

INFORMATION/REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS - PHYSICAL THERAPY LICENSE

Access this form via website at: cca.hawaii.gov/pvl

INFORMATION/REQUIREMENTS

DEFINITIONS

No person shall practice physical therapy in this state unless the person is appropriately licensed.

"Physical therapist" means a person who is licensed to practice physical therapy in this State.

"Physical therapy" or "physical therapy services" means the examination, treatment, and instruction of human beings to detect, assess, prevent, correct, alleviate, and limit physical disability, bodily malfunction, pain from injury, disease, and any other physical or mental condition as performed by a physical therapist appropriately licensed under this chapter. It includes but is not limited to:

- (1) Administration, evaluation, modification of treatment, and instruction involving the use of physical measures, activities, and devices, for preventive and therapeutic purposes; provided that should the care or treatment given by the physical therapist contravene treatment diagnosed or prescribed by a medical doctor, osteopath, or as determined by the Board, the physical therapist shall confer with the professional regarding the manner or course of treatment in conflict and take appropriate action in the best interest of the patient; and
- (2) The provision of consultative, educational, and other advisory services for the purpose of reducing the incidence and severity of physical disability, bodily malfunction, or pain.

Hawaii does not reciprocate with any other state or country. Each applicant is required to meet the education and national examination requirements according to Hawaii laws and rules. Licensure requirements are subject to change as a result of new laws or rules, or new policies and procedures adopted by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") in cooperation with the Board of Physical Therapy ("Board"). All applicants must meet current licensure requirements.

EDUCATION

Submit proof of one of the following:

- (1) Graduated from a Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) accredited physical therapy program. **ARRANGE** with your school or college to send a certified transcript (in the English language) showing graduation date and physical therapy degree conferred, **directly** to the Board.
 - If you have just graduated or will be graduating soon, have your school send the following **directly** to the Board by the application filing deadline:
 - i. An official letter of completion by the license exam date which states that you are in your final year of that physical therapy program and have completed the physical therapy program which at the time of graduation was accredited by CAPTE. This letter must be received in the Board's office first in order to be deemed eligible to sit for the exam.
 - ii. **An official final transcript verifying degree conferred must follow and be received prior to a license being issued; OR**
- (2) Graduated from a school or college of physical therapy located outside the U.S. and that is not CAPTE accredited:
 - You must submit your credentials to a Board approved Credentials Evaluation Service organization. The Board will accept a credentials evaluation report from those organizations listed below. **ARRANGE** to have the evaluation service forward your certified credentials evaluation report **directly** to the Board.
 - **Your credentials evaluation report must comply with Hawaii's requirements; therefore, a report prepared for another state will not be accepted. The report must state that your education is equivalent to an accredited program in physical therapy in the U.S. The evaluation shall be prepared within one year from the date of the application's submission.**

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Credentials Evaluation Service Organizations:

International Educational Research Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 3665
Culver City, CA 90231-3665
Phone: (310) 258-9451
Fax: (310) 342-7086
Website: www.ierf.org

International Consultants of Delaware
3600 Market Street, Suite 450
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2651
Phone: (215) 243-5858
Website: www.icdeval.com

Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy
124 West Street South, 3rd Floor
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: (703) 684-8406
Fax: (703) 684-8715
Website: www.fccpt.org

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETENCY

If your physical therapy school or college is in a country, state, or province where the official language is other than English, applicants must take and pass one of the following English language proficiency tests: Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with the passing score for each exam as recommended by the FSBPT; or the TOEFL internet based test with a passing score as recommended by the FSBPT. For TOEFL information, contact:

Educational Testing Service (ETS)
P.O. Box 6151
Princeton, NJ 08541-6151
Phone: (609) 771-7100
Fax: (610) 290-8972
Web: www.ets.org

FILING DEADLINE AND EXAM INFORMATION

Please refer to the posted application filing deadlines and examination dates on our website at: cca.hawaii.gov/pvl. If your application requires additional review time, please be advised to file your application as early as possible.

EXAMINATION

Electronic testing is provided on set dates throughout the U.S. The test center for Hawaii is located on Oahu. To register and obtain information regarding the examination (process, content, fees, etc.), go to: www.fsbpt.org.

