

Random Audits

The Board is authorized by state statute to enter and make inspections of any place where physical therapy is practiced. Accordingly, the Board through its agents continues random inspections and audits to determine if licensees are in compliance with the Board regulations. During the second, third, and fourth quarter of 2015 and the first quarter of 2016, the following licensees were cited by the Board:

Leigh L. Hancock, PT	Failing to display a current licensure certificate and failing to have a licensure certificate with a current seal.
Cheryl Sanford Givens, PT	Failing to display a current licensure certificate and seal.
Jeff W. Maddox, PT	Failing display a current licensure certificate and failing to have a licensure certificate with a current seal & failing to have a license identification card of premises.

If licensees cannot locate their current licensure certificate and/or licensure identification card, they may want to purchase the documents from the Board office. A second inspection for licensees who are not in compliance may be required in the near future.

The Board is authorized to impose a monetary sanction of not less than \$100.00 or not more than \$500.00 for the first violation.

The Board expresses its thanks for the courteous cooperation received by its inspectors at the majority of the sites visited. The Board is also pleased that several sites seemed to be in full compliance with physical therapy laws and regulations. Keep up the good work.

Random Audits:

During the second, third, and fourth quarter of 2015 and the first quarter of 2016, the following practitioners were inspected and audited. The Board is happy to announce their compliance.

Stephen D. Kay, PT	In compliance	Tom T. Milliken, PT	In compliance
Kristen M. McDonald, PTA	In compliance	Jerel L. West, Jr., PT	In compliance
Cristin W. Robison, PTA	In compliance	Elizabeth M. Thompson, PT	In compliance
Harold D. Thompson, III, PT	In compliance	Lara L. Woodard, PT	In compliance
Ellen C. Jordan, PTA	In compliance	Nicole M. Guedon, PTA	In compliance
James E. Denson, PT	In compliance	Gwendolyn R. Duckworth, PTA	In compliance
Andrew W. Duggar, PT	In compliance	Lee A. Newman, III, PT	In compliance
Amanda A. Cox, PT	In compliance	Derek W. Puckett, PT	In compliance
Katie R. Phillips, PTA	In compliance	Eleanor H. Smith, PT	In compliance
Cathy G. Cooper, PT	In compliance	James L. Bloodworth, PTA	In compliance
Frances L. Pitts, PTA	In compliance	Margaret T. Sanders, PT	In compliance
Lindsey M. Warren, PTA	In compliance		

Frequently Asked Question

Can physical therapists use diagnostic images?

Q. *Is it appropriate for physical therapists to use images to assist (radiographs, CT scans, MRI) in the management of patients?*

A. *The use of diagnostic images is now being taught in many physical therapy programs to aid in the understanding of the physical injury or abnormality. It is appropriate for the therapist to refer to these images, if available, to assist in managing patients. It is considered out of scope for a therapist to order these studies initially for licensees under the jurisdiction of the MS State Board of Physical Therapy.*

Mississippi State Board
of Physical Therapy
Post Office Box 55707
Jackson, MS 39296-5707



Change of Home Address, Worksite or Name

It is the responsibility of licensees to provide the Board with written notification of address changes (home and/or work) no later than 30 days after such change is effective according to Part 3103 Rule 1.8. For a name change, a notarized copy of the legal document must accompany the request. Failure to keep your address or name change current will result in a \$25.00 fee for the cost of resending any correspondence or materials.

NAME _____ LICENSE # _____

FORMER NAME _____

FORMER ADDRESS (City, State, Zip) _____ COUNTY _____

NEW ADDRESS (City, State, Zip) _____ COUNTY _____

() _____
PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

FORMER EMPLOYER: _____

PRIMARY EMPLOYER _____ ADDRESS (City, State, Zip) _____ () _____
PHONE NUMBER _____

Mail this form to the Mississippi Board of Physical Therapy, P.O. Box 55707, Jackson, MS 39296-5707 or fax to (601) 352-2920.

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY



Newsletter

Issue 10 Volume 1

Spring 2016

Board Members:

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Word from Board Chair

PT/PTA Supervision Relationships

The Board recently received some feedback regarding the state of PT/PTA supervisory relationships in our state. This guidance gives us cause for significant concern. It has come to our attention that in some instances, PTAs are providing administrative direction of a physical therapy practice setting. These practices attempt to make a distinction between administrative and clinical supervision. They maintain that the PTA is capable of providing managerial oversight while remaining compliant with clinical supervision rules. Although we recognize that many PTAs have further education, abilities, and personal inclinations toward management, the physical therapist should be the primary administrator of the practice. As in clinical practice, the PT may delegate specific administrative tasks to a PTA in accordance with their training and abilities. However, overall control of the practice MUST remain securely with the physical therapist.

When the PT/PTA supervisory relationship falls out of equilibrium, patient care potentially suffers. When the balance of power and authority is reversed, the field becomes fraught with ethical landmines. For example, when a physical therapist assistant determines patient assignment and scheduling, the temptation to schedule adequate time for physical therapist evaluations may be compromised. We are hearing anecdotal reports that in clinics where PTAs have administrative control, the PTs may be instructed to sign re-evaluation and handoff documentation with little to no coordination and communication with the PTA. In some instances, the on-site supervision rules are being minimized or eliminated.

The Mississippi Physical Therapy Practice Act Rules and Regulations state unequivocally in Rule 3.2 that

1. All licensees shall comply with the current American Physical Therapy Association Code of Ethics: Standards of Ethical Conduct and the accompanying Guide for Professional Conduct for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.
2. All licensees shall comply with the current American Physical Therapy Association Standards of Practice for Physical Therapy and the accompanying Criteria.

The APTA Code of Ethics for Physical Therapists and the Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistants provide this insight.

7E. Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants shall refrain from employment arrangements, or other arrangements, that prevent physical therapists from fulfilling professional obligations to patients/clients.

Furthermore, the Standards for Physical Therapy Practice state in section II:

D. A physical therapist is responsible for the direction of the physical therapy service.

So, ENOUGH ALREADY!!! If you are a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who is participating in this supervisory arrangement, it is your professional responsibility to extricate yourself from the situation and report it to the Mississippi Board of Physical Therapy.

The Board is currently discussing ways to strengthen this portion of our rules and regulations and to communicate clearly to parties of interest that this type of supervision model is contrary to the best interests of patients. Be aware that this issue has definitely captured our attention, and further discussion, guidance, and action are on the way!

Cyndi K. Scott, PT, PhD, MBA

Did You Know?

- ❖ There are 1,929 physical therapists and 1,145 physical therapist assistants with active Mississippi licenses as of April 13, 2016.
- ❖ The next scheduled Board meeting is July 14, 2016. This meeting is open to the public.
- ❖ There is a new consumer awareness and protection tab on the website.
- ❖ There are 75 physical therapists approved to perform dry needling in Mississippi.
- ❖ The Board office will be closed April 25, 2016 for a legal state holiday.
- ❖ The Board office will be closed May 30, 2016 for a legal state holiday.
- ❖ That Holmes Community College in Grenada, MS has a PTA program that is now a CAPTE candidate for accreditation.
- ❖ Changing your employment address is as important as changing your mailing address. You can update your change of address/employment by logging into your profile. The address must be a complete address with telephone number.
- ❖ The office does not have petty cash onsite.
- ❖ Physical therapy is one of the most desirable professions in the United States.
- ❖ The Board has membership in the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy which is composed of all the physical therapy licensing boards in the United States.
- ❖ Copies of past newsletters are posted on the Board website.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING CCU APPROVAL

As a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant licensee, it is **YOUR** responsibility to verify that the continuing competence (CC) courses you take are courses that meet the requirements of our regulations. To ensure that your courses are approved, please follow the steps listed below:

