

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
Special Projects Minutes
November 22, 2013 * 08:30A.M

Board Members Present

Bo Hamil, PT- President
Stefanie Palma, 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 8:35 am

OPEN SESSION

Policy 7 Continuing Competence

following amendments.

Mr. Hamil and Dr. Palma suggest merging Class 1 or Class 2 and the

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 Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy requires each licensed physical therapist and physical therapist assistant to participate in a minimum number of thirty (30) clock hours of experience to promote continuing competence (CC) per licensure period. **The Board has defined recommends the requirements for competence as planned learning experiences which have content beyond the licensee's present level of knowledge and competence which may be subject to audit by the board.** Content of the experience must relate to patient care in physical therapy whether the subject is research, treatment, documentation, education, management, or some other content area. The purpose of this requirement is to assist in assuring safe and effective practices in the provision of physical therapy services to the citizens of Georgia. In the event that a licensee does not meet this requirement; the license will not be renewed.

~~On-line CC may be considered as Class I or Class II dependent upon the course content.~~

The following are programs which may be included for approval; however, approval is not limited to these programs.

The following programs may be considered for Class I approval, but are not limited to:

- (a) Programs approved by the American Physical Therapy Association and its affiliate components; or
- (b) Programs approved by the Physical Therapy Association of Georgia or any other state chapters; or
- (c) Programs approved by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy; or
- (d) Programs provided at CAPTE-Accredited colleges and universities with programs in physical therapy when the continuing competency course is held under the auspices of the school of physical therapy; or
- (e) Programs offered by similar professional organizations offering experiences that meet the guidelines set forth in paragraph one**
- ~~(e) Programs provided by the American Academy of Physical Therapy; or~~
- ~~(f) Programs approved by another state board; or~~
- ~~(g) Programs provided at JCAHO-accredited healthcare organizations; or~~
- ~~(h) Programs provided by the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons; or~~
- ~~(i) Programs provided by the National Athletic Trainers Association; or~~
- ~~(j) Programs provided by the American Dental Association; or~~
- ~~(k) Programs provided by the American Association of Nurses; or~~
- ~~(l) Programs provided by the American Occupational Therapy Association; or~~
- (f) Fifteen (15) hours for undergoing a peer review; or
- (g) Ten (10) hours for conducting a peer review when that activity is an adjunct responsibility and not the primary employment; or
- (h) Participation as a presenter for continuing education courses, workshops, seminars or symposia ~~which have been approved by the approved list above;~~ Continuing competence credit is based on contact hours and may not exceed 10 hours per topic;
- (i) Authorship of a presented scientific poster, scientific platform presentation or published article; Continuing competence credit is 10 hours per event and may not exceed 20 hours;
- (j) Teaching a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant credit course when that teaching is an adjunct responsibility and not the primary employment; Continuing competence credit is based on contact hours not to exceed 20 hours;

(k) Certification of clinical specialization by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties. Continuing competence credit is 30 hours and is recognized only in the biennium in which certification or recertification is awarded.

The following programs may be considered for Class II approval (limited to 10 hours):

- (l) Self- instruction from reading professional literature; Continuing competence credit is limited to a maximum of ~~five~~ **three (3) hours**; or
- (m) Attendance at a scientific poster session, lecture, panel, symposium or university course that does not meet the criteria for Class I; Continuing competency credit is one hour per contact hour of activity; or
- (n) Acting as a clinical education instructor for an accredited physical therapist or physical therapist assistant educational program; continuing competence credit is one
- (o) (1) hour per eight (8) contact hours; or
- (p) Acting as a clinical instructor or an intern for a formal, nonacademic, advanced clinical internship or as a mentor or a learner for a formal, nonacademic mentorship.
- (q) **Donating time in the role of a Physical Therapist or Physical Therapy Assistant, within the scope of practice, to a charity event; continuing competence credit is owe (1) hour per either (8) contact hours, limited to a maximum of five (5) hours.**
- (r) **See reference Policy 13**
- (s) Post professional physical therapist educational programs that award academic credit are counted as one (1) university credit hour equaling ten (10) continuing competency hours. For example, a two (2) credit hour course in which a passing grade is achieved would equal twenty (20) continuing

Policy approved at the October 31, 2007 meeting.

Policy reaffirmed at the January 2009 meeting.

Policy revised at June 19, 2010 meeting

Policy amended at the November 3, 2009 meeting (addressing on-line courses)

Policy amended at the March 2011 meeting (adding (s))

Policy amended at the May 2011 meeting (amended (s))

Policy revised at the September 18, 2012 meeting.

Potential Telehealth Policy or Rule

Mr. Hamil suggest creating a Policy 16 Tele-health and follow guidelines of Policy 12

Policy #16 – Telehealth

12. (a) The Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy, adopts the APTA Definitions and guidelines BOD G03-06-09-19 titled Telehealth.

(b) All provisions of Physical Therapy utilizing Telehealth mechanisms must conform to all Statutes, Rules and Policies of governing the Practice of Physical Therapy in the State of Georgia.

(c) Individuals providing services via Telehealth in the State of Georgia must be licensed in the State of Georgia.

Housing with aPTitude

Mr. Hamil explains that the Housing information with aPTitude is a free online resource to find activities and track your progress online, it is portable, has ability to audit, can secure their independence of the PLB, and can contractually write in policies and procedures. Alabama was the first state to adopt. Mr. Hamil would like to present to the full Board for further discussion.

FSBPT 2 Requests

The Committee discussed there have been no updates to the Jurisprudence Exam since 2008 to address the changes in Georgia Law, and FSBPT can do an update at no cost and present results to the Board. FSBPT can do an analysis and see what needs to be updated overall. Mr. Hamil questions how long will it take for them to update the exam and does it have to go through stats and other checks and balances before the exam will be ready to administer. Mr. Hamil also wants to know when the contract with FSBPT ends and he will correspond with Heidi of FSBPT to have Board review the exam

1. Does the Board repeal the jurisprudence exam and require everyone to take a GA jurisprudence course before they can be licensed?
2. Do a two year extension on Federation Jurisprudence Exam before they update it, would they want the Board to enter into a new contract? The Board wouldn't want to commit for more than 2 years.

Mr. Hamil will correspond with Heidi on whether or not it is possible to have up to 3 members to review the test to determine the validity of going forward.

No more business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 9:15am

Minutes recorded by:
Minutes reviewed and edited by:
Minutes approved on:

Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist
Wanda Jaffe, Licensing Supervisor
December 3, 2013

BO HAMIL
BOARD CHAIR

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR