

(Words in **boldface and underlined** indicate language being added; words [CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED] indicate language being deleted.)

**Chapter 54. State Physical Therapy and
Occupational Therapy Board.**

12 AAC 54.030(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

...

(5) proof of passing exam scores, sent directly to the department from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) as evidence of having met the requirements of AS 08.84.030(a).

12 AAC 54.030(b) is repealed:

(b) **Repealed** / / [AN APPLICATION MUST BE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD MEMBERS BEFORE AN APPLICANT MAY TAKE THE EXAMINATION. THE BOARD WILL NOT REVIEW AN APPLICATION UNTIL ALL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED UNDER (a) OF THIS SECTION HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT; HOWEVER, THE BOARD MAY APPROVE AN APPLICANT TO TAKE THE EXAMINATION UPON RECEIPT OF A STATEMENT, SENT DIRECTLY FROM THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION TO THE DEPARTMENT INDICATING THAT THE APPLICANT IS ANTICIPATED TO MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS UNDER (a)(1), (3), AND (4) OF THIS SECTION].

...

(Eff. 10/30/82, Register 84; am 7/4/84, Register 90; am 9/26/91, Register 119; am 5/21/97, Register 142; am 10/20/99, Register 152; am 2/17/2002, Register 161; am 8/18/2013, Register

207; am 9/29/2019, Register 231; am ____/____/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.84.010 AS 08.84.030 AS 08.84.040

12 AAC 54.040(a) is amended to read:

(a) An applicant for a physical therapist or physical therapy assistant license by examination who received an education and degree outside the United States shall meet all requirements for licensure under AS 08.84, 12 AAC 54.030(a)(1), (3), [AND] (4), **and (5).** [12 AAC 54.030(b),] and this section.

12 AAC 54.040(j)(4) is amended to read:

...

(4) if the applicant has taken the Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL-iBT), the applicant must obtain at least the following minimum scores:

- (A) writing – **22** [24] points;
- (B) speaking – **24** [26] points;
- (C) reading comprehension – **22** [21] points;
- (D) listening comprehension – **21** [18] points.

...

(Eff. 10/30/82, Register 84; am 7/4/84, Register 90; am 9/26/91, Register 119; am 5/21/97, Register 142; am 10/20/99, Register 152; am 2/17/2002, Register 161; am 8/23/2003, Register 167; am 8/19/2004, Register 171; am 10/18/2007, Register 184; am 8/18/2013, Register 207; am 9/29/2019, Register 231; am ____/____/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.84.010 AS 08.84.032 AS 08.84.065

Editor's note: The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), Test of Written English (TWE), Test of Spoken English (TSE), and the Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL-iBT), examinations described in 12 AAC 54.040(j) are administered by the Educational Testing Services, P.O. Box 6151, Princeton, New Jersey 08541; Telephone: (609) 921-9000, website at www.ets.org.

12 AAC 54.080(c) is repealed:

(c) **Repealed** / / [AN APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE WHO DOES NOT PASS THE EXAMINATION ON THE FIRST ATTEMPT MAY RETAKE THE EXAMINATION TWO ADDITIONAL TIMES WITHOUT REAPPLICATION FOR LICENSURE WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE FIRST FAILURE. BEFORE THE BOARD MAY APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR SUBSEQUENT TESTING BEYOND THREE ATTEMPTS, AN APPLICANT SHALL REAPPLY FOR LICENSURE UNDER 12 AAC 54.030 AND SHALL SUBMIT EVIDENCE SATISFACTORY TO THE BOARD OF HAVING SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ADDITIONAL COURSE WORK OFFERED BY AN EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT IS ACCREDITED BY A NATIONAL ACCREDITATION AGENCY]. (Eff. 10/30/82, Register 84; am 9/26/91, Register 119; am 6/1/95, Register 134; am 10/20/99, Register 152; am 10/18/2007, Register 184; am 9/29/2019, Register 231; am / / , Register)

Authority: AS 08.84.010 AS 08.84.080

12 AAC 54.510(e) is amended to read:

(e) The supervising physical therapist shall give the physical therapy assistant periodic

supervision on site **or by means of telemedicine when in person supervision is not attainable** at least once every month **while the physical therapy assistant being supervised implements a treatment plan with a patient.** The **supervising** physical therapist shall be available for consultation with the physical therapy assistant that may be provided by telephone, verbally, or in writing.

12 AAC 54.510(g)(3) is amended to read:

...

(3) countersign the patient treatment record each time the supervising physical therapist is physically present and directly supervises **or supervises via telehealth** the treatment of a patient by the physical therapy assistant being supervised. (Eff. 10/30/82, Register 84; am 7/4/84, Register 90; am 9/26/91, Register 119; am 6/1/95, Register 134; am 5/21/97, Register 142; am 2/17/2002, Register 161; am 4/11/2008, Register 186; am ____/____/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.84.010

12 AAC 54.530(a) is amended to read:

(a) The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the practice of telerehabilitation by means of an interactive telecommunication system by a physical therapist licensed under AS 08.84 and this chapter in order to provide physical therapy to patients who are located **in this state and do not have access to a physical therapist in person due to geographic or health and safety constraints** [AT DISTANT SITES IN THE STATE WHICH ARE NOT IN CLOSE PROXIMITY OF A PHYSICAL THERAPIST].

...

(Eff. 9/27/2008, Register 187; am 9/29/2019, Register 231; am ____/____/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.84.010 AS 08.84.120

12 AAC 54.810(a)(1) is amended to read:

...

(1) at least once per month the occupational therapist supervising the licensed occupational therapy assistant shall be physically present, **or by means of telemedicine when in person supervision is not attainable**, while the occupational therapy assistant being supervised implements a treatment plan with a patient; and

...

12 AAC 54.810(b)(3) is amended to read:

...

(3) countersign the patient treatment record each time the occupational therapist supervising the occupational therapy assistant is physically present and directly supervises **or supervises via telehealth** the treatment of a patient by the occupational therapy assistant being supervised. (Eff. 5/21/97, Register 142; am ____/____/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.84.010 AS 08.84.030 AS 08.84.190

12 AAC 54.825(a) is amended to read:

(a) The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the practice of

telerehabilitation by means of an interactive telecommunication system by an occupational therapist licensed under AS 08.84 and this chapter in order to provide occupational therapy to patients who are located **in this state and do not have access to an occupational therapist in person due to geographic or health and safety constraints** [AT DISTANT SITES IN THE STATE WHICH ARE NOT IN CLOSE PROXIMITY OF AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST].

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(Eff. 9/27/2008, Register 187; am 9/29/2019, Register 231; am ____/____/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.84.010 AS 08.84.120