

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Board of Physical Therapy

(Amendment)

201 KAR 22:020. Eligibility and credentialing procedure.

RELATES TO: KRS ~~164.772,~~ 327.010, 327.050, 327.060, 327.075, 327.080, 327.310

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 327.040(1), (11), (13)

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT: This is to certify that this administrative regulation complies with the requirements of 2025 RS HB 6, Section 8.

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 327.040(11) authorizes the Board of Physical Therapy to promulgate and enforce reasonable administrative regulations for the effectuation of the purposes of KRS Chapter 327. KRS 327.040(1) requires the board to determine if physical therapist applicants meet the qualifications and standards required by KRS Chapter 327. KRS 327.040(13) authorizes the board to promulgate administrative regulations regarding the qualifications for physical therapist assistants. This administrative regulation establishes the criteria for eligibility, methods, and procedures of qualifying for a credential to practice physical therapy in Kentucky.

Section 1. An application shall be accepted for credentialing as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant based on successful completion by the applicant of one (1) of the following processes:

- (1) Examination;
- (2) Endorsement; or
- (3) Reinstatement.

Section 2. Examination Candidate.

(1) To be eligible for the examination, the applicant for licensure as a physical therapist shall:

- (a) Have successfully completed the academic and clinical requirements of a physical therapy program accredited by CAPTE;
- (b) Submit certification of completion by the educational administrator of that program;
- (c) Have successfully completed the Jurisprudence Exam;
- (d) Submit a complete Application for credentialing that includes a photo taken within one (1) year;
- (e) Submit the correct, nonrefundable fee as required in 201 KAR 22:135;
- (f) Submit to the board a completed nationwide criminal background check as required by KRS 327.310 with the background investigation completed no later than six (6) months prior to the date of the filing of the application;
- (g) If applicable, submit on an Applicant Special Accommodations Request Form a request for a reasonable accommodation in testing due to a documented disability; and
- (h) Register for the NPTE examination.

(2) To be eligible for the examination, the applicant for certification as a physical therapist assistant shall:

- (a) Have successfully completed the academic and clinical requirements of a physical ~~therapy~~therapist or physical therapist assistant program accredited by CAPTE; and
 - (b) Complete the requirements of subsection (1)(b) through (h) of this section.
- (3) ~~Effective July 1, 2012,~~ After ~~after~~ six (6) failed attempts at ~~either~~the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant examination, per exam level~~for combination thereof~~, in any jurisdiction, an applicant for licensure or certification shall not be eligible to register for any additional examinations.

Section 3. An applicant for credentialing who is registered for the examination in another jurisdiction shall:

- (1) Meet the eligibility requirements of Section 2 of this administrative regulation; and
- (2) Register with the FSBPT Score Transfer Service to have results submitted to Kentucky.

Section 4. To be eligible for a temporary permit, the candidate shall:

- (1) Meet the qualifications of Section 2 or 3 of this administrative regulation, except for the retake provisions in Section 2(3) of this administrative regulation;
- (2) Complete a Supervisory Agreement for Applicant with Temporary Permit with one
 - (1) or more physical therapists; and
 - (3) Have not failed either the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant examination in any jurisdiction.

Section 5.

