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Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

**EDUCATION
Committee Meeting**

**333 Guadalupe, Suite 2-510
Austin, Texas 78701**

**January 16, 2020
3:00 p.m.**

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13 **Members Present:** Barbara Sanders, PT, PhD, Chair
14 Liesl Olson, PT
15 Melissa Skillern, PT
16 Donivan Hodge, Public Member
17

18 **Staff:** Karen Gordon, PT Coordinator
19 Michael Briscoe, Licensing Manager
20

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22 **Legal Counsel:** Rosalind Hunt, Assistant Attorney General
23

24 **Guests:** Lindsey Green, Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA) Staff
25 Kathleen Manella, TPTA Liaison
26
27

- 28
29 A. Call to order
30 B. Public comment
31 C. Minutes from the October 10, 2019 meeting.
32 D. The Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA) Continuing Competence Approval Program
33 (CCAP) report.
34 E. Request to amend 22 TAC §341.3. Qualifying Continuing Competence Activities, to include a
35 category for providing physical therapy on a pro bono basis.
36 F. Request(s) for appeal to re-take the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE).
37 G. Request(s) for review of educational equivalency from a foreign educated applicant.
38 H. Request to waive the speaking section of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).
39 I. Issues related to physical therapy entry-level education and continuing competence.
40 J. Future meeting dates and agenda items.
41 K. Adjournment
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44 **A. Call to order**

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46 Dr. Sanders called roll and determined a quorum was present. She called the meeting to order at 3:00
47 p.m.
48

49 **B. Public comment**

50
51 There was no public comment.
52

53 **C. Approval of minutes from the October 10, 2019 meeting.**

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55 Motion: To approve the minutes as submitted.
56 Made by: Liesl Olson

1 Second: Melissa Skillern
2 *Motion passed unanimously.*

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4 **D. Discussion and possible action on the Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA)
5 Continuing Competence Approval Program (CCAP) report.**

6
7 Lindsey Green, TPTA Communications Manager, reported on the following for the quarter:

- 8 • Peer Review System (PRS) processing time;
- 9 • Quarterly analysis of processing times for 2018 and 2019;
- 10 • Types and number of issue applications;
- 11 • Peer Reviewers numbers and Panel categories;
- 12 • Accredited Provider System (APS) Audit update; and
- 13 • New and renewed APS providers.

14
15 She also reported that TPTA is working with their program developer to get confirmation emails and
16 approval letters automatically generated for PRS applications; and that there is currently no way to get a
17 total count of licensees using the CCU Tracking System.

18
19 An issue with a sponsor who provides monthly Journal Club type courses arose with how to submit for
20 approval in one single application but provide completion certificates for participation on a monthly
21 basis. The committee agreed that the monthly courses could be submitted under the regular inservice
22 programs category.

23
24 **E. Request to amend 22 TAC §341.3. Qualifying Continuing Competence
25 Activities, to include a category for providing physical therapy on a pro bono basis.**

26
27 The Committee reviewed several documents that were submitted by a licensee in support of providing
28 CCU credit for licensees who provide physical therapy services on a pro bono basis. It was the
29 consensus on the Committee that further investigation was needed before making a decision.

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31 **F. Request(s) for appeal to re-take the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE).**

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33 The Committee reviewed information from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT)
34 regarding granting exceptions for exam limits and reconsiderations for denials of appeals, and a request
35 for appeal from a candidate who already had seven attempts on the PTA NPTE.

36
37 Motion: To recommend that the request for an additional appeal to re-take the
38 NPTE be approved.

39 Made by: Liesl Olson
40 Second: Donivan Hodge

41 *Motion passed unanimously.*

42
43 Ms. Gordon reported that Ruth Afful who previously appealed and was approved, re-took the NPTE on
44 October 24, 2019, passed, and has been issued a PT license. She also reported that one individual
45 whose appeal had been granted missed the one-year deadline to re-take the exam and will no longer be
46 eligible, and that there are two individuals whose appeals have been granted who must test on April 28,
47 2020 in order to meet the one-year deadline.

48
49 **G. Request(s) for review of education equivalency from a foreign educated applicant(s).**

50
51 After review and discussion on request G1, the Committee made the following recommendation:

52
53 Motion: To recommend that the education be deemed substantially equivalent
54 pending receipt of an updated Coursework Evaluation Tool (CWT)

1 showing completion of the general education mathematics requirement.
2 Made by: Liesl Olson
3 Second: Melissa Skillern
4 *Motion passed unanimously.*
5

6 After review and discussion on request G2, the Committee made the following recommendation:
7

8 Motion: To recommend that the education be deemed substantially equivalent.
9 Made by: Melissa Skillern
10 Second: Liesl Olson
11 *Motion passed unanimously.*
12

13 **H. Request to waive the speaking section of the Test of English as a Foreign Language**
14 **(TOEFL).**
15

16 The Committee reviewed the request and determined that the conditions for a waiver or an exception
17 were not met.
18

19 **I. Discussion and possible action on issues related to physical therapy entry-level**
20 **education and continuing competence.**
21

22 Dr. Sanders reviewed a letter from the FSBPT that denied the Foreign Academic Credentialing Tools &
23 Services (FACTS) application to use the FSBPT's Coursework Evaluation Tools (CWT).
24

25 **J. Discussion and possible action on future meeting dates and agenda items.**
26

27 The next committee meeting was set for April 23, 2020 in Austin with agenda TBA.
28

29 **M. Adjournment**
30

31 Motion: To adjourn the meeting.
32 Made by: Melissa Skillern
33 Second: Liesl Olson
34 *Motion passed unanimously.*
35

36 Dr. Sanders adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.
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39 **Date reviewed by the Committee:**
40 **Action taken by the Committee:**