

Title 46
PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS

Part LIV. Physical Therapy Examiners

Subpart 1. Licensing and Certification

**Chapter 1. Physical Therapists and
Physical Therapists Assistants**

Subchapter A. Board Organization

§103. Board Domicile

A. ~~Domicile. The board shall be domiciled in accordance with R.S. 37:2403(A).~~

Commentary: Domicile is addressed in R.S. 37:2403(A)

§105. Electronic Meetings Requirements

A. The Louisiana Physical Therapy Board meets the criteria pursuant to La R.S. 42:17.2 to be eligible to conduct open public meetings via electronic means.

B. At least 24 hours prior to the meeting, the following shall be posted on the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board's website:

1. meeting notice and agenda; and
2. detailed information regarding how members of the public may:
 - a. participate in the meeting via electronic means, including the applicable videoconference link and/or teleconference phone number; and
 - b. submit written comments regarding matters on the agenda prior to the meeting.

Commentary: Rename section "Electronic Meetings Requirements" as required by La R.S. 42:17.2.E.(2).

The proposed language here was changed after the August 2026 board meeting and addresses the mechanism to allow the public to participate in the electronic meeting.

~~**§105. Meetings**~~

~~A. Meetings. Meetings of the board shall be held at least six times a year to transact business. The board shall comply with R.S. 37:2404(A) when scheduling regular meetings, calling special meetings, and providing notice and waivers.~~

Commentary: The language that is removed from "A. Meetings" is addressed in La R.S. 37:2404.A. with the exception that the rule language that is being removed required more meetings per year than the law.

~~B. Location. Unless otherwise noticed, board meetings shall be held at the board office. The board may meet at other locations as determined by the board with notice of such location posted at least five days prior to the meeting date. The location of the meeting shall not be changed after such notice is given without reasonable notice of such change provided to all board members and to others who have requested such notification.~~

Commentary: The language that is removed from "B. Location" is not addressed in the Practice Act.

The Louisiana Open Meetings Law addresses location specifically requiring written public notice of regular meetings at the beginning of each calendar year including the date, time and location of meetings and written public notice of any regular, special, or rescheduled meeting no later than twenty-four hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, before the meeting including the agenda, date, time and place of the meeting.

~~C. Quorum. The number of board members that constitute a quorum for any business before the board will be the number set in R.S. 37:2404(B). A majority vote of those present in a meeting is required for passage of a motion before the board.~~

Commentary: The language that is removed from "C. Quorum" is restating what is in the Practice Act.

Policy & Procedures: Voting procedures will be proposed.

~~D. Open Meetings. All board meetings and hearings shall be open to the public. The board may, in its discretion and according to R.S. 42:16-17, conduct any portion of its meeting in executive session, closed to the public and may request the participation in such executive session of staff members or others as may be needed for consideration of the business to be discussed in executive session.~~

Commentary: The language that is removed from "D. Open Meetings" is addressed in La Open Meetings Law. Open Meetings Law does not prohibit the board from inviting individuals into Executive Session, at their discretion, if they are needed for consideration of the business to be discussed in executive session.

~~E. Attendance. Board members are expected to attend regularly scheduled meetings, special meetings, open forums and hearings, which may be scheduled in conjunction or separate from regular scheduled meetings. Attendance constitutes active participation in at least 80 percent of the entire meeting. Missing two meetings per year is generally acceptable. Exceptions may be granted by the board for good cause. Notification of an expected absence shall be submitted to the board office as early as possible prior to the commencement of the meeting.~~

Commentary: The language that is removed from “E. Attendance” is not addressed in the Practice Act.

Policy & Procedures: Meeting attendance requirements will be proposed

~~F. Rules of Order. The most current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order* shall govern all proceedings of the board unless otherwise provided by board rules or policy.~~

Commentary: The language that is removed from “F. Rules of Order” is not addressed in the Practice Act.

Policy & Procedures: Rules of Order will be proposed.

~~G. Public Comments. A public comment period shall be held during each board meeting and in accordance with R.S. 42:19(D). Persons desiring to present comments shall notify the executive director of the board prior to the beginning of the meeting. However, to assure that an opportunity is afforded to all persons who desire to make comments, the chairman shall inquire at the beginning of the meeting if there are additional persons present who wish to comment. The chairman shall allot the time available for the public comments in an equitable manner among those persons desiring to comment. Each person making public comments shall identify himself and the group, organization, company, or entity he represents, if any.~~

Commentary: The language that is removed from “G. Public Comments” is not addressed in the Practice Act. La. R.S. 42:14.D. authorizes the Board to establish restrictions regarding the public comment period.

Policy & Procedures: Public Comment will be proposed.

