

# *Annual Report*

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## *Fiscal Year 2019*

### **BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**



**Department of Commerce, Community  
and Economic Development**

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**Division of Corporations, Business  
and Professional Licensing**

This annual performance report is presented in accordance with  
Alaska statute AS 08.01.070(10).

Its purpose is to report the accomplishments, activities, and the  
past and present needs of the licensing program.

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
FY 2019 Annual Report**

**Table of Contents**

Identification of the Board	<b>Page 3</b>
Identification of the Staff	<b>Page 4</b>
Narrative Statement	<b>Page 5</b>
Budget Recommendations	<b>Page 6</b>
Proposed Legislative Recommendations	<b>Page 11</b>
Regulatory Recommendations	<b>Page 13</b>
Goals and Objectives	<b>Page 15</b>
Sunset Audit Recommendations	<b>Page 17</b>

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
FY 2019 Annual Report**

**Identification of the Board**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Duty Station</b>	<b>Date Appointed</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
<b>Ruth Kostik</b> Chair, Public Member	Juneau	Mar 01, 2013	Mar 01, 2020
<b>James Parietti</b> Secretary, Physical Therapist	Chugiak	Mar 01, 2012	Mar 01, 2020
<b>Mari-Margaret Celeste Tydingco</b> Occupational Therapist	Sitka	Mar 01, 2016	Mar 01, 2020
<b>Jennifer Carlson</b> Physical Therapist	Fairbanks	Mar 01, 2017	Mar 01, 2021
<b>Keith Poorbaugh</b> Physical Therapist	Palmer	May 26, 2017	Mar 01, 2022
<b>Robert Calhoon</b> Occupational Therapist	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2018	Mar 01, 2022
<b>Enlow Walker</b> Physician	North Pole	May 17, 2018	Mar 01, 2021

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
FY 2019 Annual Report**

**Identification of Staff**

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# BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

## FY 2019 Annual Report

### Narrative Statement

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, the Board held one in-person meeting on 10/4-5/2018 in Anchorage. Three Zoom meetings: 3/7-8/2019 one and half day meeting and two noon teleconferences 1/16/2019 and 5/14/2019.

The Board issued a combined total of 308 new licenses:

- 178 physical therapists
- 27 physical therapist assistants
- 2 limited permits for physical therapists
- 0 limited permits for physical therapist assistants
- 91 occupational therapists
- 9 occupational therapy assistants
- 1 limited permit for occupational therapists
- 1 limited permit for occupational therapy assistants

The Board reviewed and approved 102 audited licensees.

Board leadership was chaired by Ruth Kostik, Public Member. James Parietti, Physical Therapist, continued as Board secretary. Current Board members are posted on the Board's web site with their appointed, reappointed and expiration dates.

SB47 – legislation was introduced by Senator Giessel but did not receive a hearing during this session.

On May 20, 2019 the board held a teleconference to review and discuss all written public comments and adopted the regulation project. They hope the new laws will be enacted this fiscal year.

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 current participating states
- Work towards updating continuing competencies
- 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 license, review audits and respond to all correspondence
- Train new Board members and 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 3<sup>rd</sup> party paid.
- Work on what qualifies a person to re-enter practice
- Utilize the OnBoard program for voting and board business
- Adapting to ZOOM meetings versus in person meetings. They recognize that some dynamics are lost but they also accept the mandates of CBPL

The Board acknowledges they will lose two seasoned board members in March 2020 and recognizes the value of integrating new board members with more experienced members.

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2020**

The 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 3-4, 2019	Anchorage, AK	7	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$200.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: M&IE, and cab fare/parking (which may be out of pocket)			\$750.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$3,550.00</b>

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
March 5-6, 2020	Juneau, AK	7	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: ZOOM meeting			\$0.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
As Needed	Telconference, Juneau		
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: To Be Determined, if any it would be a ZOOM meeting			\$0.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2020 (continued)**

<b>Travel Required to Perform Examinations</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable			
Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$0.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>

<b>Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel</b>		(Rank in order of importance)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> #1 Rank in Importance or <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable				
Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
October 24-26, 2019	Oklahoma City, OK	2	1	
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>				
<p>The 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.</p>				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
		M&IE, and cab fare/parking (which may be out of pocket)		
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,700.00</b>	<b>\$6,700.00</b>

## Budget Recommendations for FY 2020 (continued)

<b>Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel</b>					
#2 Rank in Importance					
Date	Location	# Board	# Staff		
August 16-18, 2019	Alexandria, VA	1	0		
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>					
FSBPT Regulatory Training for Members and Board Staff on issues for therapists and regulators. This meeting was requested in FY18 Annual Report as it was scheduled for June 2019. Date was moved to August 2019.					
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): MI&E which may be out of pocket to the traveler.					
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$450.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,450.00</b>	

