



AK PT/OT Board - Continuing Competency Mtg - March 13, 2025 Minutes

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

3/13/2025 10:00 AM AKDT

@ Juneau - Zoom

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Committee Members: Rebecca Dean, Valerie Phelps, Jonathan Gates

Continuing Competency/Education – Purpose: Better access to information to assist in clarifying statutory/regulatory guidelines as it applies to public safety and review the continuing professional practice and alternatives requirements and continuing education requirements for physical therapy and occupational therapy and make suggestions for modernization to the board.

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2), and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled Continuing Competence/Education committee meeting of the State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board was called to order at 10: 04 am on Thursday, March 13, 2025. Roll Call was done by Valerie Phelps.

Committee members present: Valerie Phelps, Rebecca Dean and Jonathan Gates.

Staff present: Shane Bannarbie, Program Coordinator and Sheri Ryan, Licensing Examiner.

2. Review/Approve Agenda

Rebecca Dean moved to accept the agenda for the March 13, 2025 Continuing Competency Committee meeting as submitted. Jonathan Gates seconded. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.

3. Approve 10-03-2024 Minutes

Rebecca Dean moved to accept the minutes from the October 3, 2024 Continuing Competency Committee meeting as written. Jonathan Gates seconded. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.

4. Public Comment

No members of the public connected; no public comment given.

5. Board Correspondence

No board correspondence submitted for the committee to address.

6. Action Items - Prioritized

A. Goal 3.B - Streamline PT Licensing - Transcript requirement

Staff to discuss Goal 3.B requirement of possible regulations project with Regulations Specialist to define "a national accreditation agency approved by the board" for AS 08.84.030(a)(1) in 12 AAC 54.030 and 12 AAC 54.100.

Add "CAPTE" to 12 AAC 54.030(a)(2); define accredited agency from AS 08.84.030(a)(1) to be CAPTE in regulation. Per Alison Osborne = housekeeping issue. Need to make recommendation to the PHY Board at October Board meeting.

Current language:

12 AAC 54.030(a)(2) the applicant's certified transcript sent directly to the department from a physical therapy school meeting the requirements of AS 08.84.030(a)(1);

AS 08.84.030(a)(1) have graduated from a professional physical therapy education program that includes supervised field work and is accredited by a national accreditation agency approved by the board.

Action Item:

Draft language for 12 AAC 54.030(a)(2) to define "national accreditation agency approved by the board" in regulation for recommendation to the Board at Oct, 2025 meeting.

B. Goal 4.A - Review/Revise CE requirements as needed + Goal 4.B - Develop Additional CE Opportunities

Expand opportunities (ongoing project) through current regulatory projects by making recommendations to Board. Potential regulatory changes to what qualifies as "direct patient care" aka "to ensure the delivery of care." 12 AAC 54.420(c) + 12 AAC 54.715(c) - leadership courses, incentives to serve on task forces and as board members, attend board meetings, teaching and preparation time for course materials, preceptorship/supervision of students/interns

Questions to research for next meeting:

1. What are the diverse options in education and development?
2. How many hours do we want to require?
3. Do we want to change from CEU to PDU, continuing competency,
 1. What is the advantage of one over the other
 2. Common language is continuing competency
 3. How do we convert one to the other?
 4. Kristen notes that CEU's is the gold standard because they include an assessment
4. Consider keeping CE requirements same for PT/PTA and OT/OTA for standardization of regulations, renewal processing, and audits.

Committee to gather information from national associations (FSBPT and NBCOT) and random state research.

- Valerie Phelps to research board requirements for CE in AZ, MN, WA, and WI
- Rebecca Dean to research board requirements for CE in IN, NC, OH, and UT.
- Rebecca Dean to send email to FSBPT for state by state CE comparison resource for PT.

Reviewed research and brainstormed development of additional CE opportunities.

- AZ - CE documentation worksheet
- CA + NC requirements for submission
- NE model
- Like CA layout model; like options available in NC but matrix/worksheet difficult to follow; NE example also stands out as favorable.

Committee members discussed recommending increasing hours total but requiring CPR + Ethics (possibly informed consent) on top of current required 24 contact hours.

- Study groups as an additional CE opportunity discussed. This opportunity would be advantageous for rural Alaska as well as all Alaska. Further discussion needed on definition of participating provider involvement - licensed or certified healthcare professional. Would it be limited to industry specific professionals?
- Page 3 - Residency + fellowships do exist for PTA; they should receive credit.
- Page 3 - "Home" study program for PT by an approved provider -->change to "Independent" study program. Reviewed Dental Board regulation language 12 AAC 28.410(i) Not more than eight hours of continuing education taken through the Internet in a 24-hour period may apply to meet the continuing education hours required by 12 AAC 28.400 or 12 AAC 28.405. Discussed utilizing "one calendar day" versus "24-hour period" in draft language.

Committee discussed utilizing AKOTA and APTA-AK for communicating a 90-day warning with licensees CE due.

Action Items:

- Staff to collect data from other states on "does your state require/allow CPR as part of CE? If so, do you still feel it is relevant with the growing advent of telehealth? Minimum and maximum allowable.

- Homework - review all 3 models - NE, NC, CA - do a markup - what you like/don't like.
- Review CE requirement for possible increase to include subject matter requirements of informed consent, ethics, and sex trafficking.

C. Goal 2.B - Informed Consent

Informed Consent – The work on Informed Consent continues at a national level in the FSBPT Informed Consent Task Force. Goal 2.B tabled for discussion until results of draft language and supporting documents are approved nationally and distributed.

Tabled for additional information from FSBPT.

D. Jurisprudence Questionnaire update

Jurisprudence Questionnaire Update tabled from last meeting. Completion of SB74 - PT Compact Licensure regulations project needed to incorporate any necessary questions related to fingerprinting/background reports, compact licensure, etc.

Tabled for completion of SB74 regulations project.

E. Goal 2.A - Update FAQs on PT/OT website

Tabled from last meeting.

No action.

7. Item from Regulations Committee 08/02/2024 mtg.

Possible awareness campaign for telehealth visits - Patients always have the right to see your license. Best practice to include license# and title OT/OTA or DPT/PTA in your Zoom listing so it's very clear what your credentials are. Ideas - Patients Rights brochure (similar to what is given when you are admitted to the hospital) and included on website.

No action.

8. Disciplinary Matrix Project - assigned at Oct, 2024 board meeting

Board adopted Ohio Disciplinary Matrix as template. Assigned project to Continuing Competency Committee to update template for AK use.

Topic tabled to next meeting.

9. Next Steps

- Draft language for 12 AAC 54.030(a)(2) to define "national accreditation agency approved by the board" in regulation for recommendation to the Board at Oct, 2025 meeting.
- Staff to collect data from other states on "does your state require/allow CPR as part of CE? If so, do you still feel it is relevant with the growing advent of telehealth? Minimum and maximum allowable.

- Review all 3 - NE, NC, CA - do a mark-up - what you like; don't like.
 - Do we want to increase hours requirement - increase/decrease? Quantity doesn't necessarily mean quality.
 - Note: keep CE requirement consistent w/industry standards with regards to contact hours vs. PDUs, etc.
- Review CE requirement for possible increase to include subject matter requirements of informed consent, ethics, and sex trafficking.

10. Adjourn

The State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board Continuing Competence/Education Committee meeting was adjourned at 11:57 pm on Thursday, March 13, 2025.

Next committee meeting scheduled for June 12, 2025.

Approved by committee 06/12/2025.