1. Go to the Continuing Competence page on the website (www.msbpt.ms.gov) and select the list of approved courses for the appropriate year. To be certain that you are taking courses that are acceptable to the Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy, it is best to select courses that the Board has reviewed, approved, and placed on this list. **ONLY** courses that have been submitted to the Mississippi Board for review appear on this list. **ALWAYS** check this list before registering and paying for a course.
2. If a course you would like to take does not appear on our list, you may check the regulations that appear at the top of the list and see if the course information provided to you by the sponsor lists any of the general approvals that we accept, such as APTA. However, if there is any doubt in your mind whether the course is acceptable, you should follow the instructions in #3.
3. **CALL THE SPONSORING ORGANIZATION.** Ask if they have submitted the course to Mississippi and received approval. If they respond that the course is approved in Mississippi, ask the sponsor to fax or email a copy of the approval letter to you. At this point, you may discover that they are relying on the statement in our regulations Part 3103 Rule 5.4 (1) (b) that says that we will accept “Conferences and continuing competence activities provided by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), Mississippi Physical Therapy Association (MPTA), and other state chapters and sections of APTA.” If that is the case, the sponsor needs to put in writing, either in a letter or an email, a statement indicating approval of the course, such as: “Per Mississippi Regulation Part 3103 Rule 5.4 (1) (b) the course will be accepted by the Mississippi State Board of Physical Therapy”. They should also provide you with a list of any other state Physical Therapy Associations that have approved the course. **DO NOT ACCEPT THEIR VERBAL STATEMENT THAT THE COURSE IS APPROVED IN MISSISSIPPI!**

Renewal Options and Reminders

The Board suggests that you keep the following information in mind when renewing your license:

ONLINE RENEWAL IS NOW MANDATORY!! PAPER RENEWAL APPLICATIONS WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED. THE ONLINE APPLICATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED NO EARLIER THAN MAY 1st!!!

Address Changes: **Have you moved or had a change in employment? Did you notify the Board office in writing of the change?** The Board will mail renewal notices approximately sixty (60) days prior to the end of the licensure period. This means the notice will be mailed prior to May 1, 2016 to the last home address on file with the Board. Please notify the Board immediately by logging into your online profile and making address and employment changes yourself; or, you may email, fax, or mail our changes in information. Refer to Part 3103 Rule 1.8 of the regulations.

Completion of renewal application: You should verify that you have answered every question, including updating any changes to your personal and professional addresses and telephone numbers and that you have listed all continuing competence (CC) courses. The entire address should be included (name, address, city, state, zip and telephone number) in completing your renewal application. The information requested is pertinent for Board use.

Photo Required: If you do not have a photo in your profile or if your photo is older than four (4) years, you will be instructed to upload a new photo before the renewal button will be displayed. The photo must be an approximate size of 2x2 inches, head and shoulder only, full face, front view, in color on a plain white background, standard photo stock paper. Scanned or computer-generated photographs must be printed on photo quality paper and must have no visible pixels or dots. Photos can be uploaded to the licensee's profile or the photo can be emailed to sboyette@msbpt.ms.gov or mailed to the Board office. As an alternative to scanning an actual photo, you may have someone make a photo of you with your smart phone or make a selfie and upload it from your phone to your profile. Refer to Part 3103 Rule 4.1.3

Photographs that will not be accepted include: 1) photo that includes anyone besides you; 2) photo with sunglasses, hat or cap; 3) copy of a photograph; 4) driver's license photo and/or picture identification

Renewal Fee: The renewal fee is \$150.00 for physical therapists and \$125.00 for physical therapist assistants. Online renewal requires payment by a credit card or electronic check.

Continuing Competence: List all approved CC courses in the Education tab in your profile. You will select the button labeled view/update current CCU hours. **If you are selected for CC random audit, you will see a message in red that "you have been randomly selected for CC audit" on the payment screen.** You will also receive an email notification. Since CC documentation is part of the renewal process, you will not receive your new seal and identification card until you meet the requirements of random audits. If your certificates are not received by June 30, 2016, you will be placed on CC probation. All physical therapists and physical therapist assistants need to be aware that the Board can request to see your continuing competence certificates at any time.

Currently on CC Probation: Those licensees that are currently on CC probation will be able to renew online, but the renewal process will not be complete until documentation of all CCs under your probationary requirement has been received and reviewed. Please note that your expiration date will not change until this review has occurred. Refer to Part 3103 Rule 5.2(6).

Change of name: If you are requesting a change of name, a copy of a legal document must accompany the name change request. Legal documents consist of a copy of your marriage license, divorce decree, social security card or driver's license.

Be on Time: It is in your best interest to submit the online renewal prior to June 30, 2016 to avoid late and reinstatement fees. Licensees whose renewals are completed in their entirety should have their new identification card and licensure seal before the end of the licensure period. All licensees will be able to review their expiration date in their profile, and the new date is immediately available for verification. **The Board staff cannot guarantee that renewals received after June 15, 2016 will be processed in time for licensees to receive confirmation of renewal in the mail prior to June 30, 2016.** Remember... employers should not let you work until your new renewal licensure information has been received.

Verify receipt of renewal: Upon completion of the online renewal payment process, you will have the opportunity to print a receipt of payment and proof of renewal having been received.

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Renewal Options and Reminders... *continued*

Failure to renew before the deadline: A licensee who does not file all requirements for renewal before the end of the licensure period will be deemed to have allowed his/her license to lapse. Those individuals whose licenses expire will be required to pay the late fee in addition to the renewal fee. Failure to submit all renewal requirements by September 30 shall result in the necessity of the payment of a reinstatement fee in addition to the late fee and renewal fee. Refer to Part 3103 Rule 4.3 of the regulations. Remember...you may not practice as a physical therapist or as a physical therapist assistant until your license has been reinstated. Practicing with a lapsed license could result in disciplinary action by the Board.

SPECIAL REQUEST: During renewal period, May 1-June 30, the Board office is extremely busy with processing renewals. At the same time we have all of the graduating physical therapists and physical therapist assistants applying for licensure and meeting deadlines for taking the NPTE. We are asking that you **PLEASE REFRAIN FROM CALLING THE BOARD OFFICE TO VERIFY THAT A CONTINUING COMPETENCE COURSE/ACTIVITY IS APPROVED.** If you need to check the approval of a Continuing Competence course, please go to the Continuing Competence page on the website and follow the INSTRUCTIONS that are posted there concerning CC APPROVAL. The link you need to select is: **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING CCU APPROVAL.** The Board staff thanks you for helping us process renewals and graduate applications in a timely manner.



New Licensees

The Board is pleased to welcome 37 new licensees to the physical therapy community in Mississippi. These licenses have been issued since the winter 2015 newsletter. Welcome to the physical therapy practitioner community in Mississippi!!

Physical Therapists:

Adcock, Janice P.
Broussard, Matthew Lucas
Cancer, Ashley Nicole
Domino, Nathan Andrew
Friel, Allison Denise
Glover, Kari L.
Hart, Sharon E.
Hegarty, Cory R.
Kirchner, Donald Edward
Lesley, Cameron G.
Miller, Jr., Mark P.
Reneker, Jennifer C.
Ringers, David Paul
Robinson, Erik J.
Smith, Tina Ashcraft

Villareal, Sharon May F.
Williams, Ivy Lauren
Yakley, Sherry Renee

Physical Therapist Assistants:

Abbe, Barbi Carol
Brown, Mary Rachel
Carrick, Ashley M.
Collado, Jennifer Jordan
Cotten, Brandi Farmer
Elliott, Emily J.
Esquivel-Wade, Theresa A.
Giattina, Holly M.
Harris, Nicholas M.
Kinsey, Cynthia M.
Marth, Rebecca A.

Norton, Victoria Ruth
Vincent, Erika Nicole
Wilson, Melissa F.

Physical therapy practitioners who have reinstated/reissued their license since the winter 2015 newsletter.

Physical Therapists:

Hull, Wanda S.
Kirk, Misty Mullins
Walker, Carolyn Hill

Physical Therapist Assistants:

Beach, Billy Kevin
Wandell-Willis, Laura