After the Board has determined that you are eligible to sit for the exam, the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) will be notified of your eligibility and will send you an Authorization to Test ("ATT") letter.

OR

Effective October 1, 2021:

If applying under the Alternative Approval Process ("AAP"), which only applies to applicants who are graduates of CAPTE accredited programs:

No sooner than 150 days before graduation, the school's program director validates that the student is on track to graduate. After the school "validates graduation," the student can register for the NPTE and is permitted to register for any exam date within 90 days of graduation pursuant to the NPTE policies. Once the student completed the registration, they will receive their authorization to test information and can then schedule and appointment with Prometric. Scores will be sent to the Board after the student completes the test.

Please contact the FSBPT for more details.

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EXAMINATION (cont'd)

You must sit for the exam within your eligibility period/date as indicated on your Authorization to Test. If you fail to do so, you must contact the Board and re-register for the exam.

Please be advised that effective January 1, 2016, the FSBPT is implementing two new eligibility requirements (in addition to the current requirements):

- (1) lifetime limit of taking the exam a maximum six (6) times (this number is retroactive);
- (2) low score limit of two (2) very low scores will not be allowed to test again.

Please note that the FSBPT's eligibility requirements are not the same as Hawaii's requirements for licensure (pursuant to Hawaii Administrative Rules §16-110-20), however, in order to meet Hawaii's requirements for licensure, all applicants must provide proof of taking and passing the physical therapist licensure examination.

If you have questions about the FSBPT's eligibility policies, please contact the FSBPT directly at: examregistration@fsbpt.org. You may also visit their website at: <https://www.fsbpt.org/>.

EXAM WAIVER

If you have already taken the NPTE and your score meets or exceeds the FSBPT's criterion - referenced passing score requirement **and** you meet the education requirement, the Board will consider issuance of license through the exam waiver provision. Contact the FSBPT Score Transfer Service to have your scores transmitted **directly** to the Board. An application for the FSBPT Score Transfer Service can be made on the internet at the website below or by contacting them directly.

FSBPT Score Transfer Service
124 West Street South, 3rd Floor
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 1-703-739-9420
Email: scoretransfer@fsbpt.org
Website: www.fsbpt.org

TEMPORARY LICENSE

You may apply for a temporary license by providing the Board with either:

- (1) The documents and evidence of qualifications listed in §16-110-20(b)(1) or (2), Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR") **and** evidence that you submitted to the Board either an application to take the licensure examination within six months or evidence showing that you have taken the licensure examination and are awaiting its results; or
- (2) For examination waiver, evidence that the applicant has fulfilled the requirements of section 16-110-20(h), Hawaii Administrative Rules.

To apply for a temporary physical therapist license, submit a completed Statement of Supervising Licensed Physical Therapist from your proposed supervising physical therapist and **attach** the additional \$50 fee.

Only one temporary license will be issued per applicant. A temporary license shall expire within six months of its effective date or be terminated at an earlier date pursuant to §16-110-40(d), HAR including the applicant's failure to pass the NPTE exam. Any request for an extension of a temporary license will require Board review.

Please note: A temporary license shall not be issued to a person who is not a United States citizen, a United States national or an alien authorized to work in the United States.

For more information on the requirements for temporary licenses, please refer to §16-110-40, HAR.

**AGE OF MAJORITY
AND U.S. CITIZEN**

In addition to the education and examination requirements, an applicant shall be beyond the age of majority (18 years of age) and a United States citizen, a United States national, or an alien authorized to work in the United States. If you are not a citizen or national of the United States or alien authorized to work in the United States you may be granted conditional approval pending receipt of your Social Security Number and authorization to work in the U.S.

Reforms in the immigration laws of the United States have led to new requirements for aliens who seek to enter the United States for the purpose of performing labor as a health-care worker, including physical therapists. Federal law mandates that any such alien is inadmissible from the country unless the alien presents a certificate from the CGFNS International, or a certificate from an equivalent independent credentialing organization approved by the Attorney General (See 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(5)).

CGFNS International
3600 Market Street, Suite 400
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2651
Phone: (215) 222-8454
Website: www.cgfns.org

The following organization has been identified to be an equivalent independent credentialing organization and is authorized to issue certificates (See 8 C.F.R. section 212.15(e)(3)):

Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy
124 West South Street, 3rd Floor
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: (703) 684-8406
Fax: (703) 684-8715
Website: www.fccpt.org

Filing Instructions

**APPLICATION
FORM**

Complete the on-line fillable application or print **legibly** in black ink.

