

§341.3. Qualifying Continuing Competence Activities

Adopted to be effective March 1, 2021

Summary of Amendment: The amendments are adopted to clarify the documentation required for continuing competence approval of college or university courses in paragraph (2); to update language for completion of a residency or fellowship and required hours for mentorship of a resident or fellow to align with the standards set forth by the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE) in paragraph (5)(C) and (D); and to add paragraph (7) which provides a means for licensees to claim continuing competence credit for engaging in non-work related voluntary charity care.

Rulemaking Process:

- Proposed by the PT Board at the October 9, 2020 meeting.
- Proposed Rulemaking Memorandum sent to the Regulatory Compliance Division, Office of the Governor on October 16, 2020 for review.
- Notification of review from Office of the Governor on November 2, 2020 with non-substantive language change in preamble.
- Approved by the Executive Council of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Examiners (ECPTOTE) at the November 13, 2020 meeting.
- Published in the November 27, 2020 edition of the *Texas Register* for public comment.
- Adopted by the PT Board at the January 15, 2021 meeting to be effective March 1, 2021.

§341.3. Qualifying Continuing Competence Activities.

Licensees may select from a variety of activities to fulfill the requirements for continuing competence. These activities include the following:

(1) (No change.)

(2) College or university courses.

(A) Courses at regionally accredited US colleges or universities easily recognizable as pertinent to the physical therapy profession and in the areas of ethics, professional responsibility, clinical application, clinical management, behavioral science, science, or risk management.

(i) The course must be at the appropriate educational level for the PT or the PTA.

(ii) All courses in this ~~paragraph~~ ~~[subsection]~~ are subject to the following:

(I) One satisfactorily completed credit hour (grade of C or equivalent, or higher) equals 10 CCUs.

(II) Documentation required for consideration is the course syllabus for each course and a ~~[an official]~~ transcript indicating successful completion of the course.

(III) If selected for audit, the licensee must submit the approval letter from the board-approved organization.

(B) College or university sponsored CE programs (no grade, no official transcript) must comply with paragraph (1)(A) of this ~~section~~ ~~[subsection]~~.

(C) College or university courses that are part of a post-professional physical therapy degree program, or are part of a CAPTE-accredited program bridging from PTA to PT, are automatically approved and are assigned a standard approval number by the board-approved organization. If selected for audit, the licensee must submit a ~~an official~~ transcript indicating successful completion of the course.

(3) – (4) (No change.)

(5) Advanced Training, Certification, and Recognition.

(A) – (B) (No change.)

(C) Residency or fellowship relevant to physical therapy. The residency or fellowship must be accredited by the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE). ~~[The Board will maintain and make available a list of recognized residencies and fellowships.]~~ This activity type is automatically approved and is assigned a standard approval number by the board approved organization.

(i) – (ii) (No change.)

(iii) If selected for audit, the licensee must submit a copy of the certificate of graduation indicating ~~[letter notifying the licensee of]~~ completion of the fellowship or residency. ~~[, and a copy of the fellowship certificate.]~~

(D) Mentorship ~~[Supervision or mentorship]~~ of a resident or fellow in an American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE) accredited ~~[credentialed]~~ residency or fellowship program. This activity type is automatically approved and is assigned a standard approval number by the board-approved organization.

(i) Mentorship ~~[Clinical supervision]~~ of a resident or a fellow for a minimum of 150 ~~[1500]~~ hours of 1:1 mentoring ~~[or a fellow for a minimum of 1000 hours]~~ is valued at 10 CCUs. The Board will consider partial credit for those mentors who provide mentorship for only a portion of the residency or fellowship.

(ii) (No change.)

(iii) If selected for audit, the licensee must submit a copy of a letter from the accredited ~~[credentialed]~~ residency or fellowship program confirming participation as a clinical mentor, with the dates and number of mentorship hours ~~[length of time]~~ served as a clinical mentor.

(E) No change.

(6) No change.

(7) Voluntary charity care. Providing physical therapy services for no compensation as a volunteer of a charitable organization as defined in §84.003 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code. This activity type is automatically approved and is assigned a standard approval number by the board-approved organization.

(A) Voluntary charity care must be non work-related.

(B) Proof of voluntary charity care can count toward up to one-half (1/2) of the continuing competence requirement.

(C) Ten (10) hours of voluntary charity care equals 1 CCU.

(D) If selected for audit, the licensee must submit a letter indicating the dates and number of hours of voluntary charity care on official charitable organization(s) letterhead.