

**WEST VIRGINIA**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**  
**KEN HECHLER**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION**

Form #6

Do Not Mark In this Box

**FILED**

May 11 10 02 AM '00

OFFICE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**NOTICE OF FINAL FILING AND ADOPTION OF A LEGISLATIVE RULE AUTHORIZED  
BY THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.**

AGENCY: WV Board of Physical Therapy TITLE NUMBER: 16

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES , NO

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: \_\_\_\_\_

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF NEW RULE BEING PROPOSED: Series 1

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: Title 16, Series 1, General Provisions

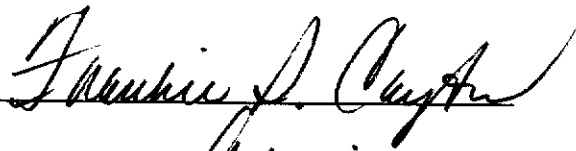
THE ABOVE RULE HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

AUTHORIZATION IS CITED IN (house or senate bill number) SB 333 Section 64-9-10

SECTION 64-9-10, PASSED ON March 11, 2000

THIS RULE IS FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THIS RULE BECOMES EFFECTIVE ON

THE FOLLOWING DATE: June 1, 2000

  
Admin.

FILED

MAY 11 10 02 AM '00

OFFICE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**§16-1-1. General.**

1.1. Scope. – This legislative rule describes and defines requirements for licensure as well as nature of practice for Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants and support personnel.

1.2. Authority. – WV Code §30-20-1, et. seq.

1.3. Filing Date. –

1.4. Effective Date. –

1.5. Repeal and Replace – This Rule repeals and replaces Title 16, Series 1, which became effective April 5, 1994.

**§16-1-2. Definitions.**

The following words and phrases as used in these rules shall have the following meanings, unless the context otherwise requires:

2.1. "Board" means the West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy.

2.2. "Physical Therapist", means a person who meets all the requirements under WV Code §30-20-1, et. seq., and this Rule and is licensed to practice Physical Therapy by the West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy. An individual who possesses a temporary permit issued by the Board to practice Physical Therapy is not fully licensed to practice Physical Therapy, and as such is subject to the conditions set forth in WV Code §30-20-9 (a) and Section 7 of this Rule.

2.3. "Physical Therapist Assistant" means a person who meets all the requirements under WV Code §30-20-1, et. seq. and this Rule and is licensed to practice by the West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy. The Physical Therapist Assistant performs Physical Therapy procedures and related tasks that have been selected and delegated only by the supervising Physical Therapist. An individual who possesses a temporary permit as a Physical Therapist Assistant is not fully licensed to practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant, and as such is subject to the conditions set forth in WV Code §30-20-9 (b)(1) and (2) and its accompanying Rules and Regulations.

2.4. "Physical Therapy Aide" means a person trained under the direction of a Physical Therapist who performs designated and supervised routine Physical Therapy tasks.

2.5. "Other Assistive Personnel" means other trained or educated health care personnel, not defined in 2.5 or 2.6 of this section, who perform specific designated tasks related to Physical Therapy under the supervision of a Physical Therapist. At the discretion of the supervising Physical Therapist, and if properly credentialed and not prohibited by any other law, "other assistive personnel" may be identified by the title specific to their training or education.

2.6. "Supervision". As contained in this section, the term "supervision" shall mean authoritative procedural guidance by a licensed Physical Therapist for the accomplishment of a function or activity, with initial direction and periodic inspection on a regular basis by a Physical Therapist of the actual act of accomplishing the function or activity. The supervising Physical Therapist is responsible for and as such must participate in the patient's care.

### **§16-1-3. Applications.**

3.1. The applicant must complete the application form provided by the Board and supply the following:

- a. Personal information;
- b. Educational information;
- c. History of previous work experience, if applicable;

d. License verification (s) from other State Licensing Boards that regulate Physical Therapy in their respective States.

e. Written responses to questions regarding criminal offenses;

f. Written responses to questions regarding child support obligations;

g. Name and address of prospective employer in West Virginia if known;

h. Photo identification; and

i. Applicable fee (s).

### **§16-1-4. Scores.**

4.1. The applicant must take the National Physical Therapy Exam (NPTE) and obtain a passing score as determined by the Board.

### **§16-1-5. Issuance, Renewal or Reinstatement of License.**

5.1. The Board reserves the right to evaluate the applicant according to the testing, licensure, and procedural requirements as initiated by the agency responsible for the ownership and development of the National exam.

5.2. Licenses expiring on December 31, of each particular year must be renewed by payment of applicable fee along with completed renewal application.

5.3. All licensees desiring to remain "active" and in good standing must complete ten contact hours of continuing education per calendar year.

5.4. A license not renewed with no specific request to place it in "inactive" status" will automatically "lapse".

#### **§16-1-6. Temporary Permit for Physical Therapists.**

6.1. An individual possessing a temporary permit issued by the Board to practice Physical Therapy in the State of West Virginia shall practice under the direct supervision of a Physical Therapist.

6.2. While the Physical Therapist is practicing under a temporary permit, a Physical Therapist must be on the premises at all times. All progress notes written by the Physical Therapist with a temporary permit shall be cosigned by a Physical Therapist supervisor within twenty-four (24) hours.

6.3. A temporary permit may be issued in the following instances only to individuals who have met the eligibility criteria set forth in WV Code §30-20-6, and who have submitted proper application and identification as determined by the Board:

a. Pending examinations, to any Physical Therapist applicant who is a new graduate of a program approved by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical

Therapy Education (CAPTE). Said temporary permit shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) consecutive days and said permit may not be renewed or reissued in the same calendar year.

b. To a person who possesses an unencumbered license in another state or territory or possession of the United States and who is a graduate of a program approved by CAPTE. Said temporary permit shall be valid only for a period of ninety (90) consecutive days and said permit may not be renewed or reissued in the same the calendar year.

#### **§16-1-7. Temporary Permits for Physical Therapy Assistants.**

7.1. Upon proper application and identification as determined by the Board, and the payment of the applicable non-refundable fee, the Board may issue, without examination, a temporary permit to act as a Physical Therapy Assistant in this State.

7.2. While the Physical Therapist Assistant is practicing under a temporary permit, a Physical Therapist must be on the premises at all times. All progress notes written by the Physical Therapist Assistant with a temporary permit shall be cosigned by a Physical Therapist supervisor within twenty-four (24) hours.

7.3. Said temporary permit may be issued:

a. Pending examinations, to any Physical Therapist Assistant who meets the requirements of WV Code §30-20-6 (b)(1) and (2). Said temporary permit shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) consecutive days and said permit may not be renewed or

b. To a person who possesses an unencumbered license in another state or territory or possession of the United States and who is a graduate of a program approved by CAPTE. Said temporary permit shall be valid only for a period of ninety (90) consecutive days and said permit may not be renewed or reissued in the same calendar year.

#### **§16-1-8. Nature of Practice for Physical Therapists.**

8.1. Examining, evaluating and testing individuals with mechanical, physiological and developmental impairments, functional limitations, and disability or other health and movement-related conditions in order to determine a diagnosis, prognosis, plan of therapeutic intervention, and to assess the ongoing effects of intervention.

8.2. Alleviating impairments and functional limitations by designing, implementing, and modifying therapeutic interventions that include, but are not limited to therapeutic exercise; functional training in self care and in home, community or work reintegration; manual therapy including soft tissue and joint

mobilization and other manual therapy techniques; therapeutic massage; assistive and adaptive orthotic, prosthetic, protective and supportive devices and equipment; bronchopulmonary hygiene, debridement and wound care; physical agents or modalities; mechanical and electrotherapeutic modalities; and patient-related instruction.

8.3. Reducing the risk of injury, impairment, functional limitation and disability, including the promotion and maintenance of fitness, health and quality of life in all age populations.

8.4. Engaging in administration, consultation, education and research.

8.5. Directly or indirectly supervise Physical Therapist Assistants and other support personnel depending on the work setting as stipulated by WV Code §30-20-2 (h) (1) or this Rule.

#### **§16-1-9. Supervision of a Physical Therapist Assistant.**

9.1. When the Physical Therapist and the Physical Therapist Assistant are not within the same physical setting, the performance of the delegated functions by the Physical Therapist Assistant must be consistent with safe and legal Physical Therapy practice as set forth in WV Code §30-20-1, et. seq., accompanying Legislative Rules and Regulations, and established policies of the Board. Said performance shall be predicated on the following factors:

- a. Complexity and activity of the patient's needs;
- b. Proximity and accessibility to the Physical Therapist;
- c. Supervision available in the event of emergencies or critical events; and
- d. Type of setting in which the service is rendered.

9.2. The Physical Therapist Assistant shall not perform the following Physical Therapy activities:

- a. Interpretation of referrals;
- b. Physical Therapy initial evaluation and re-evaluation;
- c. Identification, determination, or modification of plans of care (including goals and treatment programs);
- d. Final discharge assessment/evaluation or establishment of the discharge plan; or
- e. Therapeutic techniques beyond the education, skill and knowledge

of the Physical Therapist Assistant.

9.3. Supervision requirements of a Physical Therapist Assistant depend upon the practice setting in which the care is delivered:

- a. When care is delivered in a hospital or other acute-care center, free-standing, or independent practice setting, a Physical Therapist must be on premises at all times.

