issued less than 120 days prior to the expiration date and then it will carry to the following year. After the first renewal, the license will be valid for 2 years.

Licensees are mailed a renewal notification to the licensee's address on record approximately 90 days prior to the expiration date of the license. You cannot renew a license before this 90-day time period. Remember to notify the department in writing of any address change prior to renewing the license. It's a licensee's responsibility to renew his or her license on time. Failure to receive the renewal notification, or to notify the department of an address change, does not exempt a licensee from renewing their license on time.

Licensees are required to renew their license(s) by using the online renewal system at www.michigan.gov/elicense using a debit or credit card containing a MasterCard, Visa or Discover logo or by electronic check.

6. How much time do I have to meet all the requirements for licensure/relicensure?

MCL 333.16307(3) states in-relevant part:

[A]ll requirements for licensure or registration shall be completed within 2 years after receipt of the application by the department. If the requirements are not completed within the 2-year period, the fees paid shall be forfeited to the department and the application shall be void. An individual whose application has been determined void under this subsection shall submit a new application and fees and shall meet the standards in effect on the date of receipt of the new application.

Documents received with a previous application will not be included as part of a new application.

7. What are the requirements for licensure if I am already licensed in another state?

An applicant who has been licensed in another jurisdiction recognized by FSBPT for less than 5 years must satisfy the requirements under administrative rule R 338.7136 (PT applicants) or R 338.7148 (PTA applicants). The requirements include:

- An application for licensure by endorsement and fee
- Official passing score of the Michigan jurisprudence exam. You may contact PSI to schedule your exam by visiting www.psiexams.com or by calling PSI at 800-733-9267.
- Official passing score of the NPTE sent by FSBPT to the department.
- Arranging for the licensing agency of every state or territory of the U.S. in which the applicant holds a current license or ever held a license as a physical therapist (PT applicants) or physical therapist assistant (PTA applicants).
- Official transcripts showing degree earned and date conferred. Transcripts must come directly from the school.
- If the education was earned from a nonaccredited program, the applicant must meet the requirements under administrative rule R 338.7135 (PT applicants) or R 338.7147 (PTA applicants). See FAQ 8 for more information.

NOTE: An applicant who has been licensed in another state for 5 years or more is not required to submit transcripts or demonstrate a working knowledge of the English language.

8. What are the Michigan requirements to become licensed as a PT or PTA by Examination for a US graduate? What are the requirements for a foreign graduate?

Graduates with an Accredited Degree

- An application for licensure by examination and fee.
- Official transcripts showing the degree earned and date conferred. Transcripts must come directly from the school.
- Michigan jurisprudence examination taken through PSI. The passing score is 75%, for the jurisprudence exam. You may contact PSI to schedule your exam by visiting www.psiexams.com or by calling PSI at 800-733-9267.

- NPTE Exam - You must register with FSBPT for the NPTE exam at www.fsbpt.org. Michigan accepts the passing score required by FSBPT for the national exam.

Graduate with Non-Accredited Degree

- Application and fee.
- Credential Evaluation - You must have your Physical Therapy Education reviewed by International Consultants of Delaware, Inc. 215-222-8454 x 603, International Education Research Foundation 310-258-9451, or FCCPT 703-684-8406. The evaluation must use the *FSBPT Coursework Tool for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists*, except as noted below for PTA applicants*.
- Michigan jurisprudence examination taken through PSI. The passing score is 75%. You may contact PSI to schedule your exam by visiting www.psiexams.com or by calling PSI at 800-733-9267.
- NPTE Exam - You must register with FSBPT for the NPTE exam at www.fsbpt.org. Michigan accepts the passing score required by FSBPT for the national exam.
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of the English language by satisfying either of the following:
 - Arranging for the submission of official TOEFL-IBT results that verify a passing score of 89, including not less than 22 on the reading section, not less than 21 on the listening section, not less than 24 on the speaking section, and not less than 22 on the writing section. You can contact ETS at 609-771-7100 or at www.toefl.org (email toefl@ets.org) to arrange to take the exam and have results sent to our office. The Institutional Code for physical therapy is 9715.
 - Submitting transcripts or acceptable evaluation to the department that verifies the educational program was located in Australia, a province of Canada that is not Quebec, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, or the United States.

*PTA Applicants who graduated on or before January 1, 2008

PTA applicants who graduated on or before January 1, 2008, from a CAPTE-accredited PTA program or a program found substantially equivalent to a PTA entry level training program by an approved credentialing organization are exempt from taking the NPTE and jurisprudence exam.

Applicants with education that is earned on or before January 1, 2008 that is not CAPTE-accredited must have their education evaluated to determine if it is substantially equivalent to physical therapist assistant entry level training in the United States. The evaluation does not need to use the FCCPT course work evaluation tool. However, the evaluation must be provided to the department by one of the following credentialing organizations:

- CGFNS International: www.cgfns.org, phone (215) 349-8767
- Educational Credential Evaluators: www.ece.org, phone (414) 289-3400
- FCCPT: www.fccpt.org, phone (703) 684-8406
- International Credentialing Associates: www.icaworld.com, phone (727) 549-8555
- International Consultants of Delaware: www.icdel.com, phone (215) 222-8454
- International Education Research Foundation: www.ierf.org, phone (310) 258-9451

9. How many times may I take the NPTE exam?

An applicant who does not achieve a passing score may retake the examination consistent with FSBPT testing standards. FSBPT allows candidates to sit for the exam a **maximum of 6 times** per exam type in a lifetime. If a candidate has exhausted the lifetime limit, they may obtain an appeal form from FSBPT and submit it to the board. Please visit the following website at www.fsbpt.org about eligibility requirements. You should verify that your application and fee with the Michigan Board of Physical Therapy is still current before sending in your re-exam application and fee.

10. Is the jurisprudence exam required for licensure? Where do I schedule and take the exam?

All applicants for physical therapy licensure must take and pass the jurisprudence examination before licensure can be issued. The passing score on the exam is 75%, for the physical therapist jurisprudence exam and for the physical therapist assistant jurisprudence exam. The jurisprudence examination covers material that can be found in the Physical Therapy administrative rules and in Article 15, parts 161 and 178 of the Michigan Public Health Code. You may contact PSI to schedule your exam by visiting www.psiexams.com or by calling PSI at 800-733-9267.