

Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development

Division of Corporations, Business
and Professional Licensing

State Physical and Occupational Therapy Board Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2022



Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
P.O. Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
Email: License@Alaska.Gov

**State Physical and Occupational Therapy Board
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**State Physical and Occupational Therapy Board
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Identification of the Board

Board Member	Duty Station	Date Appointed	Term Expires
Robert Calhoon Occupational Therapist	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2018	Mar 1, 2022
Rebecca Dean Public Member	Fairbanks	Nov 20, 2020	Mar 1, 2024
Tina McLean Physical Therapist	Sterling	Jun 22, 2022	Mar 1, 2026
Nathan Missler Occupational Therapist	Anchorage	Jun 26, 2020	Mar 1, 2024
Jodi Pfeiffer Physical Therapy Assistant	Wasilla	Mar 1, 2021	Mar 1, 2025
Keith Poorbaugh Physical Therapist	Willow	May 26, 2017	Mar 1, 2022
Lisa Radley Physical Therapist	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2020	Mar 1, 2024
Enlow Walker Physician	North Pole	May 14, 2018	Mar 1, 2024

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Identification of Staff

Sheri Ryan - Licensing Examiner

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
P.O. Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
(907) 465-2550

Reid Bowman - Records & Licensing Supervisor

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
P.O. Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
(907) 465-2550

Josh Hardy - Investigator II

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
(907) 269-8124

Jasmin Bautista - Investigator II

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567
(907) 269-8124

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Narrative Statement

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, the Board held no in-person meetings due to the ongoing COVID pandemic. The Board held three Zoom meetings:

- Oct. 7 & 8, 2021 – two-day videoconference,
- Feb. 10, 2022 – one-day videoconference
- June 3, 2022 – three-hour videoconference.

The Board issued a combined total of 293 new licenses:

- 170 physical therapists
- 29 physical therapist assistants
- 5 limited permits for physical therapists
- 2 limited permits for physical therapist assistants
- 0 temporary military courtesy licenses for physical therapists
- 74 occupational therapists
- 8 occupational therapist assistants
- 4 limited permit for occupational therapists
- 1 limited permit for occupational therapist assistants
- 0 temporary military courtesy licenses for occupational therapists

The Board and staff reviewed and approved 3 audited licenses.

The Board was chaired by Keith Poorbaugh, Physical Therapist, until the expiration of his term on March 1, 2022. After that point the chair duties were assumed by Jodi Pfeiffer, Physical Therapist Assistant. Enlow Walker, Physician Member, served as Board secretary. Current Board members are posted on the Board's web site with their appointed, reappointed and expiration dates.

The Board lost 3 veteran members during this past year due to term expiration and resignation. Three board seats are currently unfilled.

The Board also lost veteran Licensing Examiner, Connie Petz, to retirement early in this fiscal year. The Licensing Examiner position was then assumed by Evangelyn Pajarillo who served until her resignation effect June 23rd. The position is vacant through the end of the fiscal year.

One major priority of the Board during this year was to approve a regulation change to establish a temporary military courtesy license for active-duty military members or their spouses. The final regulations were approved at the June 3, 2022, meeting.

The Board supported PT/OT legislation sponsored by APTA, HB99. The bill cleans up and modernizes language as well as replaces the physician seat on the board with another OT or OTA member. The legislation was passed this session.

The Board has continued to work with other state agencies in dealing with the Covid-19 crisis and its impact on scope of practice.

The Board termination date was extended by the legislature from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2030 with the passage of SB222. The bill was signed into law on 06/29/2022.

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Narrative Statement (continued)

The Board created and implemented a mission statement as follows:

The mission of the Alaska State Physical and Occupational Therapy Board is to promote healthy, independent, productive Alaskans. The board strives to do this by:

1. Adopting regulations necessary for the safe and efficient practice of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy in the State of Alaska.
2. Reviewing and approving the qualification of applicants to ensure a competent and effective work force of therapists and assistants.
3. Issuing temporary permits and licenses to qualified persons.
4. Monitoring compliance with continuing education requirements.
5. Reviewing and acting on any report or documentation of any unsafe, unethical or unlawful actions of a licensee.

The Board continues to:

- Publish meeting minutes on the Board's web site and a link is provided to the annual report.
- Discuss PT licensure compact and track how the compact is working for currently participating states. Also following developments and progress toward a possible compact for OT.
- State that therapists are trained to work in their scope of practice and the Board will not create a laundry list of what a therapist can and cannot do.
- Review applications and issue licenses, review audits and respond to all correspondence.
- Train new Board members, and all members continue to gain understanding in reading statutes and regulations.
- Work with national and state organizations, including APTA, FSBPT, AOTA, NBCOT, AKOTA and AKPTA.
- Attend national conferences each year if 3rd party paid.
- Utilize the OnBoard program for voting and board business.
- Use ZOOM meetings, versus in person meetings, as needed, due to COVID and budgetary constraints.

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023

Budget Recommendations section anticipates the board's fiscal priorities for the upcoming year. Please complete all parts of this section with details about anticipated meetings, conferences, memberships, supplies, equipment, to other board requests. Meeting expenses that are being funded through third-party reimbursement or direct booking must be identified separately from expenses paid through license fees (receipt-supported services or RSS). Be sure to explain any items listed as "other" so they may be tracked appropriately.