~~§107. Officers~~

~~A. The officers of the board shall be a chairman and secretary-treasurer.~~

~~B. The chairman shall preside at all board meetings and shall, when available, represent the board at official functions.~~

~~C. The secretary-treasurer shall act in place of the chairman when the chairman is not present or available.~~

~~D. The secretary-treasurer shall oversee board finances and present financial reports to the board as requested and shall review and advise on board investments as directed by the board.~~

~~E. Term. Officers of the board shall be elected in accordance with the schedule set forth in R.S. 37:2404(A) and shall serve a one-year term or until the election of their successors. An officer elected to a position vacated before the end of its term shall serve only for the remainder of that term.~~

Commentary: Remove section “Officers” and change §107 to “Disability Accommodations”

Officers are listed in La R.S. 37:2404.A. Sections B-E are not addressed in the Practice Act.

Policy & Procedures: Officer terms, roles, responsibilities will be proposed.

§107 Disability Accommodations

A. For purposes of meetings of the board, people with disabilities are defined as any of the following:

1. A member of the public attending with a disability recognized by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);
2. a designated caregiver of such a person; or
3. a participant member of the board with an ADA-qualifying disability.

B. Requests. The board shall ensure that the written public notice for an open meeting, as required by R.S. 42:19, includes the name, telephone number and email address of the designated board representative to whom disability accommodation may be submitted.

C. The qualified requestor shall be provided with an accommodation, including the teleconference and/or video conference link, for participation via electronic means as soon as possible following receipt of the request.

D. Participation via electronic means shall count for purposes of establishing quorum and voting.

Commentary:

“Disability Accommodation” rule and procedure adoption is required by La R.S. 42:17.2.1.B.

~~**§109. Committees**~~
~~**[Formerly §177]**~~

~~A. Special Committees. Board committees are working bodies created and appointed by the board to assist in carrying out specific board functions. Such committees shall report to the board with recommendations on those issues which have been delegated to the committee for exploration.~~

~~B. Advisory Committee. The board may appoint an Advisory Committee not to exceed nine members to assist in the review of applicants qualifications for licensure; conduct applicant interviews; review continuing education activities and courses; and other duties deemed necessary by the board.~~

Commentary: Advisory Committee and other committees are addressed in La R.S. 37:2405(B)(13) as being appointed by the board as deemed useful in meeting the responsibilities of the board.

~~**§111. Compensation**~~

~~A. Per Diem and Expenses. Per diem and expenses shall be provided in accordance to and as authorized by R.S. 37:2404(C).~~

Commentary: Compensation is addressed in La R.S. 37:2404(C).

§113. Finances

A. Self Funding. The board shall be a self-sustaining body and shall generate sufficient revenues from fees and assessments to maintain effective and efficient operations.

B. Administrative Costs. Board orders in disciplinary proceeding may require the respondent to reimburse the board as authorized by R.S. 37:2405(B)11.

C. Budget. The board shall adopt an annual operating budget at a meeting which will allow timely filing with Division of Administration schedules.

D. Special Funds. The board may receive and expend funds in addition to its annual or biennial receipts, from parties other than the state, when the following conditions are met.

1. Such funds are awarded for the pursuit of a specific objective which the board is authorized to accomplish by this Chapter, or which the board is qualified to accomplish by reason of its jurisdiction or professional expertise.

2. Such funds are expended for the pursuit of the objective for which they are awarded.

3. Activities connected with or occasioned by the expenditures of such funds do not interfere with the objective performance of the board's duties and responsibilities, and do not conflict with the exercise of the board's powers as specified by this Chapter.

4. Such funds are identified in the budget.

5. Periodic reports are made to the board concerning the receipt and expenditure of such funds.

E. Travel Expenses. Board members, committee members and employees shall be entitled to reimbursement in accordance with R.S. 2404(C). The board shall adopt policies to provide guidance to the executive director in determining “reasonable” expenses.

§115. Applicable Laws and Rules

A. Board procedures and operations shall adhere to the Administrative Procedures Act, R.S. 49:950 and following; the Open Meetings Law, R.S. 42:11 and following; the Public Records Act, R.S. 44:1 and following; Code of Governmental Ethics, R.S. 42:1101 and other state and federal laws to which board activities are subject.

B. As an active member of the PT Compact, the Board adopts the PT Compact Rules.

~~**§117. Executive Director**~~

~~A. The Board shall appoint an Executive Director to carry out the administrative work of the board and shall designate the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Director in a job description for that position.~~

Commentary: Executive Director is addressed in La R.S. 37:2405(B)(5).

