

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
**Rules Committee Teleconference Minutes**  
**November 22, 2013 \* 10:00A.M**

**Board Members Present**

Charlene Portee, PT -President  
Bo Hamil, PT  
Stefanie Palma, PT  
Dorothy Gaskin, PT  
Monty Strickland, PT

**Administrative Staff Present**

Adrienne Price, Executive Director  
Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist  
Wanda Jaffe, Licensing Supervisor

**Attorney General's Office**

D. Williams-McNeely, Assistant Attorney General

Mr. Hamil established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:04am

**OPEN SESSION**

**490-2-.09 Licensure: Endorsement**

The Committee recommends the following amendments

(1) The Board may, in its discretion register a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant without an examination as set forth in Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 43-33-15 upon payment of applicable fees. (Refer to fee schedule)

(2) Any applicant applying for licensure pursuant to O.C.G.A. 43-33-15 and who is a graduate of a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) and approved by the Board must provide:

- (a) a list of all states where the applicant holds an active license; and
- (b) verification of licensure in good standing from the state board of all states in which the applicant has actively practiced in the two years immediately preceding the date of this application; and
- (c) official transcript from the institution granting the entry level degree in physical therapy or physical therapist assistant indicating the date of graduation; and
- (d) scores from the national licensing examination.

**(e) Proof of passing Jurisprudence exam**

(3) Any applicant applying for licensure pursuant to O.C.G.A. 43-33-15 who is a graduate of a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant program not accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) or approved by the Board, must provide:

- (a) a list of all states where the applicant holds an active license; and
- (b) verification of licensure in good standing from the state board of all states in which the applicant has actively practiced in the two years immediately preceding the date of this application; and
- (c) official evaluation and transcript from a credential evaluation organization approved by the State of Georgia; and
- (d) scores from the national licensing examination.

**(e) Proof of passing Jurisprudence exam**

(4) Proper proof of licensure in good standing from the state(s) where the applicant practiced in the two years immediately preceding this application, proof of graduation from an accredited physical therapy or physical therapist assistant program or credential evaluations deemed substantially equivalent to the professional degree, and satisfactory completion of the licensing examination shall be deemed to be prima facie evidence of compliance with Code Section 43-33-15. The Board, however, may request further verification of any credential submitted if deemed necessary to evaluate the application.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-33-15. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Examination Proctors" adopted. F. and eff. June 30, 1965. **Repealed:** F. May 1, 1973; eff. May 21, 1973. **Amended:** New Rule entitled "Licensure: Endorsement" adopted. F. June 27, 1995; eff. July 17, 1995.

**490-2-.04 Training Permits**

The Committee recommends the following amendments

A training permit may be issued pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 43-33-10 and 43-33-17 of the Georgia Physical Therapy Act to a qualified applicant following Board-approval of a properly submitted application.

(a) Qualified applicants are:

- 1. graduates of entry-level programs for physical therapists or physical therapist assistants from either a CAPTE or a non-CAPTE-accredited school who have taken and passed the national licensing examination and an examination on the laws and rules governing the practice of physical therapy in Georgia; or
- 2. applicants for reinstatement, who have not practiced for two (2) and up to five (5) years; or
- 3. applicants for reinstatement who have not practiced for more than five (5) years and who have successfully taken and passed the national licensing examination and an examination on the laws and rules governing the practice of physical therapy in Georgia; or
- 4. applicants for endorsement, who have not practiced for two (2) and up to five (5) years; or

5. applicants for endorsement who have not practiced for more than five (5) years and who have successfully taken and passed the national licensing examination and an examination on the laws and rules governing the practice of physical therapy in Georgia.

(b) Initial Applications and Reinstatement Applications.

1. A notarized training permit application form must be submitted by the trainee's **Primary** supervisor specifying:

(i) the name and license number of the trainee supervisor who will be responsible for the conduct of the traineeship as defined under section (e) of this rule; and

(ii) the name, address, phone, fax number and e-mail address of all sites where the trainee and supervisors may be working during the course of the traineeship; and

(iii) the effective dates of the traineeship; and

(iv) acceptance of responsibility for trainee supervision and completion of the performance evaluation; and

(v) termination of the traineeship as defined herein; and

(vi) type of facility.

(c) Renewal.

1. A training permit may be renewed one time, for no more than six (6) months, upon written request and with approval of the Board, and only for one good and exceptional reason as determined by the Board. Failure to pass the licensing examination is not considered a good and exceptional reason. For purposes of this rule, good and exceptional reasons include but are not limited to:

(i) Death of an immediate family member; or

(ii) Illness or incapacitation of the applicant or immediate family member (a physician's statement is required); or

(iii) Jury duty (proof required).

(d) Validity of Permit.

1. Training permits are subject to the following conditions:

(i) Able to be initiated in the State of Georgia within three months of issuance of such permit.

(ii) Must be returned to the Board by the trainee with a brief explanation of why it was not used.

(iii) A 480 hour traineeship must be completed within three (3) months of initiation. A 1000 hour traineeship must be completed in no less than 6 months or no more than 1 year if approved by the Board; (iv) A training permit shall become invalid and must be immediately returned to the Board office by the trainee if:

(I) the trainee fails to complete the traineeship within the above prescribed time frames; or

(II) if the trainee does not exhibit performance satisfactory to the **Primary supervisor**.

(e) Supervision.

1. The **Primary supervisor or alternate** named on the training permit application holds full responsibility under their license for direct, continuous, on-site supervision of the trainee at all times. The supervisor must assure that the trainee does not perform any patient care activities in his/her absence.

2. If for some reason the primary supervisor cannot fulfill their duties as supervisor, a new application requesting a **new supervisor** must be approved by the Board. The trainee may not participate in direct patient care until a **new supervisor** is approved by the Board. The **new supervisor** will assure compliance with all terms and obligations outlined in this rule.

3. The supervisor **and alternate supervisor** must hold a Georgia license in good standing under O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 33, and have practiced full time for not less than one continuous year.

4. The supervisor must regularly evaluate trainee performance in all areas as specified by the Board. At the end of the traineeship period, the supervisor must submit a performance evaluation on the board approved traineeship performance evaluation reporting form

5. The **Primary Supervisor** must notify the Board of unsatisfactory performance at which time the training permit becomes null and void.

6. The supervising therapist will supervise no more than two (2) trainees at one time.

**History.** Original Rule entitled "Temporary Registration" adopted. F. and eff. June 30, 1965. **Repealed:** F.

Mar. 8, 1971; eff. Mar. 28, 1971. **Amended:** New Rule entitled "Temporary Registration" adopted. F. May

1, 1973; eff. May 21, 1973. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 31, 1974; eff. June 20,

1974. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Nov. 27, 1984; eff. Dec. 17, 1984. **Repealed:** New

Rule entitled "Temporary License" adopted. F. Feb. 28, 1986; eff. Mar. 20, 1986. **Amended:** F. Jan. 28,

1987; eff. Feb. 17, 1987. **Amended:** F. Dec. 30, 1987; eff. Jan. 19, 1988. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled

"Training Permits" adopted. F. May 26, 1993; eff. June 15, 1993. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title

adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1996; eff. Dec. 12, 1996. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 19,

1998; eff. July 9, 1998. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 26, 2005; eff. June 15, 2005.

**Repealed:** New Rule of the same title adopted. F. Sept. 24, 2010; eff. Oct. 14, 2010. **Repealed:** New Rule of the same title adopted. F. May 25, 2012; eff. Jun. 14, 2012.

#### **490-2-.04 Training Permits**

Attorney General D. Williams-McNeely proposed a new #6 and suggests removing CAPTE and leave Non-CAPTE to match with BR 490-2.03 (2).

**Policy #5 – Traineeship**

The Committee recommends the following amendments

5. (a) The Board has designated a board member to review all non-CAPTE and all foreign educated examination applications for approval.

5. (b) Once Traineeship Supervision is approved, a letter will be sent to the physical therapist approved as the **primary supervisor and alternate supervisor** that all supervision must be in compliance with board rule 490-2-.04.

5. (c) Board voted to allow for early exit from traineeships once the individual passes the NPTE. And supervisor’s submission of documentation showing successful practice under the traineeship.

*Policy approved at the March 16, 2004 meeting.*

*Policy reaffirmed at the January 2009 meeting.*

*Policy reaffirmed at the June 19, 2010 meeting.*

*Policy revised (added 5(c) at May 17, 2011 meeting*

**Sojourner Definition 43-33-11, (6)**

The Committee recommends creating a rule for clarification of definition to allow PTs from other states to be allowed to come in the State of Georgia and render aid in times of natural disaster. The Committee tables discussion for further research with Attorney General D. William-McNeely

**Policy 7**

Dr. Portee questions the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph in Policy 7 and the exam through the Federation of State Board.

**Policy #7 - Continuing Competence Policy**

The Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy requires that each licensed physical therapist and physical therapist assistant must take and pass the electronic GA Jurisprudence Exam through the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy effective 2013.

The Committee tables discussion for the full Board.

**490-11-.01 Consultation**

The Committee recommends the following amendments

(1) For purposes of Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Section 43-33-18(a)(1):

(a) "Consultation" shall mean provision of professional advice;

(b) A “licensed practitioner of the healing arts” means any health practitioner who is licensed in **this State or another state** to diagnose and treat individuals with the physical or mental disability or functional limitations at issue, and operating within the scope of practice defined in Title 43 Chapter 33.

(c) For purposes of determining whether a licensed practitioner is appropriate, the physical therapist shall consider, but not be limited to, the following factors:

1. Physical condition of the patient;

2. Nature of ailment;

3. Extent to which the consulting practitioner has knowledge of the patient’s history and condition such that an informed judgment can be made concerning course of treatment.

(d) Physical therapists shall document the consultation with the appropriate licensed practitioner of the healing arts prior to implementing a program of physical therapy treatment.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-19, 43-1-24, 43-33-18. **History.** Original Rule entitled “Consultation” adopted. F. Jan. 26, 2013

No more business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 10:47am

**Minutes recorded by:**

Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist

**Minutes reviewed and edited by:**

Wanda Jaffe, Licensing Supervisor

**Minutes approved on:**

December 3, 2013

**BO HAMIL**

**BOARD CHAIR**

**ADRIENNE PRICE**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**