- b. When care is delivered in a skilled/unskilled nursing facility, distinct part skilled/unskilled nursing unit in an acute-care hospital, home health, or school system setting, the following requirements must be observed and documented in the patient records:

- c. A Physical Therapist must be accessible by telecommunications to the Physical Therapist Assistant at all times that the Physical Therapist Assistant is treating patients; and available to make a site visit jointly with the Physical Therapist Assistant within twenty-four (24) hours as prudent practice indicates.

- d. An initial visit must be made

by a Physical Therapist for evaluation of the patient and establishment of a plan of care.

e. A joint visit by the Physical Therapist and the Physical Therapist Assistant must be made on the Physical Therapist Assistant's first visit to the patient.

f. At least once every ten (10) Physical Therapist Assistant visits, or within twenty-one (21) calendar days, whichever occurs first, there must be a joint on-site visit by the licensed Physical Therapist Assistant and the licensed Physical Therapist. In the event that the supervising Physical Therapist changes, then that Physical Therapist must evaluate the patient with the Physical Therapist Assistant before the next Physical Therapist Assistant visit is made.

g. The Physical Therapist must make the final visit to terminate the plan of care.

h. No more than two (2) persons, Physical Therapist Assistants, foreign-educated Physical Therapists, or other assistive personnel, or any combination thereof, can be supervised by a Physical Therapist at any one time.

#### **§16-1-10. Licensing individuals outside the United States.**

##### 10.1 A Physical Therapist candidate

for licensure in West Virginia who was educated outside of the United States must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for licensure by the Board:

##### a. Credentials:

1. The foreign-educated applicant must present a certificate issued by a Board-approved prescreening certification agency.

##### b. Education.

1. The applicant is to be a Physical Therapy graduate of a foreign institution of higher learning with at least the equivalent of a B. S. Degree in Physical Therapy as determined by the Board.

2. Equivalent education is to be reported to the Board through a Board approved credentialing agency.

##### c. English Proficiency:

1. Unless the native language is English, the applicant must demonstrate proficiency in English by passing the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a grade of at least six hundred (600) on the Paper-based Test or at least two hundred fifty (250) on the Computer-based Test; and Test of Spoken English (TSE) with a total score of at least fifty-five (55), and the Test of Written English (TWE) with a score of at least five (5). These scores will be reviewed periodically and determined by the Board.

**§16-1-11. Fees.**

11.1 The West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy is an autonomous State Licensing Board Agency and as such receives no monies from the State's general revenue fund; nor does it receive any Federal money. All money necessary to efficiently staff and equip a public office must be generated by services performed by the Board in behalf of its licensees or other interested parties.

11.2 Applicants shall pay to the Board the fees established by statute and determined by the Board. In addition, the Board may charge fees reasonably related to the cost of providing services to applicants or interested parties. The services for which fees may be collected include, but are not limited to, verification or endorsement of licensure; continuing education coursework review; duplication of license cards or wall certificates; copying; postage expenses; mailing lists; and processing of returned checks.

a. Physical Therapist Application  
.....\$ 25.00

b. Physical Therapist License  
.....\$110.00

c. Physical Therapist Temporary Permit.....\$ 35.00

d. Physical Therapist Biennial Renewal.....\$120.00

e. Physical Therapist Lapsed License  
.....\$250.00

f. Physical Therapist Assistant Application.....\$ 25.00

g. Physical Therapist Assistant License.....\$ 70.00

h. Physical Therapist Assistant Temporary Permit.....\$ 20.00

i. Physical Therapist Assistant Biennial Renewal.....\$ 80.00

j. Physical Therapist Assistant Lapsed License.....\$170.00

k. Permanent License Verification  
.....\$ 25.00

l. Duplicate Wallet Card/License  
.....\$ 5.00

m. Duplicate Wall Certificate  
.....\$15.00



n. Name Change Requiring New  
Card/License (Outside of Renewal Season)  
.....\$5.00

o. Exam Processing Fee.....\$25.00

p. Copy of Statutory Law.....\$20.00

q. Mailing List/Directory

1. Label-ready List.....  
Rate @ 10 cents/name and address

2. Hard-copy Directory.....  
Rate @ 15 cents/name and address

3 .Labels.....  
Rate @ 30 cents/name and address

r. Continuing Education Course  
Review (for Company or Facility)....\$50.00

s. Continuing Education Course  
Review (for WV Licensed PT orPTA)\$5.00

t. Continuing Education Course Re-  
certification (in subsequent yrs.).....\$15.00

u. Bounced Check Fee.....\$10.00

v. Mail Services.....  
(All special requests for specific mail  
services are performed on an even exchange  
basis.)

w. Copying Charges.....\$.20/page

x. All fees not paid by the due date  
shall be assessed a penalty to be determined  
by the Board not to exceed 25% of the  
original fee required.