§119. Affiliations

A. Professional Organizations and Associations. The board may join and pay dues to such professional organizations and associations organized to promote the improvement of standards of practice in physical therapy or to advance and facilitate the operation of the board as an entity. In participating in such organizations or associations, the board may accept reimbursement of conference fees and travel expenses as are available generally to organizational members of those organizations or associations. Any participant who accepts complimentary admission, lodging, or transportation to and from an educational or professional development seminar or conference shall file an affidavit with the Board of Ethics in accordance with R.S. 42:1123(41).

§121. Declaratory Statements

A. Issuing of Statements. The board may issue a declaratory statement on its own initiative or in response to a request for clarification of the effect of the provisions contained in the Practice Act, R.S. 37:2401 et seq., and/or the board's rules, LAC 46:LIV.Chapter 1 et seq.

1. A request for a declaratory statement is made in the form of a letter to the board. The letter shall include, at minimum:

- a. the name and address of the requester;
- b. specific reference to the statute or rule and regulation to which the request relates;
- c. a concise statement of the manner in which the requester is aggrieved by the rule or statute or by its potential application to his concern.

2. The letter shall be considered by the board within a reasonable period of time taking into consideration the complexity of the issues raised and the board's meeting schedule.

3. The declaratory statement of the board in response to the letter shall be in writing and ~~shall~~ may be made available on the board website, at the discretion of the board.

Commentary: Revision provides flexibility for the Board to determine when declaratory statements should or should not be posted to the board website.

The proposed language here is what was decided at the August 2026 board meeting. The original recommendation was to remove language about posting to the board's website, but after discussion the recommendation is for the rule to indicate that the statement may, at the discretion of the board, be posted on the board website.

Subchapter B. General Provisions

§123. Definitions

A. As used in this Title, the following terms and phrases, unless specifically defined within the Physical Therapy Practice Act, R.S. 37:2401 et seq., shall have the meanings specified herein.

Active Status—the current state of a license which classifies the licensee as holding a current and valid license and being in good standing.

Administrative Complaint—a sworn statement of allegations prepared by board counsel and filed with the board which includes a statement of the matters asserted and reference the particular Sections of the statutes and rules involved, the filing of which initiates a contested disciplinary proceeding.

~~American Physical Therapy Association—APTA~~

Commentary: Define "APTA" instead because APTA is found throughout Rules.

Applicant—a person who has applied to the board for a license to engage in the practice of physical therapy in the State of Louisiana.

Applicant Review Committee—the panel designated by board policy to review a license application and attached materials and evidence, including, but not limited to, a criminal history record, and to conduct interviews to examine whether an applicant has presented evidence satisfactory of his qualifications for licensure as required under the Practice Act and board rules and to recommend indicated action on an application. The applicant review committee acts on behalf of the board and shall be composed of one or more board members and the executive director, but may also include one or more advisory committee member(s) and legal counsel.

Application—a written request directed to and received by the board, upon forms approved and supplied by the board, for a license to practice physical therapy in the State of Louisiana, together with all information, certificates, documents, and other materials required by the board to be submitted with such forms.

APTA – American Physical Therapy Association

Commentary: add a definition of "APTA" because APTA is found throughout Rules.

Board—the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board (formerly the Louisiana State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners) created by R.S. 37:2403 within the Louisiana Department of Health, acting through its members as a body or through its executive director, staff, and agents carrying out the rules, policies and precedents established by the board.

Board Order—a final decision of the board issued in a contested proceeding or in lieu of such proceeding, which may include findings of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated.

~~CAPTE—the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education~~

Commentary: Define Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education instead.

Child or Children—as used in R.S. 37:2418(C)(1), an individual or individuals under the age of 21 years.

Client—recipient of services, information, advice, education and/or recommendations for activities related to wellness and preventive services including conditioning, injury prevention, reduction of stress, or promotion of fitness.

Clinical Instructor—a PT or a PTA supervising a student pursuing a career in the physical therapy profession.

Clinical Supervisor—a licensed PT or PTA in good standing and selected with approval of the board who directly supervises a CAPTE graduate pending examination holding a provisional license in the clinical environment. A clinical supervisor may directly supervise a foreign-educated physical therapist or foreign-educated physical therapist

assistant while completing the period of supervised clinical practice requirements of §331.

Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) - an accrediting agency that is nationally recognized by the US Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). CAPTE grants specialized accreditation status to qualified entry-level education programs for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants. Accreditation is a process used in the US to assure the quality of the education that students receive. It is a voluntary, non-governmental, peer-review process that occurs on a regular basis.

Commentary: Define for Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education instead of CAPTE

Competence—the application of knowledge, skills, and professionalism required to function effectively, safely, ethically and legally within the context of the patient/client role and environment.

