



**Notice of proposed changes relating to licensure requirements, preceptor,  
reexamination, renewal, continuing education requirements, telerehabilitation  
practice, and checklists in the regulations of the State Physical Therapy and  
Occupational Therapy Board**

**Proposed Regulations - FAQ**

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*April 2019*

**1. What is the purpose of the proposed regulations? What will this regulation do?**

The purpose of the proposed regulations is to update and clarify current regulations. The proposals will

- Expedite new graduate licensure for both physical therapist (PT) and occupational therapist (OT) applicants; increase access to PT and OT services; more efficient license processing times.
- Provide standardized tool for preceptors; better prepare foreign trained interns for entry into U.S. Healthcare; this will also promote clinical competence, ensuring delivery of safe and effective care.
- Amend the approved examination body and provide opportunity for additional course work options offered by an education program that is accredited by a national accreditation agency; increase opportunity for applicants.
- Provide additional continuing education opportunities.
- Allow licensed PT and OT in this state to provide telerehabilitation services to Alaska residents, to implement SB 74 dealing with distance delivery of services, which went into law in 2016.
- Update the checklists used by staff to review applications.

**2. How will an applicant for license renewal know if a particular continuing education courses are approved by the board?**

If the courses are approved or recognized by

- (A) the Alaska Physical Therapy Association;
- (B) the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA);
- (C) the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT)
- (D) other state physical therapy associations; or

(E) other state physical therapy licensing boards.

**3. Does a provider have to be licensed in Alaska in order to provide telerehabilitation services to someone in Alaska?**

Yes, a provider, wherever located, must first obtain a license from the board before providing telerehabilitation services to patients who are located at distant sites by means of an interactive telecommunication system.

**4. What are the costs to comply with the proposed regulations?**

None known, if already licensed in Alaska.

**5. When will the regulations be effective?**

After public comment deadline, comments received are compiled and given to the Board for consideration. The Board may adopt the regulation as written/publicly noticed, may amend and adopt them, choose to take no action, or may withdraw the proposed regulations in part or in its whole. After Board action, the adopted regulations goes to Department of Law (DOL) for final review/approval. DOL either approves or disapproves regulations. Once approved by DOL, it goes to the Lt. Governor for filing. Regulation takes effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the Lt. Governor.

Do you have a question that is not answered here? Please email [RegulationsAndPublicComment@alaska.gov](mailto:RegulationsAndPublicComment@alaska.gov) so it can be added.