

Occupational Authorizations

for the meeting of the
ALC-OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE
Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy

PHYSICAL THERAPIST (PT)

Authorization Type:	Licensure	# of Individuals Regulated:	2311
Entity Division Name:	Department of Health		
Scope of Practice:	17-93-101. Short title.		

This chapter shall be cited as the "Arkansas Physical Therapy Act".

17-93-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1)(A) "Consultation by means of telecommunication" means the rendering of a professional opinion, expert opinion, or advice by a physical therapist to another physical therapist or health care provider through telecommunication technology.

(B) "Consultation by means of telecommunication" includes the review or transfer of patient records or related information through telecommunication technology;

(2) "Direct supervision" means that the supervising therapist is on-site and available for consultation;

(3) "Physical therapist" means a person who practices physical therapy as defined in this chapter after he or she has:

(A) Successfully completed a curriculum of physical therapy accredited by a national accreditation agency approved by the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy; and

(B) Passed a nationally recognized licensing examination;

(4) "Physical therapist assistant" means a person who is licensed under this chapter and who assists the physical therapist in selected components of the physical therapy treatment intervention;

(5) "Physical therapy" means the care and services provided by or under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist who is licensed under this chapter;

(6) "Physical therapy aide" means an unlicensed member of the physical therapy team who may perform treatments under the direct supervision of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant;

(7) "Practice of physical therapy" means:

(A) Examining and evaluating patients with mechanical, physiological, and developmental impairments, functional limitations, and disability or other health-related conditions in order to determine a physical therapy diagnosis, prognosis, and planned therapeutic intervention;

(B)(i) Alleviating impairments and functional limitations by designing, implementing, and modifying therapeutic interventions that include:

(a) Therapeutic exercise;

(b) Functional training in self-care as it relates to patient mobility and community access;

PHYSICAL THERAPIST (PT) (Continued)

- (c) Manual therapy techniques, including soft tissue massage, manual traction, connective tissue massage, therapeutic massage, and mobilization, i.e., passive movement accomplished within normal range of motion of the joint, but excluding spinal manipulation and adjustment;
 - (d) Assistive and adaptive devices and equipment as they relate to patient mobility and community access;
 - (e) Physical agents;
 - (f) Mechanical and electrotherapeutic modalities; and
 - (g) Patient-related instruction.
- (ii) The therapeutic intervention of bronchopulmonary hygiene and debridement of wounds require a physician referral before initiation of treatment.
 - (iii) Physical therapy does not include radiology or electrosurgery;
- (C) Preventing injury, impairments, functional limitations, and disability, including the promotion and maintenance of fitness, health, and quality of life in all age populations; and
 - (D) Engaging in consultation, testing, education, and research;

Statutory Requirement(s): 17-93-101. Short title.

This chapter shall be cited as the "Arkansas Physical Therapy Act".

A.C.R.C. Notes. Acts 2009, No. 1471, § 1, provided: "Legislative Intent. It is the intent of the General Assembly to protect the public health, safety, and welfare and provide for state administrative control, supervision, licensure, and regulation of the practice of physical therapy. It is the intent of the General Assembly that only individuals who meet and maintain prescribed standards of competence and conduct may engage in the practice of physical therapy as authorized by this chapter. This act shall be liberally construed to promote the public interest and to accomplish the purpose stated herein."

Subchapter 3 – Licensing

17-93-301. License required – Exceptions.

(a)(1) Unless physical therapy services are provided by or under the direction of a person licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy under this chapter, it is unlawful for a person to:

- (A) Practice physical therapy;
- (B) Profess to be a physical therapist, physiotherapist, or physical therapy technician; or
- (C) Use:
 - (i) The words "physical therapy", "physical therapist", "physiotherapist", "registered physical therapist", or "doctor of physical therapy";
 - (ii) The initials "P.T.", "D.P.T.", "L.P.T.", or "R.P.T."; or
 - (iii) Other letters, words, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the person is providing physical therapy services.