Confidentiality—Except for the reporting requirements of R.S. 37:2425, all records of a PT or PTA who has successfully completed or is actively participating in the non-disciplinary alternative program (CRPT) set forth herein at §357 shall not be subject to public disclosure, and shall not be subject to discovery in legal proceedings except as required by federal and state confidentiality laws and regulations, or order of a Court. However, the records of those participating in the CRPT will be addressed with their employer as well as with members of the Board and those serving on committees of the Board, as necessary. The records of a PT or PTA who fails to comply with the program agreement or who leaves the program without enrolling in an alternative program in the state to which the practitioner moves, or who subsequently violates the Louisiana Physical Therapy Act or the board rules, shall not be deemed confidential except for those records protected by federal and state confidentiality laws and regulations.

Consent Order—an order of the board that has been contractually entered into by the board and respondent, which shall include, in part, a factual basis for the consent order, the violations of law and rule related to the licensee's conduct, and stipulations which may include revocation, suspension, other restrictions, or any combination thereof as mutually agreed between the parties.

Consultative Services—information, advice, education and/or recommendations provided by a physical therapist with respect to physical therapy.

Contact Hour—60 minutes of continuing education instruction.

Contested Case—a disciplinary proceeding in which the legal rights, duties, or privileges of a Respondent are to be determined by the board after an opportunity for an adjudicative hearing.

Continuing Education Year—beginning ~~April~~ May 1 and ending ~~March 31~~ April 30 of the following year.

Commentary: Revise to more accurately reflect the renewal period, which ends April 30th.

~~*Continuous Supervision*—observation and supervision of the procedures, functions, and practice by a supervisor who is physically within the same treatment area.~~

Commentary: Per discussion at the August 2026 board meeting, remove definitions of Continuous and On Premises types of supervision and add a definition for Direct Supervision and for General Supervision that aligns with the position of the APTA House of Delegates to provide clarity to the licensees.

Coursework Tool (CWT)—a tool developed by the FSBPT as a standardized method to evaluate the educational equivalence of non-CAPTE graduates to CAPTE graduates. Each CWT reflects the general and professional educational requirements for substantial equivalence at the time of graduation with respect to a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy.

~~*CWT*—see coursework tool.~~

Commentary: Unnecessary.

Criminal History Record Information—information collected by state and federal criminal justice agencies on applicants and licensees consisting of identifiable descriptions and notations of arrests, detentions, indictments, bills of information, or any formal criminal charges, and any disposition arising therefrom, including sentencing, criminal correctional supervision, and release, but does not include intelligence for investigatory purposes, nor does it include any identification information which does not indicate involvement of the individual in the criminal justice system.

Direct Supervision—level of supervision in which an individual licensed to practice physical therapy pursuant to this Chapter is personally present and immediately available within the treatment area to give aid, direction, and instruction when physical therapy procedures or activities are performed. Telecommunication does not meet the requirements of direct supervision.

Commentary: Per the discussion at the August 2026 board meeting, direct supervision is a term that will be used in the rules. The definition was developed by merging language from the APTA HOD Position (2019) with language established in LAC 46:XLV.1903(2025).

Disciplinary Action—the imposition of a sanction by the board which may include reprimand, probation, suspension, or revocation of a license, and other appropriate requirements.

~~*Discharge Summary*—see Documentation Standards, §341.~~

Commentary: Term is proposed to be removed from referenced rule.

~~Documented Conferences as used in R.S. 37:2418F(2)(e), see Patient Care Conference definition.~~

Commentary: "Documented Conferences" is no longer referenced in R.S. 37:2418F(2)(e). Patient Care Conference is proposed to be removed from definitions.

Dry Needling—a physical intervention which utilizes filiform needles for the treatment of neuromuscular pain and functional movement deficits. Dry Needling is based upon Western medical concepts and does not rely upon the meridians utilized in acupuncture and other Eastern practices. A physical therapy evaluation will indicate the location, intensity and persistence of neuromuscular pain or functional deficiencies in a physical therapy patient and the propriety for utilization of dry needling as a treatment intervention. Dry needling does not include the stimulation of auricular points.

~~FEPT—see §135.A.1.~~

Commentary: Redundant.

~~FEPTA—see §135.A.2.~~

Commentary: Redundant.

~~Foreign-Educated Physical Therapist (FEPT)—see §135.A.1.~~

Commentary: Redundant.

~~Foreign-Educated Physical Therapist Assistant (FEPTA)—see §135.A.2.~~

Commentary: Redundant.

~~Foreign-Educated PT Applicant—a person whose education as a PT was obtained in a program not accredited by CAPTE.~~

Commentary: Redundant.

FSBPT—the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy

General supervision—applies to the supervision of the physical therapist assistant. A supervising physical therapist is not required to be personally present within the treatment area but shall be readily accessible by telecommunication and available to the patient by the next scheduled treatment session upon request of the patient or physical therapist assistant.

Commentary: Per the discussion at the August 2026 board meeting, general supervision is a term that will be used in the rules. The definition was developed by merging language from the APTA HOD Position (2019) with language established in La R.S. 37:2418(F)(2)(c)(2025). The definition of "general supervision" would only apply to the supervision of physical therapy assistants and must align with the statutory language.

Good Moral Character—as applied to an applicant or licensee means the aggregate of qualities evidenced by past conduct, social relations, or life habits, which actually provide persons acquainted with the applicant or licensee a basis to form a favorable opinion regarding his ethics and responsibility to duty. In addition, to achieve and maintain Good Moral Character, an applicant or licensee shall provide accurate, complete and truthful information to the board and shall not, at any time, commit any act or omission which provides a basis for disciplinary actions or violations under R.S. 37:2420 or R.S. 37:2421.

Graduated, Graduation or Graduate—having completed all requirements, including clinical experience, at a CAPTE accredited program for physical therapists or physical therapist assistants. If an educational program certifies that the degree is assured and will be conferred at a later date, an applicant will be considered to have graduated and become a graduate.

~~HIPDB—Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank; See National Practitioner Databank (NPDB).~~

Commentary: HIPDB is outdated.

Impairment or Impaired—a condition that causes an infringement on the ability of an individual to practice, or assist in the practice, of physical therapy with reasonable skill and safety to patients. Impairment may be caused by, but is not limited to, alcoholism, substance abuse, addiction, mental and/or physical conditions.

In Good Standing—a person who holds a current, valid Louisiana license, who is not subject to a board order or consent order, and whose license is not restricted. The board is the ultimate arbiter of whether a licensee is in good standing.

Inactive—a license status indicating voluntary termination of the right or privilege to practice physical therapy in Louisiana. The board may allow a licensee who is not engaged in the practice of physical therapy in Louisiana to inactivate the license as an alternative to an expired license.

Incompetence—lacking competence, as defined in §123.

Informed Consent – the educated decision made by a patient/client, or legally authorized representative, to either pursue or refuse physical therapy in whole or in part following the reasonable disclosure of information including, but not limited to, the nature, benefits, risks, alternatives of care, the risks of refusal and the identity and qualifications of the provider(s).

Commentary: Per the discussion at the August 2026 board meeting, the Board is requesting public comment to determine if a definition of Informed Consent is needed. There is a state law that provides guidance on informed consent (La RS 40:1157.1 - Consent to medical treatment; methods of obtaining consent.) The board is considering

whether the definition should reference the informed consent law to provide assistance to licensees so they are aware that the state law or if they should define informed consent. Public comment is welcome.

Informal Conference—a meeting held pursuant to R.S. 49:961.C with a Respondent and an Investigative Committee of the board to determine whether a disciplinary case should proceed.

~~*Initial Physical Therapy Evaluation*—as defined in R.S. 37:2407(A)(1).~~

Commentary: Redundant.

Investigative Committee—the panel designated by board policy to investigate complaints and to conduct Informal Conferences in disciplinary matters, typically composed of one or more board members, the executive director, investigator and legal counsel.

Jurisdiction of the United States—any state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any American territory.

Jurisprudence—the body of law applicable to the practice of physical therapy in Louisiana including the Practice Act and the rules promulgated by the board.

Jurisprudence Examination—an open book examination made up of multiple choice and/or true/false questions covering information contained in the Practice Act and board rules.

Legend Drug—any drug intended for use by humans which carries on its label any of the following: "caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription", "Rx," or "Rx only."

Legend Device—any device intended for use by humans which carries on its label "Rx," "Rx Only," or a statement that federal law restricts the device to sale by or on the order of a licensed healthcare practitioner.

Letter of Concern—is non-disciplinary and notifies the licensee that while evidence found does not merit formal disciplinary action, the board believes that the licensee should become educated about the requirements of the Practice Act and board rules. A letter of concern shall be placed in the permanent record of a licensee following the conclusion of a complaint or upon the granting or renewal of a license. A letter of concern shall not be reportable to NPDB, shall not be published with board disciplinary actions, and shall be deemed confidential pursuant to R.S. 37:2406(B). A letter of concern may be utilized as evidence in subsequent disciplinary actions.

License—the lawful authority of a PT or PTA to engage in the practice of physical therapy in the state of Louisiana, as evidenced by a license duly issued by and under the official seal of the board.

~~*Louisiana Physical Therapy Practice Act*—Practice Act~~

Commentary: "Practice Act" is defined in La R.S. 37:2401.

~~*MEPTA*—see §135.A.3.~~

Commentary: Redundant.

~~*Military Educated PTA Applicant (MEPTA)*—see §135.A.3.~~

Commentary: Redundant.

Minimal Standards of Acceptable and Prevailing Physical Therapy Practice—include, but are not limited to, those set forth in the Code of Ethics and related documents of APTA.

Moral Turpitude—baseness, vileness, or dishonesty of a high degree and contrary to community standards of justice, honesty, or good morals.

~~*NPDB*—see national practitioner databank.~~

Commentary: Redundant because of definition of "National Practitioner Databank (NPDB)"

~~*NPTE*—see national physical therapy examination.~~

Commentary: Acronym found twice in definitions and National Physical Therapy Examination is also defined. Added NPTE acronym to National Physical Therapy Examination definition.

National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE)—a national examination administered by the FSBPT and approved by the board for the licensure of a physical therapist or the licensure of a physical therapist assistant.

Commentary: Added NPTE acronym

National Practitioner Databank (NPDB)—(formerly the "healthcare integrity and protection data bank" or "HIPDB") a web-based repository of reports containing information on medical malpractice payments and certain adverse actions related to health care practitioners, providers, and suppliers, preventing practitioners from moving state-to-state without disclosure or discovery of previous damaging performance and promoting quality health care and deterring fraud and abuse within health care delivery systems created by the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986 (HCQIA), as amended, title IV of Public Law 99-660 (42 U.S.C. 11101 et seq.). Section 1921 of the Social Security Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 1396r-2) mandates reporting to the NPDB of adverse licensure actions taken against licensees.

Notice—a statement of the intended date, time, place, and nature of a meeting or hearing, and the legal authority and jurisdiction under which a hearing is to be held. Notice may include a formal complaint filed to initiate a contested disciplinary proceeding.

~~*NPTE*—the National Physical Therapy Examination administered by the FSBPT.~~

Commentary: Defined National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) instead of defining acronym.

~~On Premises—the supervising PT of record is physically present in the treating facility and immediately available to the treatment area.~~

Commentary: Per discussion at the August 2026 board meeting, remove definitions of Continuous and On Premises types of supervision and add a definition for Direct Supervision and for General Supervision that align with the position of the APTA House of Delegates to provide clarity to the licensees.

Participate—as used in R.S. 37:2418F(2)(b) means that a Supervising PT of Record assumes responsibility for the care which he and those under his supervision provide to patients, provides appropriate treatment and that, at a minimum, the PT will:

- a. perform the initial evaluation and document the patient's plan of care;
- b. treat and reassess the patient at least every twelfth ~~sixth~~ treatment day or every 30 days, ~~whichever occurs first~~ and for the final treatment session, when feasible;
- c. ~~treat the patient for the final treatment session unless the patient is physically unavailable; and~~
- d. ~~write the discharge summary.~~

Commentary: Revise definition of "Participate" to align with La R.S. 37:2418(F)(2) as revised in the most recent law change.

Passive Manipulation—manipulation or movement of muscular tissue or joints other than by the spontaneous function of the body or active effort on the part of a patient.

Patient—the recipient of physical therapy services pursuant to a plan of care, treatment plan or program.

~~Patient Care Conference see Documentation Standards, §341.~~

Commentary: Referenced rule is proposed to be deleted. Patient care conference is proposed to be removed from law and rule in all places.

Per Diem—compensation to a board member or committee member for each day during which he is participating in or carrying out an official board approved activity pursuant to R.S. 37:2404(C).

Person—includes a natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or other entity having legal existence, unless the context requires a more limited meaning.

~~Physical Therapist—as defined in R.S. 37:2407(A)(2), and is licensed by the board pursuant to the Practice Act and rules.~~

Commentary: Duplicative. Defined in La R.S. 37:2407(A)(2) and La R.S. 37:2419(B).

~~Physical Therapist Assistant—as defined in R.S. 37:2407(A)(3), and is licensed by the board pursuant to the Practice Act and rules.~~

Commentary: Duplicative. Defined in R.S. 37:2407(A)(3) and La R.S. 37:2419(E).

~~Physical Therapy—as defined in R.S. 37:2407(A)(4).~~

Commentary: Duplicative. Defined in R.S. 37:2407(A)(4)"

~~Physical Therapy Evaluation—as defined in R.S. 37:2407(A)(1).~~

Commentary: Duplicative. Defined in R.S. 37:2407(A)(1).

