

## NC Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

### FINAL Rules - Approved October 18, 2018 by the Rules Review Commission

Effective November 1, 2018

21 NCAC 48E .0110 is amended without notice pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.5(4) and (5) as follows:

#### 21 NCAC 48E .0110 FOREIGN-TRAINED PHYSICAL THERAPIST APPLICANT BY EXAMINATION

(a) This Rule ~~applies~~ shall apply to a physical therapist who has graduated from a program located outside the United States that has not been accredited by the Commission of Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), (CAPTE) or its successor, in accordance with G.S. ~~90-279(2)~~ 90-279(2), and does not hold an active license in another ~~State or Territory~~ state or territory of the United States.

(b) All application forms and supporting documents shall be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

(c) For the applicant's educational background to be determined substantially equivalent to that obtained by an applicant for licensure ~~under~~ pursuant to G.S. 90-270.29(2), the applicant shall meet the standards of the Federation's most recent Coursework Tool (CWT) for Physical Therapists at (~~[http://www.fsbpt.org/Portals/0/documents/free\\_resources/CWT5\\_Rev20141101.pdf](http://www.fsbpt.org/Portals/0/documents/free_resources/CWT5_Rev20141101.pdf)~~) [https://www.fsbpt.org/FreeResources/RegulatoryResources/CourseworkTools\(CWT\).aspx](https://www.fsbpt.org/FreeResources/RegulatoryResources/CourseworkTools(CWT).aspx)

and for Physical Therapy Therapist Assistants at ~~[http://www.fsbpt.org/Portals/0/documents/free\\_resources/PTATool2007.pdf](http://www.fsbpt.org/Portals/0/documents/free_resources/PTATool2007.pdf)~~.

[https://www.fsbpt.org/FreeResources/RegulatoryResources/CourseworkTools\(CWT\).aspx](https://www.fsbpt.org/FreeResources/RegulatoryResources/CourseworkTools(CWT).aspx).

~~This instrument is incorporated by reference and includes subsequent editions. Individuals wishing to purchase a copy may call the Federation at 703-299-3100 or download a copy from the Federation's website noted in this Paragraph. The cost of this document in February 2015 is zero dollars (\$0.00). A copy of this instrument is on file at the Division located at 18 West Colony Place, Suite 140, Durham, NC 27705 and is available for public inspection during regular business hours. These coursework tools are~~

incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. Individuals wishing to obtain a copy may call the Federation at 703-299-3100 or download a copy from the Federation's website at no cost. Copies of the coursework tools are on file at the Division located at 8300 Health Park Suite 233, Raleigh, NC 27615 and are available for public inspection during regular business hours.

(d) The applicant shall make arrangements to have the credentials evaluated by FCCPT (Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy, Inc.), the Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy or a service that has a with a physical therapist consultant on its staff and that is authorized to use the Federation's CWTs for physical therapists referred to in Paragraph (c) of this Rule. staff that is determined by the Board to be equivalent. The Board may make its own review of shall review an applicant's educational program and is not bound by shall consider the findings of the credentialing service.

(e) The applicant shall provide the following information to the Board:

- (1) proof that the applicant has demonstrated English language proficiency by meeting the most recent Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score requirement as defined by the Federation; Federation. The instrument This test is incorporated by reference and includes reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. Individuals wishing to register for the TOEFL should shall contact Examination Testing Service (<http://www.ets.org/toefl/>). The cost of this examination in February 2015 is posted on the ETS website. ETS website and noted in this Paragraph. The TOEFL is an examination that is owned by ETS and is not available for public review; review;
- (2) proof that coursework was taught in the English language; or
- (3) documentation for exemption as per USCIS pursuant to 8 CFR 212.15 (<http://www.uscis.gov/>). This instrument 8 CFR 212.15 is incorporated by reference and includes reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. Individuals wishing to purchase obtain a copy at no cost may call the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 or 1-800-767-1833 (TDD) toll free. The cost of this document in February 2015 is zero dollars (\$0.00). A copy of this instrument 8 CFR 212.15 is on file at the Division located at 18 West Colony Place, Suite 140, Durham, NC 27705 8300 Health Park Suite 233, Raleigh, NC 27615 and is available for public inspection during regular business hours.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-270.26; 90-270.29; 90-270.30; 90-270.31; 150B-21.6(2);*

*Eff. December 30, 1985;*

*Amended Eff. November 1, 1991; August 1, 1991;*

*Temporary Amendment Eff. July 21, 1995, for a period of 180 days or until the permanent Rule becomes effective, whichever is sooner;*

*Amended Eff. February 1, 2015; December 1, 2006; November 1, 2004; August 1, 2002; August 1, 1998; February 1, 1996; October 1, 1995;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. May 1, ~~2018~~. 2018;*

*Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.*

**21 NCAC 48E .0111 is amended without notice pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.5(4) as follows:**

**21 NCAC 48E .0111 FOREIGN-TRAINED PHYSICAL THERAPIST APPLICANT BY ENDORSEMENT**

(a) This Rule ~~applies~~ shall apply to a physical therapist who has graduated from a program located outside the United States that has not been accredited by the Commission of Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (~~CAPTE~~), (CAPTE) or its successor, in accordance with G.S. ~~90-279(2)~~ 90-279(2), and holds an active physical therapist license in another ~~State or Territory~~ state or territory of the United States.

(b) All application forms and supporting documents shall be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

(c) For the applicant's educational background to be determined substantially equivalent to an educational program accredited ~~under~~ pursuant to G.S. 90-270.29(2), the applicant shall meet the standards of the Federation's

Coursework Tool (CWT) (~~www.fsbpt.org~~) https://www.fsbpt.org/FreeResources/RegulatoryResources/CourseworkTools(CWT).aspx for the applicant's year of graduation. This ~~instrument~~ coursework tool is incorporated by ~~reference and includes~~ reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. Individuals wishing to ~~purchase~~ obtain a copy may call the Federation at 703-299-3100 or download a copy from the Federation's website ~~noted in the Paragraph~~, at no cost. ~~The cost of this document in February 2015 is zero dollars (\$0.00).~~ A copy of ~~this instrument~~ the coursework tool is on file at the Division located at ~~18 West Colony Place,~~

~~Suite, 140, Durham NC 27705~~ 8300 Health Park Suite 233, Raleigh, NC 27615 and is available for public inspection during regular business hours.

(d) The applicant shall make arrangements to have the credentials evaluated by ~~FCCPT (Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy, Inc.),~~ the Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy or a service that has with a physical therapist consultant on its staff and that is authorized to use the Federation's CWTs for physical therapists referred to in Paragraph (c) of this Rule. ~~staff that is determined by the Board to be equivalent.~~ The Board ~~may make its own review of~~ shall review an applicant's educational program and ~~is not bound by~~ shall consider the findings of the credentialing service.

(e) The applicant shall provide the following information to the Board:

- (1) for examinations administered prior to August 1, 1998, proof that a score of 210 on the TSE (Test of Spoken English) or the SPEAK (Speaking Proficiency English Assessment Kit) examination was obtained ~~(www.ets.org/toefl/ibt);~~ (www.ets.org/toefl/ibt);
- (2) for examinations administered on or after August 1, 1998, and prior to January 1, 2007, the following proof shall be provided:
  - (a) minimum score of 50 on the TSE examination or the SPEAK examination;
  - (b) minimum score on the Test of Written English (TWE) of 4.5; and
  - (c) minimum score of 560 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language ~~(TOEFL).~~ (TOEFL);
- (3) for examinations administered on or after January 1, 2007, proof shall be provided that the applicant obtained the following minimum standard scale scores in each of the four scoring domains (Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking), and the total score of the iBT/Next Generation TOEFL:
  - (a) Writing: 24;
  - (b) Speaking: 26;
  - (c) Reading Comprehension: 21;
  - (d) Listening Comprehension: 18; and
  - (e) Total Score: ~~89.~~ 89;
- (4) proof that coursework was taught in the English language; or
- (5) documentation for exemption ~~as per USCIS~~ pursuant to 8 CFR 212.15 (<http://www.uscis.gov/>). This instrument 8 CFR 212.15 is incorporated by ~~reference and includes~~ reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. Individuals wishing to purchase obtain a copy at no cost may call the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 or 1-800-767-1833 (TDD) toll free. ~~The cost of this document in February 2015 is zero dollars (\$0.00).~~ A copy of this instrument 8 CFR 212.15 is on file at the Division located at ~~48 West Colony Place, Suite, 140, Durham NC 27705~~ 8300 Health Park Suite 233, Raleigh, NC 27615 and is available for public inspection during regular business hours.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-270.26; 90-270.29; 90-270.29(2); 90-270.30; 90-270.31; 150B-21.6(2);  
Eff. February 1, 2015;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. May 1,  
2018. 2018;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.*