- **Failure to provide all the requested information will delay the processing of your application.**

Indicate what you are applying for:

- Applying for endorsement: Passed National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE). You must indicate which state and on what date you passed the exam.
- Applying for exam for the first time.
- Applying for exam, failed exam. You must indicate the state or country and the date(s) you failed the exam.
- Applying for a temporary license.

**SOCIAL
SECURITY
NUMBER**

Your Social Security Number is used to verify your identity for licensing purposes and for compliance with the below laws. **For a license to be issued you must provide your Social Security Number or your application will be deemed deficient and will not be processed further.**

The following laws require that you furnish your Social Security Number to our agency:

FEDERAL LAWS:

42 U.S.C.A. §666 (a)(13) requires the Social Security Number of any applicant for a professional license or occupational license be recorded on the application for license; and

If you are a licensed health care practitioner, **45 C.F.R., Part 61, Subpart B, §61.7** requires the Social Security Number as part of the mandatory reporting we must do to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB), of any final adverse licensing action against a licensed health care practitioner.

HAWAII REVISED STATUTES ("HRS"):

§576D-13(j), HRS requires the Social Security Number of any applicant for a professional license or occupational license be recorded on the application for license; and

§436B-10(4), HRS which states that an applicant for license shall provide the applicant's Social Security Number if the licensing authority is authorized by federal law to require the disclosure (and by the federal cites shown above, we are authorized to require the Social Security Number).

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION

If an agency or individual is assisting you with the licensure process, we will not be able to release any information to them unless you provide us with authorization. If you wish to do so, please complete the portion on **Release of Information to Third Party**, sign and date it.

FEES

If you are applying for a license through exam, **submit** the \$50 **non-refundable** application fee. License fees will be assessed after passage of the examination.

If you are applying for a license through the exam waiver provision, attach appropriate amount made payable to: COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS. (check must be in U.S. dollars and be from a U.S. financial institution.)

If you expect to be licensed in an ODD-NUMBERED year, pay \$300
(*\$50 - Application Fee + \$85 - License Fee + \$100 - Compliance Resolution Fund + \$65 - 1/2 Renewal*)

If you expect to be licensed in an EVEN-NUMBERED year, pay \$185
(*\$50 - Application Fee + \$85 - License Fee + \$50 - Compliance Resolution Fund*)

The \$50 Application Fee is non-refundable.

FEES (cont'd)

NOTE: *One of the numerous legal requirements that you must meet in order for your new license to be issued is the payment of fees as set forth in this application. You may be sent a license certificate before the payment you sent us for your required fees is honored by your bank. If your payment is dishonored, you will have failed to pay the required licensing fee and your license will not be valid, and you **may not** do business under that license. Also, a \$25.00 service charge will be assessed for payments that are dishonored for any reason.*

If for any reason you are denied the license you are applying for, you may be entitled to a hearing as provided by the Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 16, Chapter 201, and/or Hawaii Revised Statutes. Your written request for a hearing should be directed to the agency that issues your license and must be made within 60 days after your application for a license is denied.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR EXAM APPLICANTS

1. Proof of Education: Submit proof of education.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR EXAM WAIVER APPLICANTS

1. Proof of Education: Submit proof of education.
2. License Verification: Have the licensing authority of each state/territory in which you **hold or held a license at any time**, complete the "Verification of License" form and send it directly to the Board. Make copies of this form, as needed. Check with the licensing authority (fees) for any fees you may need to pay and also the length of time for that agency to process your license verification to our State.
3. NPTE Score Report: Request the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Score Transfer Service to forward your score directly to the Board. An application for the FSBPT Score Transfer Service can be made on the Internet at the website below or by contacting them directly.

FSBPT Score Transfer Service
124 West Street South, 3rd Floor
Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 1-703-739-9420
Website: www.fsbpt.net/pt
Email: scoretransfer@fsbpt.org

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**APPLICANTS
WITH SPECIAL
NEEDS**

If you require special testing arrangements due to a disability, please request accommodations directly through FSBPT. Please visit the FSBPT website for additional instructions at <https://www.fsbpt.org/>.

