

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
BOARD RULE CHAPTER 490-5 SUPERVISION AND DIRECTION OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT, BOARD RULE 490-5-.01
RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LICENSED PHYSICAL THERAPIST IN
SUPERVISION AND DIRECTION OF THE PHYSICAL THERAPY
ASSISTANT
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

RULE 490-5-.01. Responsibility of the Licensed Physical Therapist in Supervision

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy (hereinafter “Board”) proposes amendments to Board Rule Chapter 490-5 Supervision and Direction of Physical Therapy Assistant, Board Rule 490-5-.01 Responsibility of the Licensed Physical Therapist in Supervision and Direction of the Physical Therapy Assistant (hereinafter “proposed rule(s)”).

This notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule(s), and a synopsis of the proposed rule(s) are being sent to all persons who have requested, in writing, to be included on a notification list. This notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule(s), and a synopsis of the proposed rule(s) may also be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 3920 Arkwright Rd., Suite 195, Macon, Georgia 31210. The documents will also be available for review on the Board’s website at <https://sos.ga.gov/page/georgia-state-board-physical-therapy-rules-and-laws>. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Board office at (404) 424-9966.

The public will have an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule(s) at a public hearing to be held at **9:30 a.m., September 29, 2026**, via WebEx. Please see Board’s website for information on how to join the hearing via WebEx.

Interested parties affected by the proposed rule(s) may submit written comments to the Board no later than close of business on **September 22, 2026**. Written comments must be legible, signed, contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number, email address), and addressed to Todd Zandrowicz, Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy, 3920 Arkwright Rd., Suite 195, Macon, Georgia 31210. Written comments may be sent via email to PLB-Healthcare2@sos.ga.gov.

During the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment, or offer a viewpoint or argument, whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be

submitted for the official record. Oral statements will be limited to five (5) minutes per person.

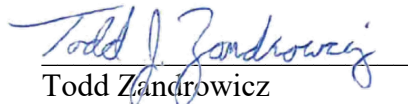
The Board voted to post this Notice of Intent at its meetings on July 22, 2025, and July 21, 2026. The Board also voted that the formulation and adoption of the proposed rule(s) does not impose an excessive regulatory cost on any licensee, and any cost to comply with the proposed rule(s) cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-33-3 and 43-33-10. Additionally, the Board voted that it was neither legal nor feasible in meeting the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-33-3 and 43-33-10 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of the proposed rule(s) will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the physical therapy profession.

According to the Department of Law of the State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy has the authority to adopt the proposed rule(s) pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-33-3 and 43-33-10.

For further information, contact the Board office at (404) 424-9966.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4.

This the 26th day of August, 2026.



Todd Zandrowicz
Division Director
Professional Licensing Boards Division

Posted: 08.26.26

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES OF TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
BOARD RULE CHAPTER 490-5 SUPERVISION AND DIRECTION OF PHYSICAL
THERAPY ASSISTANT,
BOARD RULE 490-5-.01 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LICENSED PHYSICAL
THERAPIST IN SUPERVISION AND DIRECTION OF THE PHYSICAL
THERAPIST ASSISTANT**

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed amendments to clarify that supervision of physical therapist assistants may be conducted via telehealth when appropriate.

**Board Rule Chapter 490-5 SUPERVISION AND DIRECTION OF PHYSICAL
~~THERAPY~~THERAPIST ASSISTANTS**

Rule 490-5-.01. Responsibility of the Licensed Physical Therapist in Supervision and Direction of the Physical Therapist Assistant

- (1) A licensed physical therapist shall at all times be responsible for providing adequate supervision of the physical therapists assistant, as defined in Rule [490-5-.02](#), and may meet, supervise, and be readily available to the physical therapist assistant, as required, in person or via audio and video technology as appropriate.
- (2) The licensed physical therapist shall be present in the same institutional setting, as defined in paragraph (3) of this section, 25 percent of any work week, Monday through Friday, and shall be readily available to the assistant at all other times, including weekend coverage, for advice, assistance and instruction.
- (3) "Institutional setting" means any nursing home, acute hospital, convalescent hospital, rehabilitation center, other inpatient facility by any other name and outpatient clinic which would include private office.
- (4) The licensed physical therapist in the home health setting responsible for the patient shall supervise the physical therapist assistant working with the patient and shall:
 - (a) Perform the initial patient evaluation to establish a physical therapy diagnosis, treatment goals, frequency, duration, and plan of care;
 - (b) Meet with the assistant no less than once weekly to review all patients being treated;
 - (c) Document all meetings with the assistant and subsequent decisions;
 - (d) Be available to the assistant at all times for advice, assistance, and instructions.

- (5) A licensed physical therapist shall be designated as the physical therapist assistant's supervisor in the school setting and shall:
- (a) Perform all physical therapy evaluations to develop or amend physical therapy interventions stated on the student's Individual Educational Plan (IEP) for the purpose of assisting with the achievement of educational goals and objectives, including frequency and duration of physical therapy services.
 - (b) Make an on-site visit to each student scheduled for direct weekly services from the physical therapist assistant no less than every two (2) months, and no less than once every five (5) months for students who are scheduled with the physical therapist assistant once monthly or less. The on-site visit shall include, but not be limited to, a case review, reassessment of the program and physical therapy services and review of documentation prepared by the physical therapist assistant.
 - (c) Document the on-site visit including status of case(s), program or services status or change and indicate instructions given to the physical therapist assistant.
 - (d) Interact with the physical therapist assistant in appropriate ways specific to the goals and objectives stated in the IEP of the student who is scheduled for sessions with the physical therapist assistant.
 - (e) Be available to the physical therapist assistant at all times for advice, assistance and instructions.

Authority: O.C.G.A §§ 43-33-3 and 43-33-10.

RULES
OF
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
CHAPTER 490-5
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Authority: O.C.G.A §§ 43-33-3 and 43-33-10.