

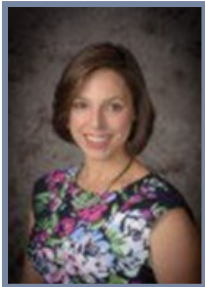


Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2019

Message from the Director



The Louisiana Physical Therapy Board is made up of eight members. Five members are physical therapists, one is a physical therapist assistant, one is a medical doctor and one is a consumer member. Currently the board has two vacancies: the PTA member and the consumer member. If you know of someone who is interested in public service and would like experience working on a governing board, you should encourage them to apply. The application for the board member positions is available on the website of the Office of the Governor and can be accessed by clicking this link: <http://gov.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/form/home/14>

Charlotte F. Martin, M.P.A.
Executive Director

CURRENT BOARD

| <u>Board Member</u> | <u>Term Expiration</u> |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Julie Harris, PT Chairman | Dec 2019 |
| Karl Kleinpeter, PT Secretary/Treasurer | Sept 2020 |
| Judith Halverson, PT | Jan 2021 |
| Meredith Warner, M.D. | Jan 2021 |
| Kathryn Brittain, PT | Sept 2021 |
| Phillip Page, PT | Sept 2021 |
| Vacancy, PTA | |
| Vacancy, Consumer | |

Farewell to our PTA Board Member

On September 28, 2016, Governor John Bel Edwards appointed Craig Prejean, PTA to the board to fill the vacant PTA position. During his time at the board, Craig was dutiful in his public servant responsibilities, serving on investigations and the CEU committee. The board has appreciated his service, including his valuable input from a PTA's perspective. Craig continues to practice physical therapy in nearby Opelousas. The board wishes him all the best!

Practice Reminder

The Board would like to remind licensees that for physical therapists holding a DPT degree, it is appropriate to introduce yourself as 'Doctor' but it must be made clear to your patients that you are a Doctor of Physical Therapy. This helps you to avoid misrepresentation and to reduce any confusion that a patient may have in assuming their PT is a medical physician.

Chairman's Message

The board is working on providing more educational resources to better aid your practice in Louisiana. Our education and outreach efforts are continuously evolving and growing in magnitude. We encourage all licensees to reach out to the board with requests for educational topics for the practice of physical therapy.

If you are ever unsure if you are practicing within the parameters of the Practice Act, we encourage you to reach out to the board office for clarification. If a staff member is unable to answer your question and it requires more thorough consideration, a board member will be consulted.



Although the board continues to seek opportunities for preventing violations of the Practice Act and Rules, there are licensees who will practice in a manner that is unprofessional, unethical, and harmful to patients. It is your duty to report any known violations of the Practice Act and/or Rules to the board so the board can investigate complaints received and determine if disciplinary action is appropriate.

Julie Harris, PT, DPT, OCS
Board Chairman

Recent Board Decisions

Jurisprudence Exam Update

At the August 29th board meeting, the Board approved a new online Jurisprudence exam that has scenario-based questions. The Board also approved the increase in the number of questions to 40 with the same pass rate as before. The new questions aim to better assess knowledge of the current Practice Act and Rules.

Changes to CE Application Form

At the September 26th board meeting, the Board discussed the CEU policy for reviewing continuing education courses for board approval. The Board voted to amend the CEU policy to require applicants of clinical course types to submit three (3) references of articles published in peer-reviewed journals related to the field of physical therapy that were published within the last ten years. These changes to policy will become effective January 1, 2020.

PT Compact

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I verify a Compact privilege for a provider?

Compact privileges may be verified by visiting <https://purchase.ptcompact.org/Verify>

Can I purchase a privilege if I have recent disciplinary action on my license?

No. Compact holders may not have disciplinary action on their license within the previous two years. If disciplinary action is enacted on your license, you will lose all Compact privileges.

Can I purchase a privilege if I have am currently participating in the Confidential Recovering Physical Therapy Program?

Participants in the Confidential Recovering Physical Therapy Program (RPTP) are not eligible to participate in the Compact during the term of the alternative program without prior authorization from such other member state.

When does my Compact privilege expire?

Compact privileges expire on the same expiration date as your home state license. At the time that you renew your license, it is your decision whether or not to renew Compact privilege(s) purchased.

I'd like to purchase a Compact privilege in a state other than Louisiana. What do I do?

Each state's requirements for obtaining a privilege to practice may be different. Consult with the Fees & Jurisprudence page at www.PTCompact.org to verify requirements *prior* to purchasing your privilege.

My permanent residence is in Louisiana but I am licensed in Texas, not Louisiana. Can I purchase a privilege to practice in Louisiana?

No. You must hold a license in the state of your primary residence and then may purchase privileges in other active member states. Per the Compact Rules, Compact holders may be audited by the Commission at any time to verify compliance with home state residency requirements.

Disciplinary Action

Philippe Veeters, PT 01437F, Baton Rouge, LA: Administrative Complaints 2019-I-003, 2019-I-010, 2019-I-021, 2019-I-022, 2019-I-023, 2019-I-024, and 2019-I-027; suspension in the Consent Order in Complaint No. 2018-I-014, is continued and converted to an indefinite suspension. Should he be found guilty of, enter a guilty plea, or a plea of nolo contendere, or any other plea under La. C.Cr.P. art. 893 or 894 to any criminal offense relating to patient care in any matter in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court or in any other jurisdiction or in any case involving sexual battery or sexual misconduct and/or other harm to or misconduct with a physical therapy patient his license will be automatically revoked.