~~Physical Therapy Technician—a worker not licensed by the board who operates under the direction and control of a licensed physical therapist and functions in a physical therapy clinic, department or business and assists with preparation of the patients for treatment and with limited patient care. a person trained by or under the direction of a physical therapist who performs designated and supervised routine tasks related to physical therapy services.~~

Commentary: Definition from the FSBPT Model Practice Act, 7th Edition.

Physiotherapy—physical therapy.

Plan of Care—documentation created and signed by the physical therapist specifying the measurable goals, specific treatments to be used and the proposed duration and frequency of specified treatment. It is an integral component of a PT evaluation and must be created by the physical therapist prior to delegating appropriate treatment to a PTA or PT technician. ~~and incorporating documentation standards provided for in §341.~~ Plan of Care is considered synonymous with the Treatment Plan or Treatment Program for physical therapy patients.

Commentary: Term is proposed to be removed from referenced Rule. "Plan of Care" is synonymously used with Treatment Plan or Treatment Program for physical therapy patients.

~~Practice of Physical Therapy—as defined in R.S. 37:2407(A)(5).~~

Commentary: Duplicative. Addressed in R.S. 37:2407(A)(5)

Practice Setting—unless otherwise defined, the physical location where patient care is performed or client services provided. Practice setting may also refer to the type of organization which provides physical therapy services, such as an outpatient clinic, hospital, nursing home, rehab facility, school or the delivery of home healthcare.

Prescription—a request for diagnostic or therapeutic physical therapy procedures or regimen subscribed by an

individual lawfully authorized to make or give such an order or directive.

~~Preventive Services—the use of physical therapy knowledge and skills by a PT or PTA to provide education or activities in a wellness setting for the purpose of injury prevention, reduction of stress and/or the promotion of fitness and for conditioning. This does not include the administrations of physical therapy treatment.~~

Commentary: Per the discussion at the August 2026 board meeting, the practice of physical therapy as defined in La R.S. 37:2407.A.(5), includes the use of physical therapy for preventative services. This definition is unnecessary and confusing.

Probation—license status in which the licensee may practice physical therapy in Louisiana, but may be required to work under certain conditions and/or restrictions as specified and made public in a board order or board agreement.

Progress Note—~~see Documentation Standards, §341.~~
Progress note is the written documentation of the patient's subjective status, changes in objective findings, and progression to or regression from established goals. A progress note shall be created and signed only by the supervising PT of record or PTA. A progress note shall be written a minimum of once per week, or if the patient is seen less frequently, then at every visit.

Commentary: Per the August 2026 board meeting, the term Progress Note is referred to in the Written Record of Physical Therapy. The language is moved from Rule §341 Documentation Standards as it currently exists.

Provisional License—a temporary license issued to practice physical therapy in Louisiana. ~~Two~~**Three** types of provisional licenses issued include:

- a. *CAPTE graduate pending examination*—applicant pending ~~results of~~ a fixed-date examination;
- b. *foreign-educated provisional license*—physical therapist or physical therapist assistant applicant pending completion of the supervised clinical practice requirement of §137;

~~c. *temporary reciprocal provisional license*—applicant licensed elsewhere and working temporarily in Louisiana under the provisions of §147.~~

Commentary: There are only two types of provisional licenses. The first type is a CAPTE graduate pending examination, not “pending the results of the examination” because the test must be scheduled within the timeframe of the 90-day provisional license (See §172.D.).

~~PT—see physical therapist.~~

Commentary: Term defined in statute.

~~PTA—see physical therapist assistant.~~

Commentary: Term defined in statute.

~~Reassessment or Reevaluation—see Documentation Standards, §341.~~ **the written documentation which includes all elements of a progress note, as well as the interpretation of objective findings compared to the previous evaluation with a revision of goals and plan of care as indicated. A reassessment shall be written at least once per month, or, if the patient is seen less frequently, then at every visit. A reassessment shall be created and signed by the supervising PT of record.**

Commentary: Per the August 2026 board meeting, the term Reassessment or Reevaluation is referred to in the Written Record of Physical Therapy. The language is moved from Rule §341 Documentation Standards as it currently exists.

Reciprocity—the acknowledgment and licensure by the board of a PT or PTA licensed by another state pursuant to procedures established by the board.

Referral—a request for physical therapy evaluation or treatment made by an individual lawfully authorized to make such request.

Reprimand—a form of censure by the board of a licensee for violation of the Practice Act or Rules.

Respondent—a licensee who is the subject of an informal complaint, as addressed in §381, or a formal administrative complaint, as addressed in §387, alleging violation of the Practice Act or board rules.

Restricted—license status indicating that the board has placed restrictions or conditions on a license including, but not limited to, scope of practice, place of practice, supervision of practice, or patient demographic.