<b>Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel</b>					
#3 Rank in Importance					
Date	Location	# Board	# Staff		
TBD 2020	TBD	2	1		
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>					
The NBCOT offers educational meetings and has invited the board and staff to attend. It could be third party reimbursement or not. The board wants this opportunity reflected in their annual report for budget purposes.					
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): MI&E which may be out of pocket to the traveler.					
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,400.00</b>	<b>\$5,300.00</b>	<b>\$6,700.00</b>	

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2020 (continued)**

<b>Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel</b>					
#4 Rank in Importance					
Date	Location	# Board	# Staff		
June 2020	Alexandria VA	1	1		
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>					
FSBPT Regulatory Training for Members and Board Staff on issues for therapists and regulators. The board wants this opportunity available for a board member and staff reflected in their annual report for budget purposes.					
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): MI&E which may be out of pocket to the traveler.					
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$900.00</b>	<b>\$3,800.00</b>	<b>\$4,700.00</b>	

<b>Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel</b>					
#5 Rank in Importance					
Date	Location	# Board	# Staff		
July 13-14, 2019	Alexandria, VA	1	0		
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>					
FSBPT Leadership Issues Forum - attendee works on projects and topics related to the annual meeting. eligible participants must be attending the October 2019 annual meeting.					
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):					
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$450.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,450.00</b>	

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2020 (continued)**

<b>Non-Travel Budget Requests</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Examinations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Training	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<b>Product or Service</b>	<b>Provider</b>	<b>Cost Per Event</b>
FSBPT Membership	Federation of Boards of Physical Therapy	\$1,500.00
<b>Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>		
<p>FSBPT informs the board of national issues, reports on examination scores, creates the exam questions and monitors the industry as a whole. They also pay for board members and staff to attend training and annual meetings.</p>		

<b>Summary of FY 2020 Fiscal Requests</b>	
Board Meetings and Teleconferences:	\$3,550.00
Travel for Exams:	\$0.00
Out-of-State and Additional In-State Travel:	\$23,000.00
Dues, Memberships, Resources, Training:	\$1,500.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offsets:	-\$23,000.00
Other:	\$0.00
<b>Total Requested:</b>	<b>\$5,050.00</b>

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
**Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report**

**Legislation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2020**

**No Recommendations**

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

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**Recommendations**

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed legislation:

Senator Giessel introduced SB47 was introduced March 8, 2019. *SEE BELOW recommendations.*

**ALASKA STATE PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY BOARD**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

- 1) AS 08.84.010 Add (c) This [act] is enacted for the purpose of protecting the public health safety and welfare, and provides for jurisdiction administrative control, supervision, licensure, and regulation of the practice of physical therapy and occupational therapy. It is the legislatures' intent that only individuals who meet and maintain prescribed standards of competence and conduct may engage in the practice of physical therapy and occupational therapy as authorized by this [act]. This [act] shall be liberally construed to promote the public interest and to accomplish the purpose stated herein.
- 2) AS 08.84.030(a)(1) amended to read: "have graduated from a professional physical therapy education program accredited by a national accreditation agency approved by the Board".
- 3) AS 08.84.030(b)(1) be amended to read: "have graduated from a professional occupational therapy education program accredited by a national accreditation agency approved by the Board".
- 4) Repealing AS 08.84.030(b)(2) regarding documentation for occupational therapy fieldwork.
- 5) AS 08.84.032(a)(3) and (b)(3) be amended to require an English examination only if the degree program was not taught in English.
- 6) AS 08.84.032 "Foreign Trained" be changed to "Foreign Educated".

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**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
**Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report**

**Legislation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2020 (continued)**

- 7)** AS 08.84.032(a)(7) and (b)(7) changing the statute regarding foreign educated PTs and OTs, to be required to “meet qualifications for licensure established in regulations adopted by the board under AS 08.84.010(b)”.
- 8)** AS 08.84.075 be amended to clarify that a limited permit is valid for 120 consecutive days and that only one limited permit may be issued in a 12 month period.
- 9)** AS 08.84.032 (a) (1) be amended to read “have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, a resident course of study and professional instruction substantially equivalent to the first professional degree in physical therapy in the United States.”
- 10)** AS 08.84.032 (b) (1) be amended to read “have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, a resident course of study and professional instruction substantially equivalent to the first professional degree in occupational therapy in the United States.”
- 11)** AS 08.84.190 (6) Add to the definitions in Sec 08.84.190 The term “physiotherapy” shall be synonymous with “physical therapy”.
- 12)** AS 08.84.010(a) removal of physician and replace by an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant.
- 13)** AS 08.84.130(a) removal of wording LPT - Licensed Physical Therapist to be replaced with PT - Physical Therapist based on national trends.
- 14)** AS 08.84 change all references of “physical therapy assistant” to “physical therapist assistant” based on national trends.
- 15)** AS 08.84.120 include for clarity for disciplinary actions, revising title, adding in (a) and adding #9

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report**

**Regulation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2020**

**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 update various regulations regarding licensure requirements, preceptor, reexamination, renewal, continuing education requirements, telerehabilitation practice, and to adopt by reference the updated checklists used for review of applications.

The State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board (Board) proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 12, Chapter 54 of the Alaska Administrative Code including the following:

- 1) 12 AAC 54.030. Requirements for physical therapy license by examination, is proposed to be changed to amend the requirements for a physical therapist or a physical therapy assistant license by examination.
- 2) 12 AAC 54.040. Foreign-trained physical therapy applicants, is proposed to add standardized tool for preceptors.
- 3) 12 AAC 54.080. Passing scores, is proposed to amend the approved examination body and provide opportunity for additional course work options accredited by a national accreditation agency.
- 4) 12 AAC 54.420. Approved physical therapy courses and activities, is proposed to repeal the continuing education course or activity board approval request.
- 5) 5. 12 AAC 54.530. Standards for practice of telerehabilitation by physical therapist, is proposed to be changed to repeal the requirements that a licensed physical therapist must be physically present in Alaska while performing telerehabilitation services to patients who are located at distant sites by means of an interactive telecommunication system.

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**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
**Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report**

**Regulation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2020(continued)2020**

- 6)** 12 AAC 54.620. Supervised field work, is proposed to remove obsolete language to align with national standards.
- 7)** 12 AAC 54.710. Occupational therapy continuing education requirements, is proposed to be changed to amend the continuing education requirements for renewal of an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant.
- 8)** 12 AAC 54.715. Approved occupational therapy courses and activities, is proposed to repeal the continuing education course or activity board approval request.
- 9)** 12 AAC 54.825. Standards for practice of telerehabilitation by occupational therapy, is proposed to be changed to repeal the requirements that a licensed occupational therapist must be physically present in Alaska while performing telerehabilitation services to patients who are located at distant sites by means of an interactive telecommunication system.
- 10)** 12 AAC 54.915. Review of applications for temporary permit or limited permit, is proposed to be changed to update the checklists used for review of applications.

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
**Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report**

**Goals and Objectives**

**Part I**

***FY 2019's goals and objectives, and how they were met:***

The board continues to monitor the movement for compact legislation for physical therapy.

The board worked with Senator Giessel to introduce SB47 to update the board's practice act. They solicited and received letters of support from state and national professional organization.

The board submitted a regulations project. Held a teleconference to review written public comments and adopted them on May 14, 2019. They hope it will be passed into law before the October 2019 board meeting.

They will continue to work towards developing a tool for standard operating procedures for board members.

They researched and discussed moving towards regulation for competency and want to develop regulations that allow more educational options for the therapists. They will continue to work towards updating related regulations in the next regulations project.

The board continues to support attendance to national conferences and training. There was representation at both annual meetings (FSBPT and NBCOT) and one training. These educational opportunities allow board members and staff to engage with their board member peers while staying informed with changes on a national level.

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
**Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report**

**Goals and Objectives**

**Part II**

**FY 2020's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.**

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

- 1) Track state licensure compact legislation – and continue to monitor states joining the compact. The board is in support of compact.
  
- 2) Evaluate Limited Permit use and necessity – they are not being used for the intended purpose but as a stepping-stone to permanent licensure.
  
- 3) Create Standard Operating Procedures for Board members to review applications, audits, terminology (acronyms) and other Board tips.
  
- 4) Revise the requirements based on research to expand options for demonstrating continuing professional development.
  
- 5) 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.

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
**Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report**

**Sunset Audit Recommendations**

**Date of Last Legislative Audit:** 06/17/2013  
**Board Sunset Date:** 06/22/2022

**Audit Recommendation:** DCBPL's Director should continue to improve the investigative case management systems integrity and confidentiality.

**Action Taken:** A task force of investigative staff and IT professionals was formed to identify weaknesses and propose solutions.

**Next Steps:**

**Date Completed:** Ongoing monitoring by the Division