- (1) Upon issuance of a temporary permit, the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant applicant shall practice only under the supervision of a physical therapist currently engaged in the practice of physical therapy in Kentucky who:
 - (a) Has practiced in Kentucky for more than one (1) year; and
 - (b) Has an unrestricted license.
- (2) A supervising physical therapist:
 - (a) Shall be on-site at all times during the practice of the applicant with a temporary permit;
 - (b) Shall be responsible for the practice of physical therapy by the applicant with a temporary permit;
 - (c) Shall review, approve, date, and co-sign all physical therapy documentation by the applicant with a temporary permit;
 - (d) May designate an alternate supervising physical therapist who meets the qualifications of subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section. The alternate supervising physical therapist shall sign and date written documentation of the acceptance of the responsibility as identified in paragraph (a) through (c) of this subsection; and
 - (e) Shall notify the board immediately if the supervisory relationship is terminated.
- (3) The applicant with a temporary permit shall:
 - (a) Disclose the applicant's temporary credential status to all patients prior to initiating treatment;
 - (b) Sign documentation with temporary permit number and designation as required in 201 KAR 22:053, Section 5(5)(a) or (b); and
 - (c) Notify the board immediately if the supervisory relationship is terminated.
- (4) The temporary permit shall expire the earlier of:
 - (a) Six (6) months from the date of issuance; or
 - (b) Notice of exam results by the board. A temporary permit holder who is registered for the examination in another jurisdiction shall register with the FSBPT Score Transfer Service to have results submitted to Kentucky within forty-eight (48) hours of the release of the exam results.

Section 6. A physical therapist applicant who meets the qualifications for physical therapy licensure by examination may become a special candidate for physical therapist assistant certification by examination.

Section 7. To be eligible for credentialing by endorsement, the applicant shall:

- (1) Have successfully completed the academic and clinical requirements of a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant program accredited by CAPTE;
- (2) Meet the requirements established in Section 2(1)(b) through (f) of this administrative regulation;

(3) Have successfully completed the NPTE or its equivalent, predecessor examination and register with the FSBPT Score Transfer Service to have results submitted to Kentucky:

(a) For any applicant [A passing score in Kentucky for the person] who took the NPTE prior to July 1, 1993, the board may issue a credential to a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who has a current unrestricted credential from another jurisdiction of the United States if that person meets all qualifications under KRS 327.050 and 201 KAR 22.020 at the time of the applicant's initial credentialing~~[shall be at least equal to the national average raw score minus one and five-tenths (1.5) standard deviation set equal to a converted score of seventy-five (75)]; or~~

(b) After July 1, 1993, a passing score shall be the criterion referenced passing point recommended by the FSBPT set equal to a scaled score of 600;

(4) Have an active credential in this profession in another jurisdiction; and

(5) Have verification of credentials showing the credential has never been revoked, suspended, placed on probation, or is not under disciplinary review in another jurisdiction upon application.

Section 8. To be eligible for reinstatement, the applicant shall meet the requirements in 201 KAR 22:040.

Section 9. A credential issued by the board shall be in effect until March 31 of the next odd-numbered year.

Section 10. A foreign-educated physical therapist shall comply with the provisions of 201 KAR 22:070.

Section 11. Incorporation by Reference.

(1) The following material is incorporated by reference:

(a) "Application for Credentialing", December 2011;

(b) "Supervisory Agreement for Applicant with Temporary Permit", January 2017; and

(c) "Applicant Special Accommodations Request Form", February 2022.

(2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Board of Physical Therapy, 312 Whittington Parkway Suite 102, Louisville, Kentucky 40222, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

(3) This material is also available on the board's website~~[Web site]~~ at pt.ky.gov/Forms/Pages/Exam-Applicant.aspx.

STEPHEN CURLEY, Executive Director

APPROVED BY AGENCY: November 21, 2024

FILED WITH LRC: July 10, 2025 at 11:20 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD: A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall be held on September 23, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. (ET) at 312 Whittington Parkway, Suite 102, Louisville, Kentucky 40222. Individuals interested in being heard at this hearing shall notify this agency in writing five days prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing is received by that date, the hearing may be cancelled. This hearing is open to the public. Any person who wishes to be heard will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed administrative regulation. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made. If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation. Written comments shall be accepted until September 30, 2025. Send written notification of intent to be heard at the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person.

CONTACT PERSON: Stephen Curley, Executive Director, Board of Physical Therapy,
312 Whittington Parkway, Suite 102, Louisville, Kentucky 40222, phone (502) 429-7140,
fax (502) 429-7142, email Stephen.Curley@ky.gov.

REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT

Contact Person: Stephen Curley

(1) Provide a brief summary of:

(a) What this administrative regulation does:

This administrative regulation provides procedures and requirements of the purpose of KRS Chapter 327. KRS 327.040(1) which requires the board to determine if physical therapist applicants meet the qualifications and standards required by KRS Chapter 327. KRS 327.040(13) authorizes.

(b) The necessity of this administrative regulation:

This administrative regulation was necessary to implement provisions of KRS Chapter 327.040.

(c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes:

It provides the procedures for licensing PTs and PTAs.

(d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes:

It provides the procedures for application of licensure requirements for credential holders.

(2) If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:

(a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation:

By creating additional opportunities for Applicants to become licensed.

(b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation:

The necessity is to allow PTs and PTAs licensed prior to 1993 to be licensed more effectively.

(c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes:

The board is authorized to set standards for licensing and application procedures.

(d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes:

By clarifying the requirements and adding additional opportunities for applicants.

(3) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local governments affected by this administrative regulation:

Approximately 6500

(4) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (3) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:

(a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in question (3) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment:

The entities identified in question (3) will be will have less requirements with this regulation change.

(b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it cost each of the entities identified in question (3):

There will be no additional cost.

(c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (3):

The entities identified in question (3) will have less requirements for licensure while maintain public protection.

(5) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost the administrative body to implement this administrative regulation:

(a) Initially:

No cost.

(b) On a continuing basis:

No cost.

(6) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation:

Agency Revenue Fund, and costs will not change from current spending.

(7) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change if it is an amendment:

There will be no increase in fees or funding.

(8) State whether or not this administrative regulation establishes any fees or directly or indirectly increases any fees:

None.

(9) TIERING: Is tiering applied?

Tiering was not used in this administrative regulation because the administrative regulation applies equally to all those individuals regulated by it.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(1) Identify each state statute, federal statute, or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation:

KRS Chapter 327.040.

(2) State whether this administrative regulation is expressly authorized by an act of the General Assembly, and if so, identify the act:

KRS 327.040 (11)

(3)(a) Identify the promulgating agency and any other affected state units, parts, or divisions:

Kentucky Board of Physical Therapy

(b) Estimate the following for each affected state unit, part, or division identified in (3)(a):

1. Expenditures:

For the first year:None

For subsequent years:None

2. Revenues:

For the first year:None

For subsequent years:None

3. Cost Savings:

For the first year:None

For subsequent years:None

(4)(a) Identify affected local entities (for example: cities, counties, fire departments, school districts):

None

(b) Estimate the following for each affected local entity identified in (4)(a):

1. Expenditures:

For the first year:None

For subsequent years:None

2. Revenues:

For the first year:None

For subsequent years:None

3. Cost Savings:

For the first year:None

For subsequent years:None

(5)(a) Identify any affected regulated entities not listed in (3)(a) or (4)(a):

Physical Therapist and Physical Therapist Assistants

(b) Estimate the following for each regulated entity identified in (5)(a):

1. Expenditures:

For the first year:None

For subsequent years:None

2. Revenues:

For the first year:None

For subsequent years:None

3. Cost Savings:

For the first year:None

For subsequent years:None

(6) Provide a narrative to explain the following for each entity identified in (3)(a), (4)(a), and (5)(a)

(a) Fiscal impact of this administrative regulation:

None

(b) Methodology and resources used to reach this conclusion:

There is no fee changes or added costs this would allow individuals that previously couldn't apply for licensure in Kentucky to apply while maintaining public protection.

(7) Explain, as it relates to the entities identified in (3)(a), (4)(a), and (5)(a):

(a) Whether this administrative regulation will have a "major economic impact", as defined by KRS 13A.010(13):

No

(b) The methodology and resources used to reach this conclusion:

There is no fee changes or added costs this would allow individuals that previously couldn't apply for licensure in Kentucky to apply while maintaining public protection.