Revocation—the withdrawal of a license issued by the board, terminating the right and privilege of practicing physical therapy in Louisiana.

Revoked—license status indicating annulment of a license by an action of the board pursuant to formal disciplinary action which terminates the right to practice physical therapy in Louisiana.

RPTP—the Recovering Physical Therapy Program adopted by the board.

RPTP Agreement—a document approved by the board containing provisions which identify requirements for successful participation in the RPTP, including, but not limited to, evaluation, treatment, after care, testing, monitoring, supervision reports, meeting attendance, and practice restrictions.

RPTP Compliance—conforming to the requirements of the Recovering Physical Therapist Program Agreement.

State—see jurisdiction of the United States.

Student—a person who is pursuing a course of study leading to a degree in physical therapy or physical therapist assisting from a professional education program ~~certified~~ accredited by CAPTE ~~and~~ or approved by the board, and who is pursuing supervised clinical education requirements related to his physical therapy education.

Commentary: correct the language related to CAPTE accreditation, as opposed to certification, and to change the word “and” to “or” to allow the board to approve programs and not be limited to CAPTE. This change would allow academic programs with international/non-CAPTE partnerships to host exchange student clinical experiences.

Subversion—engaging in any activity contrary to honesty, justice, or good morals in an attempt to undermine the integrity of the examination or to receive a passing score on the examination as defined in R.S. 37:2414 and required by R.S. 37:2409-2411.2. For purposes of this Chapter, subversion also includes any unauthorized use or reproduction of copyrighted materials.

Summary Suspension—the suspension of a license by emergency board action which requires a licensee to immediately cease practice pending disciplinary proceedings provided by law.

Commentary: The term “Supervision” was being proposed in definitions, but no longer is being proposed. Language was from FSBPT Model Practice Act, 7th edition. Per discussion at the August 2026 board meeting, supervision definition changes are going to include removing definitions of “Continuous” and “On Premises” types of supervision and add a definition for “Direct Supervision” and “General Supervision” that align with the position of the APTA House of Delegates to provide clarity to the licensees.

Supervising PT of Record—the PT who performs the initial evaluation and establishes a plan of care for a patient or a PT who has most recently reevaluated or treated the patient.

Supportive Personnel: As used in R.S. 37:2418.F.(2)(a); means an individual licensed to practice physical therapy pursuant to this Chapter who is delegated one or more provisions of the physical therapy plan of care of a patient or client by the supervising physical therapist of record.

Commentary: Clarifying language in the Practice Act provision regarding supervision.

Suspended License—restricting the licensee’s privilege to practice physical therapy or physical therapist assisting for a specified period of time.

Topical Agents/Aerosols—medications used in physical therapy treatment which are applied to the skin and obtained over-the-counter, by prescription or order, or from a licensed distributor.

Treatment Plan or Program—documentation created by a PT specifying the measurable goals, specific treatments to be used and the proposed duration and frequency of treatment; is an integral component of a PT evaluation and must be completed by the PT prior to delegating appropriate treatment to a PTA or PT technician. Treatment plan or treatment program is considered synonymous with the plan of care for physical therapy patients.

Commentary: “Treatment Plan or Program” is used in statute and is synonymous with Plan of Care.

~~Treatment Notes Record—see—Documentation Standards, §341.~~ the documentation of a patient visit when a more detailed progress note, reassessment or reevaluation is not necessary. A treatment note may be in the form of a checklist, flow sheet, or narrative.

Commentary: Defining “Treatment Note” to clarify the term in “Written Record of Physical Therapy” definition.

Week—any consecutive seven days.

~~When Feasible—as used in R.S. 37:2418F (2)(g), means whenever the patient is still physically available to receive treatment and assessment.~~

Commentary: By striking the definition, it is up to the professional judgement of the licensed professional to determine when it is feasible.

Wound Debridement—patient care provided by a PT, provisionally licensed PT, or student PT, which removes non-living tissue from pressure ulcers, burns and other wounds as part of wound management, including but not limited to, sharps debridement, debridement with other implements or agents and application of topical agents including enzymes.

Written Record of Physical Therapy—documentation including the prescription or referral (if such exists), the initial evaluation, treatment notes, ~~notes of patient care conferences,~~ progress notes, reevaluations or reassessments, referral to an appropriate healthcare provider pursuant to R.S. 37:2418(B)(2)(b) (if such exists); ~~and patient status at discharge documenting the complete course of patient care.~~

Commentary: The discharge and patient care conference are no longer required by law. The other terms described here are defined. Initial evaluation is defined in La R.S. 37:2407. Treatment notes, progress note, and reevaluation or reassessment are defined in §123.