Assessing Risks in a Changing Environment

Change is inevitable in the current healthcare environment. It can provide an opportunity for growth, but change can also heighten your risk of violating the Practice Act and Rules. In light of the recent changes to reimbursement models and productivity requirements, the board has identified the potential for an increased risk to our licensees.

Were you directly affected by the changes that went into effect for Medicare patients in skilled nursing facilities on October 1st, or will you be directly affected by the changes expected at the first of the year for Medicare patients in the home health setting? If so, you may want to ask yourself questions about the increased risk you may be facing with these changes.

This is a reminder to licensees of your professional obligation as a physical therapist. It is the physical therapist who is responsible for managing all aspects of physical therapy care of each of their patients (La R.S. 37:2418.A. and LAC46:LIV§303.B).

Additionally, a resource that may be helpful to licensees working under PDPM has been made available to you by The American Physical Therapy Association. On this page, APTA also provides information on how to take action if you are engaged in or have witnessed a billing or productivity practice that you think are suspect. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Legal Corner



As a public body, the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board is subject to requests for records pursuant to Louisiana’s Public Records Law (La. R.S. 44:1, *et seq.*). The Louisiana Public Records Law is meant to ensure that public documents are preserved and open to the public for viewing in accordance with Louisiana’s Constitution, which states, “[n]o person shall be denied the right to observe the deliberations of public bodies and examine public documents except in cases established by law.”

In its regular course of business, the Board maintains records of a licensee’s application, continuing education, fitness to practice, and disciplinary proceedings, among other records. Any adult may make a records request to the Board for records in its possession, and, generally, the Board must comply with such a request unless a legal exception or exemption applies, or there is a reasonable expectation of privacy protecting the record or information from disclosure. For example, social security numbers are protected from disclosure; however, records admitted at a formal disciplinary hearing of a licensee are usually not protected. The Board evaluates each records request on a case-by-case basis to determine what, if any, records are subject to production.

James R. Raines, J.D., M.S., M.M.F.T.
General Counsel

In compliance with Act 655 of the 2018 Regular Legislative Session, the Board gives notice to its licensees and applicants of their opportunity to file a complaint about board actions or procedures. You may submit such complaints to one or more of the following organizations:

1. LPTB, 2110 W. Pinhook Rd, Ste. 202; 337-262-1043; info@laptboard.org;
2. House & Gov Affairs; P.O. Box 94062, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, 225-342-2403, h&ga@legis.la.gov
3. Senate & Gov Affairs; P.O. Box 94183, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, 225-342-9845; s&g@legis.la.gov

Rules Revision Highlights

Effective September 20, 2019:

Treatment for Dry Needling. Louisiana licensees are no longer required to submit their course completion certificates after completing their 50 hours of dry needling. The Board advises all licensees that they must still complete 50 hours of board-approved face-to-face training in order to utilize dry needling in practice. It is recommended that all licensees maintain copies of their certificates in their personal files should they ever need to present them as proof of their training.

Continuous Supervision. The definition of continuous supervision has been updated to read: observation and supervision of the procedures, functions, and practice by a supervisor who is physically within the same treatment area. Specifications regarding the supervisor and supervisee have been removed.

Clinical Instruction of Students. Rule §337 has been updated to require on-premises supervision for a PT student in all practice settings and continuous supervision for a PTA student in all practice settings. A PTA may also act as a clinical instructor for a PTA student in all practice settings provided that the PT supervisor of the PTA is available by phone or other communication device.

Supervision Ratios. PTAs are allowed to supervise no more than two PTA students at a time.

For a complete copy of the latest Rules [click here](#). If you have a Rule that you would like considered for revision, please contact the board office by calling 337-262-1043 or emailing info@laptboard.org

Advisory Committee Members

Chris Franks, PT
Lake Charles

Nicholas Butler, PT
Monroe

Marie Vazquez, PT
Shreveport

Jason Douglas, PT
Larose

Tyra Mitchell, PT
New Orleans

Jeremy Dye, PT
Shreveport

Shaina Goudeau, PT
Pineville

A reminder to all licensees that any changes to residential or business address, telephone numbers or email address must be communicated to the Board within 30 days of such change, (La R.S. 37 §2415.B.; LAC 46: LIV§317.A. Licensees may update their contact information by logging into their dashboard and editing the information on the left hand menu under ‘Current Contact Information’.

Staff Members

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UPCOMING EVENTS



BOARD

Board Meeting

12/11/2019 starting at 2:00 P.M.

Administrative Hearings

12/12/2019 starting at 8:00 A.M.

*Board Meeting time and dates are subject to change.
Check our website for the most up-to-date information.*

www.laptboard.org/Meetings

Traveling Jurisprudence

2020 Schedule

To register for a Live Jurisprudence Seminar, email your name, license number, and desired Jurisprudence location to ceu@laptboard.org. Your certificate will be emailed to you following the completion of the seminar.

[Click here to view the latest information on all live Jurisprudence events.](#)

Additional dates and locations may be added; please check our website frequently for the most up-to-date information.

Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

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