(2) A person or entity shall not advertise or otherwise promote a person as being a physical therapist or physiotherapist unless the person being advertised or promoted is licensed under this chapter.

Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy (Continued)

PHYSICAL THERAPIST (PT) (Continued)

(3) A person or entity that offers, provides, or bills an individual for services shall not characterize the services provided as physical therapy unless the person performing the services is licensed as a physical therapist under this chapter.

(b) A person shall not use the title “physical therapist assistant”, the letters “P.T.A.”, or any other words, abbreviations, or insignia in connection with the person’s name to indicate or imply that the person is a physical therapist assistant unless the person is licensed as a physical therapist assistant under this chapter.

Pursuant to Arkansas Code § 17-1-106, do you provide automatic licensure to an active military service member, returning military veteran applying for licensure within one year of his or her discharge from active duty, or the spouse of an active military service member or returning military veteran who is within one year of discharge from active duty?

No

If NO, the rule establishing the expedited process and procedure:

- [Rule for Expedited Process and Procedure for Military Service Member or Spouse](#)

Fees & Penalties			
Fee Type	Fee Description	Amount (\$)	Frequency
Fee	Licensure by Exam	\$50.00	Once
Fee	Licensure by Reciprocity	\$160.00	Once
Fee	License Renewal	\$75.00	Annually
Penalty	Late Renewal Fee	\$100.00	Once
Fee	Jurisprudence Exam	\$10.00	Biennially
Fee	Reinstatement Fee	\$75.00	Once

Administrative Rules Documents	
Document Type	Document
Rules	PT_Board_Rules_Current.doc
Rules	PT_Board_rules_markup_Effective_8-1-2020_if_Approved.pdf

Supporting Evidence Documents

No Supporting Evidence Documents Provided

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT (PTA)

Authorization Type: Licensure # of Individuals Regulated: 1584

Entity Division Name: Department of Health

Scope of Practice:
17-93-101. Short title.

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A.C.R.C. Notes. Acts 2009, No. 1471, § 1, provided: “Legislative Intent. It is the intent of the General Assembly to protect the public health, safety, and welfare and provide for state administrative control, supervision, licensure, and regulation of the practice of physical therapy. It is the intent of the General Assembly that only individuals who meet and maintain prescribed standards of competence and conduct may engage in the practice of physical therapy as authorized by this chapter. This act shall be liberally construed to promote the public interest and to accomplish the purpose stated herein.”

17-93-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT (PTA) (Continued)

- (1)(A) “Consultation by means of telecommunication” means the rendering of a professional opinion, expert opinion, or advice by a physical therapist to another physical therapist or health care provider through telecommunication technology.
- (B) “Consultation by means of telecommunication” includes the review or transfer of patient records or related information through telecommunication technology;
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- (ii) The therapeutic intervention of bronchopulmonary hygiene and debridement of wounds require a physician referral before initiation of treatment.
- (iii) Physical therapy does not include radiology or electrosurgery;

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT (PTA) (Continued)

(C) Preventing injury, impairments, functional limitations, and disability, including the promotion and maintenance of fitness, health, and quality of life in all age populations; and

(D) Engaging in consultation, testing, education, and research;

Statutory Requirement(s): 17-93-301. License required – Exceptions.

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Fees & Penalties			
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Fee	License by Exam	\$50.00	Once
Fee	License by Reciprocity	\$110.00	Once
Fee	License Renewal	\$50.00	Annually
Penalty	License Renewal Late Fee	\$100.00	Annually
Fee	Jurisprudence Exam	\$10.00	Biennially

Administrative Rules Documents	
Document Type	Document
Rules	PT_Board_Rules_Current.doc
Rules	PT_Board_rules_markup_Effective_8-1-2020_if_Approved.pdf

Supporting Evidence Documents

No Supporting Evidence Documents Provided