**21 NCAC 48E .0112 is amended without notice pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.5(4) as follows:**

**21 NCAC 48E .0112 FOREIGN-TRAINED PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT APPLICANT**

(a) This Rule ~~applies~~ shall apply to a physical therapist assistant who has graduated from a program located outside the United States that has not been accredited by the Commission of Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (~~CAPTE~~), (CAPTE) or its successor, in accordance with G.S. 90-279(2).

(b) All application forms and supporting documents shall be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

(c) If the applicant does not meet the requirements of G.S. 90-270.29(3), the Board shall examine the applicant's educational background to determine if the general and professional education is substantially equivalent to an educational program accredited ~~under~~ pursuant to G.S. ~~90-270.29(2); 90-270.29(2)~~ who shall satisfy and meets the requirements of the Federation's most recent as determined by the Coursework Tool (CWT) for Physical Therapist Assistants at [https://www.fspt.org/FreeResources/RegulatoryResources/CourseworkTools\(CWT\).aspx](https://www.fspt.org/FreeResources/RegulatoryResources/CourseworkTools(CWT).aspx). ~~developed by the Federation.~~ This ~~instrument~~ coursework tool is incorporated by ~~reference and includes~~ reference, including subsequent ~~amendments and~~ editions. Individuals wishing to ~~purchase~~ obtain a copy may call the Federation at 703-299-3100 or download a copy from the Federation's website ~~at no cost.~~ ~~noted in this Paragraph.~~ ~~The cost of this document in February 2015 is zero dollars (\$0.00).~~ A copy of this instrument is on file at the Division located at ~~48 West Colony Place, Suite, 140, Durham NC 27705~~ 8300 Health Park Suite 233, Raleigh, NC 27615 and is available for public inspection during regular business hours.

(d) The applicant shall make arrangements to have the credentials evaluated by ~~FCCPT (Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy, Inc.);~~ the Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy or a service that has ~~with~~ a physical therapist consultant on ~~its~~ staff and that is authorized to use the Federation's CWTs for physical therapist assistants referred to in Paragraph (c) of this Rule. ~~staff that is determined by the Board to be equivalent.~~ The Board ~~may make its own review of~~ shall review an applicant's educational program and ~~is not bound by~~ shall consider the findings of the credentialing service.

(e) The applicant shall provide the following information to the Board:

- (1) proof that the applicant has demonstrated English language proficiency by meeting the most recent Test of English as a Foreign Language TOEFL score requirement as defined by the ~~Federation;~~ Federation. ~~The instrument~~ This test is incorporated by ~~reference and includes~~ reference, including subsequent ~~amendments and~~ editions. Individuals wishing to register for the TOEFL ~~should~~ shall contact Examination Testing Service (<http://www.ets.org/toefl/>). The cost of this examination ~~is~~

- ~~February 2015~~ is posted on the ETS website. ~~ETS website and noted in this Paragraph.~~ The TOEFL is an examination that is owned by ETS and is not available for public ~~review.~~ review.
- (2) proof that coursework was taught in the English language; or
- (3) documentation for exemption ~~as per USCIS~~ pursuant to 8 CFR 212.15 (<http://www.uscis.gov/>). ~~This instrument 8 CFR 212.15~~ is incorporated by ~~reference and includes~~ reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. Individuals wishing to ~~purchase~~ obtain a copy at no cost may call the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service ~~national~~ National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 or 1-800-767-1833 (TDD) toll free. ~~The cost of this document in February 2015 is zero dollars (\$0.00).~~ A copy of ~~this instrument 8 CFR 212.15~~ is on file at the ~~Division located at 18 West Colony Place, Suite, 140, Durham NC 27705~~ 8300 Health Park Suite 233, Raleigh, NC 27615 and is available for public inspection during regular business hours.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 90-270.26; 90-270.26(2); 90-270.29; 90-270.30; 90-270.31; 150B-21.6(2);  
Eff. February 1, 2015;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. May 1,  
~~2018.~~ 2018;  
Amended Eff. November 1, 2018.

