



ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2022

MISSION: The mission of the Arizona State Board of Physical Therapy is to protect the public from the incompetent, unprofessional, and unlawful practice of physical therapy. The Arizona Physical Therapy Practice Act establishes the standards for the practice of physical therapy, continuing competence and testing, and defines the scope and limitations of practice. The Board licenses and certifies qualified applicants as physical therapists and physical therapist assistants; and receives, investigates and adjudicates complaints against licensees and certificate holders.



**All Physical Therapists licenses and
Physical Therapist Assistant
certificates expire on August 31, 2022**

**PT licenses and PTA certificates MUST
be renewed by August 31, 2022.**

**The eLicensing renewal portal is
scheduled to open on July 5, 2022.**

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Prepare for Renewal Season:

- ✓ Test your access to your [eLicensing](#) account.
- ✓ Your username is your email address. If updates are necessary, email your name, license number, and desired email address with your request for an update to:
 - monica.crowley@ptboard.az.gov
 - veronica.cardoza@ptboard.az.gov
- ✓ Ensure that you have completed your CEU requirements by August 31, 2022.



Steps to Renew:

- Log into your [eLicensing](#) Account (user name: e-mail address)
- Locate your license or certificate and click “Renew”
- Answer questions based on the current compliance cycle
- Complete **all** fields and pay for your renewal
- Watch your inbox and/or spam folder for your wallet card. Wallet cards will be supplied electronically in 2022 after your renewal application is approved.



Did You Know?

- PT’s are required to obtain 20 contact hours of continuing competence credit

- PTA's are required to obtain 10 contact hours of continuing competence credit.
- The Board does not limit the amount of credit that can be earned online.
- CEU Completion certificates are NOT submitted with your renewal application. (Completion certificates and CEU details must be submitted to the Board if you are audited. Audit notices will be sent via email beginning in September/October 2022.)
- PT licenses and PTA certificates not renewed by the 8/31/2022 expiration date will be placed on administrative suspension and must be successfully reinstated before practicing as a PT or PTA in AZ.



CEU Category A, B and C Descriptions:

Category A continuing competence activities shall be approved by:

1. An accredited medical, health care, or physical therapy program;
2. A state or national medical, health care, or physical therapy association, or a component of the association; or
3. A national medical, health care, or physical therapy specialty society.

Category A continuing competence activities include:

1. A physical therapy continuing education course designed to provide necessary understanding of current research, clinical skills, administration, or education related to the practice of physical therapy. Calculation of contact hours is determined by dividing the total minutes of instruction by 60. Breaks shall not be included as part of instructional time;

2. Coursework towards granting or renewal of a physical therapy clinical specialty certification approved by the Board. Each 60 minutes of instruction equals one contact hour;
3. Coursework in a physical therapy clinical residency program. Each 60 minutes of instruction equals one contact hour; and
4. Coursework in a postgraduate physical therapy education from an accredited college or university. Each 60 minutes of instruction equals one contact hour.

Category B continuing competence activities include:

1. **Study group**: Maximum five contact hours for physical therapists and two contact hours for physical therapist assistants.
 - a. A study group is a structured meeting designed for the study of a clinical physical therapy topic dealing with current research, clinical skills, procedures, or treatment related to the practice of physical therapy
 - b. A study group shall have a minimum of three participants and two hours of participation to equal one contact hour.
2. **Self instruction**: Maximum five contact hours for physical therapists and two contact hours for physical therapist assistants.
 - a. Self instruction is a structured course of study relating to one clinical physical therapy topic dealing with current research, clinical skills, procedures, or treatment related to the practice of physical therapy. Self instruction may be directed by a correspondence course, video, internet, or satellite program.
 - b. Each 60 minutes of self instruction equals one contact hour.
3. **Inservice education**: Maximum five contact hours for physical therapists and two contact hours for physical therapist assistants.
 - a. Inservice education is attendance at a presentation pertaining to current research, clinical skills, procedures, or treatment related to the practice of physical therapy or relating to patient welfare or safety, including CPR certification.
 - b. Each 60 minutes of in-service education equals one contact hour.

Category C modes of continuing competence include:

1. Physical therapy practice management coursework: Maximum of five contact hours for physical therapists and two contact hours for physical therapist assistants.
 - a. Physical therapy practice management course work is course work concerning physical therapy administration, professional responsibility, ethical obligations, or legal requirements applicable to physical therapy practice settings.
 - b. If the course is graded, a licensee or certificate holder shall receive a “pass” in a pass/fail course or a minimum of a C in a graded course to receive credit.
 - c. Each 60 minutes of practice management coursework equals one contact hour.
2. Teaching or lecturing: Maximum five contact hours for physical therapists and two contact hours for physical therapist assistants.
 - a. Teaching or lecturing is the presentation of an original educational program dealing with current research, clinical skills, procedures, treatment, or practice management related to the practice of physical therapy principally for health care professionals. Credit may be earned for teaching when the presentation is accompanied by written materials prepared, augmented, or updated by the presenter including course objectives and program content.
 - b. One 60 minute instructional period equals 2.5 contact hours.
 - c. Credit shall be given only once for a presentation within a compliance period.
3. Publication: Maximum five contact hours for physical therapists and two contact hours for physical therapist assistants.
 - a. Publication includes writing for professional publication, platform, or poster presentation abstracts that have direct application to the practice of physical therapy. Credit may be earned for publication of material that is a minimum of 1500 words in length and published by a recognized third-party publisher of physical therapy material.
 - b. Each article published in a refereed journal, book chapter, or book equals five contact hours for physical therapists and two contact hours for physical therapist assistants. Articles published in non-refereed journals, magazines,

newsletters, or periodicals equal two contact hours for physical therapists and one contact hour for physical therapist assistants.

4. Clinical instruction: Maximum five contact hours for physical therapists and two contact hours for physical therapist assistants.
 - a. Clinical instruction involves assisting a student physical therapist or physical therapist assistant or a physical therapist resident or fellow acquire clinical skills required of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.
 - b. An individual to whom clinical instruction is provided shall be enrolled in:
 - i. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education; or
 - ii. A physical therapist residency or fellowship program approved by the American Physical Therapy Association.
 - c. The program shall provide the enrolled individual with proof of completing the hours of clinical instruction.
 - d. Each 120 hours of clinical instruction equals one contact hour.



Activities Not Eligible for Continuing Competence Credit

A licensee or certificate holder shall not receive continuing competence credit for the following activities:

1. A regularly scheduled educational opportunity provided within an institution, such as rounds or case conferences;
2. A staff meeting;
3. A publication or presentation by the licensee or certificate holder to a lay or nonprofessional group;
4. Routine teaching of personnel, students, or staff as part of a job requirement.