**SUBMITTING
APPLICATION**

Mail to:

Board of Physical Therapy
DCCA, PVL Licensing Branch
P.O. Box 3469
Honolulu, HI 96801

OR

Deliver to Office Location:

335 Merchant Street, Room 301
Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: 1-844-808-DCCA (3222)

Instructions for "YES" Answers to Questions (5) through (7) of the Application for License (PT-01)

- A. The following documentation must be submitted with the license application. Applications for license will not be considered without this material.
1. Questions 5 and 6 refer to complaints, charges of unlicensed activity, or pending disciplinary actions for any profession, occupation, or license. If your answer is "Yes" to one or more of these questions, read paragraph "B" below, **AND** you must **submit** the following:
 - i. A statement signed by you explaining the circumstances; and
 - ii. Copies of any documents from the agency, including final orders, petitions, complaints, findings of fact and conclusions of law, and any other relevant documents;
 2. If your application indicates a criminal conviction, read paragraph "B" below, and you must **submit** the following:
 - i. A statement signed by you explaining the circumstances leading to the conviction and detailing all activities since the conviction, including employment and business involvements. Include job title, period of employment, employer's name, description of duties, training attended, and educational courses attended.
 - ii. A copy of the court order, verdict, and terms of sentence; and
 - iii. If applicable, a copy of the terms of probation and/or parole and a notarized statement from your probation or parole officer as to your compliance with the court orders;
 - iv. A **current** criminal history record check in your name from the state where the conviction occurred **and** the state where you currently reside, if different. In Hawaii, you may obtain a criminal history record check from the Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center. Contact the Department of the Attorney General, Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center, Kekuanao'a Building, 456 S. King Street, Room 102, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. Ph: (808) 587-3279 or visit their website at: ag.hawaii.gov/hcjdc. For other states/jurisdictions, contact the local authority or Board for their forms, instructions and fees on obtaining a criminal history record check.
- B. If you answered "Yes" to any of the questions (5) through (7), your application may be reviewed at a Physical Therapy Board meeting if you have provided all applicable information and documents as described above. The Board will not review incomplete applications. If you wish to present oral testimony at the meeting, submit a written request with your application.

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**BIENNIAL
RENEWAL**

All licenses, regardless of issuance date, expire on **December 31 of each EVEN NUMBERED year**. The licensee is held responsible to keep his/her license current. If you let your license lapse for longer than one year, you must file a new application and meet requirements that are in effect at the time of filing.

LAWS & RULES

The licensee is held accountable for knowing and complying with the Hawaii laws and rules of physical therapy practice as failure to comply may result in disciplinary action. Obtain copies of the physical therapy laws, Chapter 461, Hawaii Revised Statutes and rules, Chapter 110, Hawaii Administrative Rules by sending a written request to the Board's address above. Chapter 436B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Professional and Vocational Licensing Act should be read in conjunction with the above statutes.

The laws and rules are also posted on our website at: cca.hawaii.gov/pvl. Click on "Physical Therapy".

**ABANDONMENT
OF APPLICATION**

Pursuant to §16-110-10(d), Hawaii Administrative Rules, your application shall be considered abandoned and shall be destroyed if a license is not issued within one year of the application date as a result of:

- (1) failure to complete licensure requirements, or
- (2) take the required licensure examination, if required, or
- (3) to submit the required documentation and evidence of qualifications.

If the application is deemed abandoned, the applicant shall submit a new application form, documentation of qualifications, and applicable fees in addition to meeting licensure requirements that are in effect at the time of filing the new application.

APPLICATION FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY

Print Name of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Affidavit of Applicant:

I hereby certify that the statements, answers and representations made in this application and the attached documents are true and correct. I understand that any misrepresentation is grounds for refusal or subsequent revocation of license and is a misdemeanor (*Section 710-1017, Sections 436B-19 and 461J-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes*). I further certify that I have read, understand and will obey the laws and rules concerning physical therapy in the State of Hawaii.

Signature of Applicant Date

Release of Information to Third Party:

To assist me in the licensing process, I authorize the Board of Physical Therapy and staff to release any and all information regarding my application (including but not limited to, application status) to:

Print Name of Individual who is assisting you: _____

Signature of Applicant Date