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
October 24, 2022	Anchorage	7	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$ 1,200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$ 1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$ 200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$ 700.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$ 3,100.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
February 9-10, 2023	Juneau	7	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$ 2,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$ 1,400.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$ 200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$ 900.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$ 4,500.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
As needed	Video Conference	7	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
Total Estimated Cost:			\$ 0.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Travel Required to Perform Examinations

Not Applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

- Airfare:
- Hotel:
- Ground:
- Conference:
- Other:

Total Estimated Cost:

\$ 0.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel (Rank in order of importance)

#1 Rank in Importance or Not Applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
October 27-29, 2022	Orange County, CA	2	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

The 2023 annual meeting is an educational opportunity to learn about the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) and how they are approaching the issues and concerns for therapists both nationally and internationally. Board members are voting delegates and represent their state and the issues within their jurisdictions. The meeting will be held October 27-29, 2022 in Orange County, California. Registration opens in late summer 2022. Two Physical Therapy board members, or alternate board members and staff to attend.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$200.00	\$200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$600.00		\$600.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): M&IE, and cab fare/parking (which may be out of pocket)				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,800.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#2 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
TBD	TBD	2	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

2023 NBCOT STATE REGULATORY LEADERSHIP FORUM; location and date to be determined. Two Occupational Therapy Board members or an alternate board member and one staff to attend.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:		\$400.00		\$400.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$800.00		\$800.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): M&IE, and cab fare/parking (which may be out of pocket)				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 10,200.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#3 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
2023 TBD	TBD	2	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Regulatory Training for Members and Board Staff on issues for therapists and regulators. Date and location to be determined by FSBPT.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:		\$400.00		\$400.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$800.00		\$800.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): M&IE, and cab fare/parking (which may be out of pocket)				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 10,200.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#4 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
2023 TBD	TBD	1	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

National Board for Certification of Occupational Therapy NBCOT orientation for new OT regulators meeting in 2023. City and dates to be determined by the NBCOT.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:		\$400.00		\$400.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$400.00		\$400.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): M&IE, and cab fare/parking (which may be out of pocket)				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 4,100.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Non-Travel Budget Requests

- Not Applicable Resources Examinations
 Membership Training Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
FSBPT Membership	Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy	\$1,500.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

FSBPT informs the board of national issues, offers the national examination, reports on examination scores, disciplinary actions, creates the exam questions and monitors this industry. They also pay for board members and staff to attend trainings and annual meetings.

Other Items with a Fiscal Impact

- Not Applicable

Cost Per Event:

Number of Events:

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

Summary of FY 2023 Fiscal Requests

Board Meetings and Teleconferences:	\$7,600.00
Travel for Exams:	\$0.00
Out-of-State and Additional In-State Travel:	\$32,300.00
Dues, Memberships, Resources, Training:	\$1,500.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offsets:	- \$ 32,300.00
Other:	\$0.00
Total Requested:	\$9,100.00

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Legislative Recommendations - Proposed Legislation for FY 2023

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed legislation at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed legislation:

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Regulation Recommendations - Proposed Regulations for FY 2023

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed regulations at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed regulations:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board proposes to evaluate any recently passed legislation and reconcile with necessary regulations.

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Goals and Objectives

Part I

FY 2022's goals and objectives and how they were met:

1. Continue to update FAQs on PT/OT Licensing Board Home page, this is an ongoing work in progress.
2. Monitor any legislation introduced for the practice act for the board. HB 99 sponsored by APTA was passed this session with support from the board.
3. Track state licensure compact legislation and continue to monitor states joining the compact. The board is in support of licensure compacts. This is an ongoing process.
4. Evaluate Limited Permit use and necessity - continue to monitor these applications are not being used as a stepping-stone to permanent licensure. These are being used appropriately.
5. Create a board member and staff transition manual to assist board members in review applications, audits, terminology (acronyms), sample motions and other board tips and staff processes and links for all agencies related to the board and the OnBoard summary packet. The manual was created and is being used.
6. Revise continuing education requirements based on relevance to expand options for demonstrating continuing professional development. This is an ongoing process.
7. Continue to support attendance at national conferences. The board recognizes it educates board members and staff as well as keeps them informed of national issues that affect all licensing jurisdictions. Even with COVID restrictions several members were able to attend remotely.
8. Continue to monitor COVID and adjust the protocols as needed in safety in practice management. This is an ongoing process.
9. Work on regulations as needed; review and make them relevant to the practice of the professions. This is an ongoing process. Regulations regarding military members and spouses were approved.

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Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part II

FY 2023's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

1. Continue to update FAQs on PT/OT Licensing Board Home page as needed.
2. Monitor any legislation introduced for the practice act for the board.
3. Track state licensure compact legislation and continue to monitor states joining the compact. The board is in support of licensure compacts.
4. Update the board member and staff transition manual as needed. The manual was created to assist board members with review of applications, audits, terminology (acronyms), sample motions and other board tips and staff processes and links for all agencies related to the board and the OnBoard summary packet.
5. Monitor and revise continuing education requirements as needed, based on relevance to expand options for demonstrating continuing professional development.
6. Continue to support attendance at national conferences. The board recognizes that these educate board members and staff as well as keeps them informed of national issues that affect all licensing jurisdictions.
7. Continue to monitor COVID and adjust the protocols as needed in safety in practice management.
8. Work on regulations as needed; review and make them relevant to the practice of the professions.
9. Encourage vigorous attempts to fill open board seats until all positions are filled.

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Sunset Audit Recommendations

Date of Last Legislative Audit: 04/02/2021

Board Sunset Date: 06/30/2030

Audit Recommendation:

The Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing's (DCBPL) director should continue efforts to improve the investigative case management system's integrity and confidentiality.

Action Taken:

A previous task force of investigative staff and IT professionals was formed to identify weaknesses and propose solutions. Ongoing monitoring by the division continues.

Next Steps:

N/A

Completed: No Yes

If yes, date completed: