

**State of California
Office of Administrative Law**

In re:
Physical Therapy Board of California

Regulatory Action:

Title 16, California Code of Regulations

Adopt sections:

Amend sections: 1398.26.1

Repeal sections:

**NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF REGULATORY
ACTION**

Government Code Section 11349.3

OAL Matter Number: 2022-1107-02

OAL Matter Type: Regular (S)

This rulemaking action by the Physical Therapy Board of California updates regulations and corresponding documents incorporated by reference relating to standards for satisfactory documentary evidence of equivalent degree for licensure as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.

OAL approves this regulatory action pursuant to section 11349.3 of the Government Code. This regulatory action becomes effective on 1/1/2023.

Date: December 14, 2022



**Kevin D. Hull
Senior Attorney**

**For: Kenneth J. Pogue
Director**

**Original: Jason Kaiser, Interim Executive
Officer**

Copy: Brooke Arneson

NOTICE PUBLICATION/REGULATIONS SUBMISSIONS

STD. 400 (REV. 10/2019)

REGULAR

For use by Secretary of State only

OAL FILE NUMBERS	NOTICE FILE NUMBER	REGULATION OR NOTICE NUMBER	EMERGENCY NUMBER
	Z- 2022-0726-02	2022-1107-025	

ENDORSED - FILED
in the office of the Secretary of State
of the State of California

DEC 14 2022

2:01 PM

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NOTICE	REGULATIONS
OFFICE OF ADMIN. LAW 2022 NOV 7 PM 4:49	

AGENCY WITH RULEMAKING AUTHORITY Physical Therapy Board of California	AGENCY FILE NUMBER (If any)
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A. PUBLICATION OF NOTICE (Complete for publication in Notice Register)

1. SUBJECT OF NOTICE	TITLE(S)	FIRST SECTION AFFECTED	2. REQUESTED PUBLICATION DATE
3. NOTICE TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> Notice re Proposed Regulatory Action <input type="checkbox"/> Other	4. AGENCY CONTACT PERSON	TELEPHONE NUMBER	FAX NUMBER (Optional)
OAL USE ONLY	ACTION ON PROPOSED NOTICE <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Submitted <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved/Withdrawn	NOTICE REGISTER NUMBER 2022, 31-2	PUBLICATION DATE 8/5/22

B. SUBMISSION OF REGULATIONS (Complete when submitting regulations)

1a. SUBJECT OF REGULATION(S) Documentary Evidence of Equivalent Degree (Coursework Tools)	1b. ALL PREVIOUS RELATED OAL REGULATORY ACTION NUMBER(S)
2. SPECIFY CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE(S) AND SECTION(S) (Including title 26, if toxics related)	
SECTION(S) AFFECTED (List all section number(s) individually. Attach additional sheet if needed.)	ADOPT
	AMEND 1398.26.1
TITLE(S) 16	REPEAL

3. TYPE OF FILING			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular Rulemaking (Gov. Code §11346)	<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Compliance: The agency officer named below certifies that this agency complied with the provisions of Gov. Code §§11346.2-11347.3 either before the emergency regulation was adopted or within the time period required by statute.	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Readopt (Gov. Code, §11346.1(h))	<input type="checkbox"/> Changes Without Regulatory Effect (Cal. Code Regs., title 1, §100)
<input type="checkbox"/> Resubmittal of disapproved or withdrawn nonemergency filing (Gov. Code §§11349.3, 11349.4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Resubmittal of disapproved or withdrawn emergency filing (Gov. Code, §11346.1)	<input type="checkbox"/> File & Print	<input type="checkbox"/> Print Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency (Gov. Code, §11346.1(b))		<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	

4. ALL BEGINNING AND ENDING DATES OF AVAILABILITY OF MODIFIED REGULATIONS AND/OR MATERIAL ADDED TO THE RULEMAKING FILE (Cal. Code Regs. title 1, §44 and Gov. Code §11347.1)

5. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGES (Gov. Code, §§ 11343.4, 11346.1(d), Cal. Code Regs., title 1, §100)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Effective January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1 (Gov. Code §11343.4(a))	<input type="checkbox"/> Effective on filing with Secretary of State	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Changes Without Regulatory Effect	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Effective other (Specify) January 1, 2023

6. CHECK IF THESE REGULATIONS REQUIRE NOTICE TO, OR REVIEW, CONSULTATION, APPROVAL OR CONCURRENCE BY, ANOTHER AGENCY OR ENTITY			
<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Finance (Form STD. 399) (SAM §6660)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair Political Practices Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> State Fire Marshal	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Kimberly Kirchmeyer, Director, Department of Consumer Affairs			

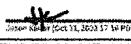
7. CONTACT PERSON Brooke Arneson	TELEPHONE NUMBER 916-561-8260	FAX NUMBER (Optional)	E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional) Brooke.Arneseon@dca.ca.gov
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8. I certify that the attached copy of the regulation(s) is a true and correct copy of the regulation(s) identified on this form, that the information specified on this form is true and correct, and that I am the head of the agency taking this action, or a designee of the head of the agency, and am authorized to make this certification.

For use by Office of Administrative Law (OAL) only
ENDORSED APPROVED

DEC 14 2022

Office of Administrative Law

SIGNATURE OF AGENCY HEAD OR DESIGNEE 	DATE 10/21/22
TYPED NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNATORY Jason Kaiser, Executive Officer	

PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

ORDER OF ADOPTION

The Physical Therapy Board of California proposes to amend sections 1398.26.1 in Article 2 of Division 13.2 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, as follows:

1398.26.1. Satisfactory Documentary Evidence of Equivalent Foreign Education Degree for Licensure as a Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant.

- (a) This section is only applicable to those applicants who are graduates of non-accredited physical therapy educational programs that are not located in the United States and applying for licensure on or after the effective date of this regulation.
- (b) For the purposes of determining educational equivalency for physical therapist licensure, the credential evaluation services will evaluate foreign educational credentials based on the corresponding appropriate Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy's (FSBPT) Coursework Evaluation Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapists (CWT) or if applying for physical therapist assistant license, the Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapist Assistants (PTA Tool 2007), in accordance with subsection (e).
- (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), if an applicant was evaluated utilizing the CWT described in paragraph (6) of subdivision (e), the board shall accept that evaluation in lieu of the corresponding CWT.
- (d) For the purposes of determining educational equivalency for physical therapist assistant licensure, the credential evaluation services will evaluate foreign educational credentials based on the Coursework Tool for Foreign Educated Physical Therapist Assistants (PTA Tool) in accordance with subsection (e).
- (e) For the purpose of this regulation, the six following publications are incorporated by reference:
- (1) FSBPT Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapists Who Graduated before 1978 - CWT 1 (2004), (Rev. 2014-11).
 - (2) FSBPT Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapists Who Graduated From 1978 to 1991 - CWT 2 (2004), (Rev. 2014-11).

- (3) FSBPT Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapists Who Graduated From 1992 to 1997 - CWT 3 (2004); (Rev. 2014-11).
- (4) FSBPT Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapists Who Graduated From 1998 to June 30, 2009 - CWT 4 (2004); (Rev. 2015-05 Summary).
- (5) FSBPT Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapists Who Graduated after June 30, 2009 to December 31, 2016 - CWT 5 (2004)-(Rev. ~~2009-07~~ 2014-11).
- (6) FSBPT Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapists – CWT 6 (Rev. 2016-10) for implementation January 1, 2017.
- (7) FSBPT Coursework Tool for For Physical Therapist Assistants - PTA Tool 1 (Rev. 2012-12). 2007-(2004).
- (8) FSBPT Coursework Tool for Physical Therapist Assistants – PTA Tool 2 Implementation Date February 15, 2017.

Note: Authority cited: Section 2615, Business and Professions Code.

Reference: Sections 2650, ~~and 2653,~~ and 2654, Business and Professions Code.



**FSBPT
Coursework Tool
For Foreign Educated
Physical Therapists Who Graduated
before 1978**

CWT 1

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
124 West Street South Third Floor Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone: 703.299.3100 Fax: 703.299.3110
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COURSEWORK TOOL 1

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INTRODUCTION

The Coursework Tools for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists (CWT) were developed by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in response to the needs of its member jurisdictions for a standardized method to evaluate the educational equivalence of foreign educated physical therapists. Each CWT reflects the minimum general and professional educational requirements for substantial equivalence at the time of graduation with respect to a US first professional degree in physical therapy. Adoption of the tools would allow the same mobility of foreign educated physical therapists as that afforded to US educated graduates. Coursework Tools should not be interpreted as the sole determinant of an individual's educational preparation or competence to practice. CWT 1 is based upon the 1955 educational criteria established by the American Medical Association.

The CWT that reflects current standards may be used to determine qualifications for prescreening certification for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). They are also designed to be used by credentialing organizations and education programs. In addition, the CWTs may be used as a self-evaluation method to guide foreign educated physical therapists in comparing their education to US standards.

OVERVIEW

Summary

The applicant must meet the requirement of not less than 105 semester credit hours. The 105 semester credits do not meet the minimal requirement of a BS degree, thus electives could be included to meet the minimum of 120 credit hours and the baccalaureate degree. The minimum coursework requirements, in and of themselves, do not necessarily satisfy the requirements of the baccalaureate degree. The applicant must have completed sufficient credit to satisfy the requirement for a baccalaureate degree. The applicant must also meet any jurisdiction-specific requirements.

General Education

General education in the areas of humanities, physical science, biological science, social science, behavioral science, and mathematics, must be identified. A minimum of a one-semester course must be successfully completed in each area of general education unless otherwise noted.

Note: Some jurisdictions may require a specific number of semester credits. The applicant must meet the specific requirements in the jurisdiction where they are seeking licensure.

1. Humanities

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| a. English | e. Literature |
| b. English composition | f. Art |
| c. Speech or oral communication | g. Music |
| d. Foreign language (other than native language) | |

2. Physical Science

- a. Chemistry with laboratory (recommended)
- b. Physics with laboratory (recommended)
- c. Geology
- d. Astronomy

3. Biological Science

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| a. Biology | e. Kinesiology |
| b. Anatomy (recommended) | f. Neuroscience |
| c. Physiology (recommended) | g. Genetics |
| d. Zoology | |

4. Social Science

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| a. History | d. Economics |
| b. Geography | e. Political science |
| c. Sociology | f. Religion |

5. Behavioral Science

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| a. Psychology (recommended) | c. Philosophy |
| b. Anthropology | d. Ethics |

6. Mathematics

No Requirement or Recommendation

Professional Education

Forty-five semester credits shall be the minimum required in professional education, reflecting no less than 12 months of study.

1. Basic Health Science

Content area is required in each topic listed (a through d) under basic health sciences.

- a. Human anatomy: may have been taken pre-PT (specific to physical therapy)
- b. Human physiology: may have been taken pre-PT (specific to physical therapy)
- c. Kinesiology or functional anatomy
- d. Pathology

2. Medical and Clinical Science

To prepare a competent physical therapist practitioner, the education must incorporate the essential elements of Examination and Intervention. Therefore, educational coursework must contain all of the following:

- a. Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. This must include but not be limited to:
 1. General Medical Surgical Conditions
- b. Physical therapist coursework must include but not be limited to:
 1. Musculoskeletal System
 - a. Examination
 2. Neuromuscular System
 - a. Examination
 3. Tests & Measures
 - a. Shall include Exam and Eval
- c. Physical therapist coursework must include but is not limited to:
 1. Musculoskeletal Interventions
 2. Neuromuscular Interventions
 3. Physical Agents/Electrotherapy

3. Clinical Education

Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy. The applicant must have a minimum of 600 hours total, which are completed in multiple sites and supervised by a physical therapist. The maximum number of full time clinical education credits is 15.

4. Related Professional Coursework

- a. Administration
- b. Psychosocial aspects in physical therapy practice
- c. Community health
- d. Legal and ethical aspects of physical therapy practice
- e. Medical terminology
- f. Communication (related to client/patient care)

EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Name:	Date:
School:	Country:
Degree:	
Reviewing Organization:	
Reviewer(s):	
Signature of Issuing Organization's Authorized Representative:	
Print Name and Title:	

Note for Reviewing Organizations: Please affix official organization seal to each page of the Evaluation Checklist for authentication purposes.

General Education

A. HUMANITIES: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. English*		
2. English Composition*		
3. Speech or Oral Communication		
4. Foreign Language (other than native language)		
5. Literature		
6. Art		
7. Music		
8. Native Language		

*For rows 1 & 2, if no credit in English or English composition is provided, the licensing jurisdiction should require the applicant to demonstrate English proficiency.

B. PHYSICAL SCIENCE:	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
One course minimum		
1. Chemistry with laboratory (Course I)*		
2. Physics with laboratory (Course I)*		
3. Geology		
4. Astronomy		

*Recommended

C. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE:	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
One course minimum		
1. Biology		
2. Anatomy *		
3. Physiology *		
4. Zoology		
5. Kinesiology		
6. Neuroscience		
7. Genetics		

* Could be completed as Professional Education

D. SOCIAL SCIENCE:	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
One course minimum		
1. History		
2. Geography		
3. Sociology		
4. Economics		
5. Religion		
6. Political Science		

E. BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Psychology*		
2. Anthropology		
3. Philosophy		
4. Ethics		
5.		
6.		

* Could be completed as Professional Education

F. MATHEMATICS: Not required	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Statistics		
2. Algebra		
3. Pre-Calculus		
4. Calculus		
5. Trigonometry		
6. Geometry		

SUB-TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____

Professional Education

A minimum of 45 semester credits is required in this area.

A. BASIC HEALTH SCIENCE: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 4.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Human Anatomy (Specific to physical therapy)			
2. Human Physiology (Specific to physical therapy)			
3. Kinesiology or Functional Anatomy			
4. Pathology			

B. MEDICAL SCIENCE: Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. General Medical Surgical Conditions			
2.			
3.			

C. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Examination & Evaluation (Tests & Measures) Must include but is not limited to 1a – 3b.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Musculoskeletal System			
a. Examination			
2. Neuromuscular System			
a. Examination			
3. Tests & Measures			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
4.			

Note: Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Examination & Evaluation above, indicate on the Examination and Evaluation Content Area Summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1 - 9.

Examination and Evaluation Content Area Summary

Must include, but are not limited to the following:	Present = \checkmark Absent = \emptyset	Transcript Reference
1. Anthropometric characteristics		
2. Assistive and adaptive devices		
3. Gait, assisted locomotion, and balance		
4. Muscle performance (including strength, power, and endurance)		
5. Orthotic, protective and supportive devices		
6. Pain		
7. Prosthetic requirements		
8. Range of motion		
9. Self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		

D. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Interventions Must include but is not limited to 1 – 3.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Musculoskeletal Interventions			
2. Neuromuscular Interventions			
3. Physical Agents/Electrotherapy			
4.			
5.			

Note: Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Interventions above, indicate on the Intervention Content Area Summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1-4.

Intervention Content Area Summary

Must include, but are not limited to, the following:	Present = \checkmark Absent = \emptyset	Transcript Reference
1. Electrotherapeutic modalities		
2. Physical agents and mechanical modalities		
3. Prescription, application, and as appropriate, fabrication of assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices and equipment		
4. Therapeutic exercise (including aerobic conditioning)		

E. CLINICAL EDUCATION	CREDIT HOURS*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
Two Clinical Internships, total 600 hours			

Note: Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory. The applicant must have a minimum of two time clinical experiences of no less than 600 hours total that are supervised by a physical therapist.

*Maximum number of full-time clinical education credits is 15.

F. RELATED PROFESSIONAL COURSEWORK: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 6.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Professional Behaviors			
2. Administration			
3. Community Health			
4. Communication (related to client/patient care)			
5. Legal and Ethical Aspects of Physical Therapy practice			
6. Psychosocial Aspects in Physical Therapy Practice			

SUB-TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____
 (45 minimum)

Academic Institution

Describe the academic level of the educational program and the institution within the context of the country's educational system:
1. Status (recognition/accreditation) within the country's educational system:
2. Entry requirements (secondary education):
3. Degree equivalence (Baccalaureate, etc.):
4. Other (CAPTE accreditation, etc.):

Summary

Total General Education Credits	
Total Professional Education Credits (45 Minimum):	
Total Credits (105 Minimum)	
Total Credits for BS degree (120 Minimum)	

DEFINITIONS

Adequate: Coursework satisfies the requirement that the level of complexity and scope of the content in a course or courses meets established standards necessary for the entry-level degree.

Clinical Education: That portion of a physical therapy program that is conducted in the healthcare environment rather than the academic environment. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004: p. 159.*)

Clinical Sciences: Content includes both diseases that require direct intervention of a physical therapist for management and diseases that affect conditions being managed by physical therapists across systems. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; p. 159.*)

Clock Hour: Fifty to sixty minutes or as determined by the policy of the institution.

Comments: Validation of transcript references. Identifies specific location within official institutional records where content area(s) may be found. These references may be in the form of educational objectives, listing of course content, course syllabi, test questions or other curricular documents.

Content Area: Component competencies as designated from the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* (Adopted October 1996; Effective January 1998), and designated by match with the *Essentials of an Acceptable School of Physical Therapy*; (AMA, 1955)

Course: A series of study which is taught at the post-secondary level, which results in an official transcript of record with assigned grade, a course description and syllabus, and credit that can be verified by the institution. Credit is either assigned by a semester of 15 weeks, plus an exam week, or is converted to semester hours based on 16 weeks of study.

Credit Hour: A semester credit hour must include at a minimum: 15 hours of lecture, or 30 hours of laboratory, or 48 hours of clinical education.

Evaluation: A dynamic process in which the physical therapist makes clinical judgments gathered during the examination (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, 2003, APTA*).

Examination: A comprehensive and specific testing process performed by a physical therapist that leads to diagnostic classification or, as appropriate, to a referral to another practitioner. The Examination has three components: the patient/client history, the systems reviews, and tests and measures. (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, APTA, 2003*)

Foundational Sciences: Essential content that contributes to the development and understanding of physical therapy to include sciences that can be described as *basic and applied* and as *biological, physical, and behavioral*. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004, p. 162*)

General Education: General Education constitutes all non-physical therapy education completed, provided these courses were taken at the college level from a recognized educational program. These courses, both pre-professional and post-professional education, may be used to fulfill the core course requirements.

Grades: Undergraduate grades must equate to a "C" average in the United States. No failing grades should be accepted. Professional coursework must meet the requirement of a "C" or higher. Credentialing decisions for conversion of grades or semester credits should follow accepted guidelines as published in acceptable and recognized country codes and "International Reference Guides." This includes, but is not limited to P.I.E.R., NAFSA publications, or AACROA publications.

Intervention: The purposeful interaction of the physical therapist with the patient/client, and, when appropriate, with other individuals involved in patient/client care, using various physical therapy procedures and techniques to produce changes in the condition. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; Page 163*)

Standards: Foundational requirements of an established profession to determine entry-level professional/technical requirements for physical therapists. In physical therapy, *The Essentials of an Acceptable School of Physical Therapy (AMA 1955)*, *The Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Second Edition*, *A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004*, and *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* serve as resources for setting these requirements.

Substantially Equivalent: The individual has satisfied or exceeded the minimum number of credits required in general and professional education needed for a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy. Coursework completed may not be identical in all respects to a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy, but all required content areas are evident. Deficiencies may be noted in coursework, but not in essential areas of professional education nor be of such magnitude that the education is not deemed to be at the entry-level of preparation for practice in the United States.

Transcript Reference: Official documentation from the academic institution of courses completed, grades assigned, and degree conferred in the form of an official transcript. In the exceptional cases where an official transcript does not exist within the institution, an alternative official document may be considered.



**FSBPT
Coursework Tool
For Foreign Educated
Physical Therapists Who Graduated
From 1978 to 1991**

CWT 2

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
124 West Street South Third Floor ♦ Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone: 703.299.3100 ♦ Fax: 703.299.3110
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COURSEWORK TOOL 2

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INTRODUCTION

The Coursework Tools for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists (CWT) were developed by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in response to the needs of its member jurisdictions for a standardized method to evaluate the educational equivalence of foreign educated physical therapists. Each CWT reflects the minimum general and professional educational requirements for substantial equivalence at the time of graduation with respect to a US first professional degree in physical therapy. Adoption of the tools would allow the same mobility of foreign educated physical therapists as that afforded to US educated graduates. Coursework Tools should not be interpreted as the sole determinant of an individual's educational preparation or competence to practice. CWT 2 is based upon the 1978 American Physical Therapy Association Standards for Accreditation.

The CWT that reflects current standards may be used to determine qualifications for prescreening certification for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). They are also designed to be used by credentialing organizations and education programs. In addition, the CWTs may be used as a self-evaluation method to guide foreign educated physical therapists in comparing their education to US standards.

OVERVIEW

Summary

The applicant must meet the requirement of not less than 120 semester credit hours. The general credits and professional credit minimums do not meet the minimal requirement of a B.S. degree, thus electives could be included to meet the minimum of 120 credits hour and the baccalaureate degree. The minimum coursework requirements, in and of themselves, do not necessarily satisfy the requirements of the baccalaureate degree. The applicant must have completed sufficient credit to satisfy the requirement for a baccalaureate degree and content in physical therapy curriculum. The applicant must also meet any jurisdiction-specific requirements.

General Education

General education in the areas of humanities, physical science, biological science, social science, behavioral science, and mathematics, must be identified. A minimum of a one semester course must be successfully completed in each area of general education unless otherwise noted.

Note: Some jurisdictions may require specific number of semester credits. The applicant must meet the specific requirements in the jurisdiction where they are seeking licensure.

1. Humanities

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| a. English | e. Literature |
| b. English composition | f. Art |
| c. Speech or oral communication | g. Music |
| d. Foreign language (other than native language) | |

2. Physical Science

- a. Chemistry with laboratory (recommended)
- b. Physics with laboratory (recommended)
- c. Geology
- d. Astronomy

3. Biological Science

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| a. Biology | e. Kinesiology |
| b. Anatomy (recommended) | f. Neuroscience |
| c. Physiology (recommended) | g. Genetics |
| d. Zoology | |

4. Social Science

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| a. History | d. Economics |
| b. Geography | e. Political science |
| c. Sociology | f. Religion |

5. Behavioral Science

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| a. Psychology (recommended) | c. Philosophy |
| b. Anthropology | d. Ethics |

6. Mathematics (Not Required)

- a. Statistics
- b. Algebra
- c. Calculus
- d. Geometry
- e. Trigonometry

Professional Education

Sixty semester credits shall be the minimum required in professional education, reflecting no less than two years of study.

1. Basic Health Science

Content is required in each topic listed (a through e) under basic health sciences.

- a. Human anatomy (specific to physical therapy)
- b. Human physiology (specific to physical therapy)
- c. Neurosciences (neuroanatomy or neurophysiology)
- d. Kinesiology or functional anatomy
- e. Pathology

2. Medical and Clinical Science

To prepare a competent physical therapist practitioner, the education must incorporate the essential elements of Examination and Intervention. Therefore, educational coursework must contain all of the following:

- a. Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. This must include but not be limited to:
 - 1. Neurology
 - 2. Orthopedics
 - 3. Cardiopulmonary
- b. Physical therapist coursework must include but not be limited to:
 - 1. Integumentary
 - a. Examination
 - b. Evaluation
 - 2. Musculoskeletal System
 - a. Examination
 - b. Evaluation
 - 3. Neuromuscular System
 - a. Examination
 - b. Evaluation
 - 4. Cardiopulmonary
 - a. Examination
 - b. Evaluation
- c. Physical therapist coursework must include but is not limited to:
 - 1. Integumentary Interventions
 - 2. Musculoskeletal Interventions
 - 3. Neuromuscular Interventions
 - 4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions
 - 5. Physical Agents/Electrotherapy

3. Clinical Education

Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy. The applicant must have a minimum of 600 hours total, which are completed in multiple sites and supervised by a physical therapist. The maximum number of full-time clinical education credits is 20.

4. Related Professional Coursework

- a. Professional Behaviors
- b. Administration
- c. Community Health
- d. Research
- e. Educational Techniques
- f. Medical Terminology
- g. Communication (related to client/patient care)
- h. Legal and ethical aspects of physical therapy practice
- i. Psychosocial aspects in physical therapy practice

EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Name:	Date:
School:	Country:
Degree:	
Reviewing Organization:	
Reviewer(s):	
Signature of Issuing Organization's Authorized Representative:	
Print Name and Title:	

Note for Reviewing Organizations: Please affix official organization seal to each page of the Evaluation Checklist for authentication purposes.

General Education

A. HUMANITIES: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. English*		
2. English Composition*		
3. Speech or Oral Communication		
4. Foreign Language (other than native language)		
5. Literature		
6. Art		
7. Music		
8. Native Language		
9.		

*For rows 1 & 2, if no credit in English or English composition is provided, the licensing jurisdiction should require the applicant to demonstrate English proficiency.

B. PHYSICAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Chemistry with laboratory (Course I)*		
2. Physics with laboratory (Course I)*		
3. Geology		
4. Astronomy		
5.		
6.		

*Recommended

C. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Biology		
2. Anatomy*		
3. Physiology*		
4. Zoology		
5. Kinesiology		
6. Neuroscience		
7. Genetics		
8.		
9.		

* Could be completed as Professional Education

D. SOCIAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. History		
2. Geography		
3. Sociology		
4. Economics		
5. Religion		
6. Political Science		

E. BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Psychology*		
2. Anthropology		
3. Philosophy		
4. Ethics		
5.		
6.		

* Could be completed as Professional Education

F. MATHEMATICS: Not Required	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Statistics		
2. Algebra		
3. Pre-Calculus		
4. Calculus		
5. Trigonometry		
6. Geometry		

SUB-TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____

Professional Education

A minimum of 60 semester credits is required in this area.

A. BASIC HEALTH SCIENCE: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 5.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Human Anatomy (Specific to Physical Therapy)			
2. Human Physiology (Specific to physical pherapy)			
3. Neuroscience (Neuroanatomy or Neurophysiology)			
4. Kinesiology or Functional Anatomy			
5. Pathology			

B. MEDICAL SCIENCE: Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. Must include but not limited to 1 - 3.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Neurology			
2. Orthopedics			
3. Cardiopulmonary			
4.			

C. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Examination & Evaluation (Tests & Measures) Must include but not limited to 1a – 4b.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Integumentary System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
2. Musculoskeletal System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
3. Neuromuscular System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
4. Cardiopulmonary System			
a. Examination			

b. Evaluation			
5.			

Note: Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Examination and Evaluation above, indicate on the examination and evaluation content area summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1 - 10.

Examination and Evaluation Content Area Summary

Must include, but not limited to the following:	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
1. Anthropometric characteristics		
2. Assistive and adaptive devices		
3. Environmental, home, and work barriers		
4. Gait, assisted locomotion, and balance		
5. Muscle performance (including strength, power, and endurance)		
6. Orthotic, protective, and supportive devices		
7. Pain		
8. Prosthetic requirements		
9. Range of motion		
10. Self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		

D. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Interventions	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
Must include but not limited to 1 – 5.			
1. Integumentary Interventions			
2. Musculoskeletal Interventions			
3. Neuromuscular Interventions			
4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions			
5. Physical Agents/Electro			

Note: Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Interventions, indicate on the intervention content area summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1-8.

Intervention Content Area Summary

Must include, but not limited to, the following:	Present = \checkmark Absent = \emptyset	Transcript Reference
1. Debridement and wound care		
2. Electrotherapeutic modalities		
3. Functional training in community work (job, school, or play) reintegration (including instrumental activities of daily living, work hardening, and work conditioning)		
4. Functional training in self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		
5. Patient-related instruction		
6. Physical agents and mechanical modalities		
7. Prescription, application, and as appropriate, fabrication of assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices and equipment		
8. Therapeutic exercise (including aerobic conditioning)		

E. CLINICAL EDUCATION	CREDIT HOURS*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
Two Clinical Internships, total 600 hours			

Note: Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory. The applicant must have a minimum of two time clinical experiences of no less than 600 hours total that are supervised by a physical therapist.

*Maximum number of full time clinical education credits is 20.

F. RELATED PROFESSIONAL COURSE WORK: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 9.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Professional Behaviors			
2. Administration			
3. Community Health			
4. Research and Clinical Decision Making			
5. Educational Techniques			
6. Medical Terminology			
7. Communication			

(related to client/patient care)			
8. Legal and Ethical Aspects of Physical Therapy Practice			
9. Psychosocial Aspects in Physical Therapy Practice			

SUB-TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____
 (60 minimum)

Academic Institution

Describe the academic level of the educational program and the institution within the context of the country's educational system:
1. Status (recognition/accreditation) within the country's educational system:
2. Entry requirements (secondary education):
3. Degree equivalence (Baccalaureate, etc.):
4. Other (CAPTE accreditation, etc.):

Summary

Total General Education Credits	
Total Professional Education Credits (60 Minimum):	
Total Credits for BS degree (120 Minimum)	

DEFINITIONS

Adequate: Coursework satisfies the requirement that the level of complexity and scope of the content in a course or courses meets established standards necessary for the entry-level degree.

Clinical Education: That portion of a physical therapy program that is conducted in the healthcare environment rather than the academic environment. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004: p. 159*)

Clinical Sciences: Content includes both diseases that require direct intervention of a physical therapist for management and diseases that affect conditions being managed by physical therapists across systems. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; p. 159*)

Clock Hour: Fifty to sixty minutes or as determined by the policy of the institution.

Comments: Validation of transcript references. Identifies specific location within official institutional records where content area(s) may be found. These references may be in the form of educational objectives, listing of course content, course syllabi, test questions or other curricular documents.

Content Area: Component competencies as designated by the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* (Adopted October 1996; Effective January 1998), and designated to match the *APTA Standards For Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education Programs*. (Adopted June 1978)

Course: A series of study which is taught at the post-secondary level, which results in an official transcript of record with assigned grade, a course description and syllabus, and credit that can be verified by the institution. Credit is either assigned by a semester of 15 weeks, plus an exam week, or is converted to semester hours based on 16 weeks of study.

Credit Hour: A semester credit hour must include at a minimum: 15 hours of lecture, or 30 hours of laboratory, or 48 hours of clinical education.

Evaluation: A dynamic process in which the physical therapist makes clinical judgments gathered during the examination (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, 2003, APTA*).

Examination: A comprehensive and specific testing process performed by a physical therapist that leads to diagnostic classification or, as appropriate, to a referral to another practitioner. The Examination has three components: the patient/client history, the systems reviews, and tests and measures. (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, APTA, 2003*)

Foundational Sciences: Essential content that contributes to the development and understanding of physical therapy to include sciences that can be described as *basic* and *applied* and as *biological, physical, and behavioral*. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004, p. 162*)

General Education: General Education constitutes all non-physical therapy education completed, provided these courses were taken at the college level from a recognized educational program. These courses, both pre-professional and post-professional education, may be used to fulfill the core course requirements.

Grades: Undergraduate grades must equate to a "C" average in the United States. No failing grades should be accepted. Professional coursework must meet the requirement of a "C" or higher. Credentialing decisions for conversion of grades or semester credits should follow accepted guidelines as published in acceptable and recognized country codes and "International Reference Guides." This includes, but is not limited to P.I.E.R., NAFSA publications, or AACROA publications.

Intervention: The purposeful interaction of the physical therapist with the patient/client, and, when appropriate, with other individuals involved in patient/client care, using various physical therapy procedures and techniques to produce changes in the condition. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; Page 163*)

Standards: Foundational requirements of an established profession; in this case used by FCCPT to determine entry-level professional requirements for physical therapists. In physical therapy, *APTA Standards For Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education Programs (1978)*, *The Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Second Edition*, *A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education Version 2004*, and *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* serve as resources for setting these requirements.

Substantially Equivalent: The individual has satisfied or exceeded the minimum number of credits required in general and professional education needed for a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy. Coursework completed may not be identical in all respects to a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy, but all required content areas are evident. Deficiencies may be noted in coursework, but not in essential areas of professional education nor be of such magnitude that the education is not deemed to be at the entry-level of preparation for practice in the United States.

Transcript Reference: Official documentation from the academic institution of courses completed, grades assigned, and degree conferred in the form of an official transcript. In the exceptional cases where an official transcript does not exist within the institution, an alternative official document may be considered.



fsbpt

**FSBPT
Coursework Tool
For Foreign Educated
Physical Therapists Who Graduated
From 1992 to 1997**

CWT 3

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
124 West Street South Third Floor Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone: 703.299.3100 Fax: 703.299.3110
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COURSEWORK TOOL 3

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INTRODUCTION

The Coursework Tools for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists (CWT) were developed by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in response to the needs of its member jurisdictions for a standardized method to evaluate the educational equivalence of foreign educated physical therapists. Each CWT reflects the minimum general and professional educational requirements for substantial equivalence at the time of graduation with respect to a US first professional degree in physical therapy. Adoption of the tools would allow the same mobility of foreign educated physical therapists as that afforded to US educated graduates. Coursework Tools should not be interpreted as the sole determinant of an individual's educational preparation or competence to practice. CWT 3 is based upon the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists*, CAPTE, which was implemented by FSBPT on January 1, 1992.

The CWT that reflects current standards may be used to determine qualifications for prescreening certification for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). They are also designed to be used by credentialing organizations and education programs. In addition, the CWTs may be used as a self-evaluation method to guide foreign educated physical therapists in comparing their education to US standards.

OVERVIEW

Summary

The applicant must meet the requirement of not less than 120 semester credit hours. The general credits and professional credit minimums do not meet the minimal requirement of a B.S. degree, thus electives could be included to meet the minimum of 120 credits hour and the baccalaureate degree. The minimum coursework requirements, in and of themselves, do not necessarily satisfy the requirements of the baccalaureate degree. The applicant must have completed sufficient credit to satisfy the requirement for a baccalaureate degree and content in physical therapy curriculum. The applicant must also meet any jurisdiction-specific requirements.

General Education

General education in the areas of humanities, physical science, biological science, social science, behavioral science, and mathematics. A minimum of a one-semester course must be successfully completed in each area of general education unless otherwise noted.

Note: Some jurisdictions may require specific number of semester credits. The applicant must meet the specific requirements in the jurisdiction where they are seeking licensure.

1. Humanities

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| a. English | e. Literature |
| b. English composition | f. Art |
| c. Speech or oral communication | g. Music |
| d. Foreign language (other than native language) | |

2. Physical Science

- Chemistry with laboratory (required)
- Physics with laboratory (required)
- Geology
- Astronomy

3. Biological Science

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| a. Biology | e. Kinesiology |
| b. Anatomy | f. Neuroscience |
| c. Physiology | g. Genetics |
| d. Zoology | |

4. Social Science

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| a. History | d. Economics |
| b. Geography | e. Political science |
| c. Sociology | f. Religion |

5. Behavioral Science

- a. Psychology
(required)
- b. Anthropology
- c. Philosophy
- d. Ethics

6. Mathematics

- a. Statistics
- b. Algebra
- c. Calculus
- d. Geometry
- e. Trigonometry

Professional Education

Sixty-nine semester credits shall be the minimum required in professional education, reflecting no less than two years of study.

1. Basic Health Science

Content Area is required in each topic listed (a through e) under basic health sciences.

- a. Human anatomy (specific to physical therapy)
- b. Human physiology (specific to physical therapy)
- c. Neurosciences (neuroanatomy or neurophysiology)
- d. Kinesiology or functional anatomy
- e. Pathology

2. Medical and Clinical Science

To prepare a competent physical therapist practitioner, the education must incorporate the essential elements of Examination and Intervention. Therefore, educational coursework must contain all of the following:

- a. Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. This must include but not be limited to:
 1. Neurology
 2. Orthopedics
 3. Pediatrics
 4. Geriatrics
 5. Cardiopulmonary
- b. Physical therapist coursework must include but not be limited to:

1. Integumentary	3. Neuromuscular System
a. Examination	a. Examination
b. Evaluation	b. Evaluation
2. Musculoskeletal System	4. Cardiopulmonary
a. Examination	a. Examination
b. Evaluation	b. Evaluation
- c. Physical therapist coursework must include but is not limited to:
 1. Integumentary Interventions
 2. Musculoskeletal Interventions
 3. Neuromuscular Interventions
 4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions
 5. Physical Agents/Electrotherapy

3. Clinical Education

Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy. The applicant must have a minimum of 800 hours total, which are completed in multiple sites and supervised by a physical therapist. The maximum number of full-time clinical education credits is 23.

4. Related Professional Coursework

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| a. Professional Behaviors | f. Medical Terminology |
| b. Administration | g. Communication (related to client/patient care) |
| c. Community Health | h. Legal and ethical aspects of physical therapy practice |
| d. Research | i. Psychosocial aspects in physical therapy practice |
| e. Educational Techniques | j. Consultation, Screening & Delegation |

EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Name:	Date:
School:	Country:
Degree:	
Reviewing Organization:	
Reviewer(s):	
Signature of Issuing Organization's Authorized Representative:	
Print Name and Title:	

Note for Reviewing Organizations: Please affix official organization seal to each page of the Evaluation Checklist for authentication purposes.

General Education

A. HUMANITIES: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. English*		
2. English Composition*		
3. Speech or Oral Communication		
4. Foreign Language (other than native language)		
5. Literature		
6. Art		
7. Music		
8. Native Language		
9.		

*For rows 1 & 2, if no credit in English or English composition is provided, the licensing jurisdiction should require the applicant to demonstrate English proficiency.

B. PHYSICAL SCIENCE: Two courses minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Chemistry with laboratory (Course I)*		
2. Physics with laboratory (Course I)*		
3. Geology		
4. Astronomy		
5.		
6.		

*Required

C. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Biology		
2. Anatomy		
3. Physiology		
4. Zoology		
5. Kinesiology		
6. Neuroscience		
7. Genetics		
8.		
9.		

D. SOCIAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. History		
2. Geography		
3. Sociology		
4. Economics		
5. Religion		
6. Political Science		
7.		
8.		

E. BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Psychology		
2. Anthropology		
3. Philosophy		
4. Ethics		
5.		
6.		

F. MATHEMATICS: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Statistics		
2. Algebra		
3. Pre-Calculus		
4. Calculus		
5. Trigonometry		
6. Geometry		

SUB-TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____

Professional Education

A minimum of 69 semester credits is required in this area.

A. BASIC HEALTH SCIENCE: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 5.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Human Anatomy (Specific to physical therapy)			
2. Human Physiology (Specific to physical therapy)			
3. Neuroscience (Neuroanatomy or Neurophysiology)			
4. Kinesiology or Functional Anatomy			
5. Pathology			

B. MEDICAL SCIENCE: Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. Must include but not limited to areas 1-5.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Neurology			
2. Orthopedics			
3. Pediatrics			
4. Geriatrics			
5. Cardiopulmonary			
6.			

C. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Examination & Evaluation (Tests & Measures) Must include but not limited to areas 1a – 4b.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Integumentary System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
2. Musculoskeletal System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
3. Neuromuscular System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
4. Cardiopulmonary System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
5.			

Note: Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Examination & Evaluation above, indicate on the examination and evaluation content area summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1 - 16.

Examination and Evaluation Content Area Summary

	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
Must include but not limited to areas 1-16.		
1. Anthropometric characteristics		
2. Assistive and adaptive devices		
3. Environmental, home, and work barriers		
4. Gait, assisted locomotion, and balance		
5. Integumentary integrity		
6. Joint integrity and mobility		
7. Motor function		
8. Muscle performance (including strength, power, and endurance)		
9. Neuromotor development and sensory integration		
10. Pain		
11. Posture		
12. Range of motion		
13. Reflex integrity		
14. Self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		

	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
Must include but not limited to areas 1-16.		
15. Sensory integration (including proprioception and kinesthesia)		
16. Ventilation, respiration, and circulation		

D. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Interventions Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 5.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Integumentary Interventions			
2. Musculoskeletal Interventions			
3. Neuromuscular Interventions			
4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions			
5. Physical Agents/Electro			

Note: Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Interventions above, indicate on the intervention content area summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1-10.

Intervention Content Area Summary

	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
Must include, but not limited to areas 1-10.		
1. Airway clearance techniques		
2. Debridement and wound care		
3. Electrotherapeutic modalities		
4. Functional training in community work (job, school, or play) reintegration (including instrumental activities of daily living, work hardening, and work conditioning)		
5. Functional training in self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		
6. Manual therapy techniques		
7. Patient-related instruction		
8. Physical agents and mechanical modalities		
9. Prescription, application, and as appropriate, fabrication of assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices and equipment		
10. Therapeutic exercise (including aerobic conditioning		

E. CLINICAL EDUCATION	CREDIT HOURS**	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
Two Clinical Internships, total 800 hours			

Note: Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory. The applicant must have a minimum of one full-time clinical internship and a total of no less than 800 hours that are supervised by a physical therapist. Clinical experiences should be integrated as well as terminal in nature.

**Maximum number of full time clinical education credits is 23.

F. RELATED PROFESSIONAL COURSEWORK: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 10.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Professional Behaviors			
2. Administration			
3. Community Health			
4. Research and Clinical Decision Making			
5. Educational Techniques			
6. Medical Terminology			
7. Communication (related to client/patient care)			
8. Legal and Ethical Aspects of Physical Therapy Practice			
9. Psychosocial Aspects in Physical Therapy Practice			
10. Consultation, Screening & Delegation			

SUB-TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____

(69 minimum)

Academic Institution

Describe the academic level of the educational program and the institution within the context of the country's educational system:	
1. Status (recognition/accreditation) within the country's educational system:	
2. Entry requirements (secondary education):	
3. Degree equivalence (Baccalaureate, etc.):	
4. Other (CAPTE accreditation, etc.):	

Summary

Total General Education Credits :	
Total Professional Education Credits (69 Minimum):	
Total Credits for BS degree (120 Minimum)	

DEFINITIONS

Adequate: Coursework satisfies the requirement that the level of complexity and scope of the content in a course or courses meets established standards necessary for the entry-level degree.

Clinical Education: That portion of a physical therapy program that is conducted in the healthcare environment rather than the academic environment. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004: p. 159*)

Clinical Sciences: Content includes both diseases that require direct intervention of a physical therapist for management and diseases that affect conditions being managed by physical therapists across systems. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; p. 159*)

Clock Hour: Fifty to sixty minutes or as determined by the policy of the institution.

Comments: Validation of transcript references. Identifies specific location within official institutional records where content area(s) may be found. These references may be in the form of educational objectives, listing of course content, course syllabi, test questions or other curricular documents.

Content Area: Component competencies as designated by the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* (Adopted October 1996; Effective January 1998).

Course: A series of study which is taught at the post secondary level, which results in an official transcript of record with assigned grade, a course description and syllabus, and credit that can be verified by the institution. Credit is either assigned by a semester of 15 weeks, plus an exam week, or is converted to semester hours based on 16 weeks of study.

Credit Hour: A semester credit hour must include at a minimum: 15 hours of lecture, or 30 hours of laboratory, or 48 hours of clinical education.

Evaluation: A dynamic process in which the physical therapist makes clinical judgments gathered during the examination (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, 2003, APTA*).

Examination: A comprehensive and specific testing process performed by a physical therapist that leads to diagnostic classification or, as appropriate, to a referral to another practitioner. The Examination has three components: the patient/client history, the systems reviews, and tests and measures. (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, APTA, 2003*)

Foundational Sciences: Essential content that contributes to the development and understanding of physical therapy to include sciences that can be described as *basic* and *applied* and as *biological, physical, and behavioral*. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004, p. 162*)

General Education: General Education constitutes all non-physical therapy education completed, provided these courses were taken at the college level from a recognized educational program. These courses, both pre-professional and post-professional education, may be used to fulfill the core course requirements

Grades: Undergraduate grades must equate to a "C" average in the United States. No failing grades should be accepted. Professional coursework must meet the requirement of a "C" or higher. Credentialing decisions for conversion of grades or semester credits should follow accepted guidelines as published in acceptable and

recognized country codes and "International Reference Guides." This includes, but is not limited to P.I.E.R., NAFA publications, or AACROA publications.

Intervention: The purposeful interaction of the physical therapist with the patient/client, and, when appropriate, with other individuals involved in patient/client care, using various physical therapy procedures and techniques to produce changes in the condition. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; Page 163*)

Standards: Foundational requirements of an established profession; in this case used by FCCPT to determine entry-level professional requirements for physical therapists. In physical therapy, *The Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Second Edition, A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004*, and *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* serve as resources for setting these requirements.

Substantially Equivalent: The individual has satisfied or exceeded the minimum number of credits required in general and professional education needed for a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy. Coursework completed may not be identical in all respects to a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy, but all required content areas are evident. Deficiencies may be noted in coursework, but not in essential areas of professional education nor be of such magnitude that the education is not deemed to be at the entry-level of preparation for practice in the United States.

Transcript Reference: Official documentation from the academic institution of courses completed, grades assigned, and degree conferred in the form of an official transcript. In the exceptional cases where an official transcript does not exist within the institution, an alternative official document may be considered.



fsbpt

**FSBPT
Coursework Tool
For Foreign Educated
Physical Therapists who graduated
from 1998 to
June 30, 2009**

CWT 4

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
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COURSEWORK TOOL 4

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INTRODUCTION

The Coursework Tools for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists (CWT) were developed by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in response to the needs of its member jurisdictions for a standardized method to evaluate the educational equivalence of foreign educated physical therapists. Each CWT reflects the minimum general and professional educational requirements for substantial equivalence at the time of graduation with respect to a US first professional degree in physical therapy. Adoption of the tools would allow the same mobility of foreign educated physical therapists as that afforded to US educated graduates. Coursework Tools should not be interpreted as the sole determinant of an individual's educational preparation or competence to practice. CWT 4 is based upon the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists*, CAPTE, which was implemented by FSBPT on January 1, 1998.

The CWT that reflects current standards may be used to determine qualifications for prescreening certification for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). They are also designed to be used by credentialing organizations and education programs. In addition, the CWTs may be used as a self-evaluation method to guide foreign educated physical therapists in comparing their education to US standards.

OVERVIEW

Summary

The applicant must meet the requirement of not less than 150 semester credit hours as a prerequisite. The minimum coursework requirements, in and of themselves, do not necessarily satisfy the requirements of the first professional degree. The applicant must have completed sufficient credit to satisfy the requirement for a post-baccalaureate degree. The applicant must also meet any jurisdiction-specific requirements.

General Education

General education in the areas of humanities, physical science, biological science, social science, behavioral science, and mathematics, must be identified. A minimum of a one-semester course must be successfully completed in each area of general education unless otherwise noted.

Note: Some jurisdictions may require a specific number of semester credits. The applicant must meet the specific requirements in the jurisdiction where they are seeking licensure.

1. Humanities

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| a. English | e. Literature |
| b. English composition | f. Art |
| c. Speech or oral communication | g. Music |
| d. Foreign language (other than native language) | |

2. Physical Science

- a. Chemistry with laboratory (two courses required)
- b. Physics with laboratory (two courses required)
- c. Geology
- d. Astronomy

3. Biological Science

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| a. Biology | e. Kinesiology |
| b. Anatomy | f. Neuroscience |
| c. Physiology | g. Genetics |
| d. Zoology | |

4. Social Science

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| a. History | d. Economics |
| b. Geography | e. Political science |
| c. Sociology | f. Religion |

5. Behavioral Science

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| a. Psychology | c. Philosophy |
| b. Anthropology | d. Ethics |

6. Mathematics

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| a. Statistics | d. Calculus |
| b. Algebra | e. Trigonometry |

c. Pre-calculus

f. Geometry

Professional Education

Ninety semester credits shall be the minimum required in professional education.

1. Basic Health Science

Content is required in each topic listed (a through e) under basic health sciences.

- a. Human anatomy (specific to physical therapy)
- b. Human physiology (specific to physical therapy)
- c. Neuroscience
- d. Kinesiology or functional anatomy
- e. Pathology

2. Medical and Clinical Science

To prepare a competent physical therapist practitioner, the education must incorporate the essential elements of Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention. Therefore, educational coursework must contain all of the following:

- a. Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. This must include but not be limited to:
 1. Neurology
 2. Orthopedics
 3. Pediatrics
 4. Geriatrics
 5. Cardiopulmonary
 6. Pharmacology
- b. Physical therapist coursework must include but not be limited to:

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Integumentary System<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Examinationb. Evaluation2. Musculoskeletal System<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Examinationb. Evaluation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Neuromuscular System<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Examinationb. Evaluation4. Cardiopulmonary System<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Examinationb. Evaluation
---	---

Note: Examination and evaluation content areas must be completed. See Examination and Evaluation Content Area Summary.

- c. Physical therapist coursework must include but is not limited to:
 1. Integumentary Interventions
 2. Musculoskeletal Interventions
 3. Neuromuscular Interventions
 4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions

Note: Intervention content areas must be completed. See Intervention Content Area Summary.

3. Clinical Education

Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory, examination, evaluation, and intervention. The applicant must have a minimum of two full-time clinical internships of no less than 800 hours total, which are supervised by a physical therapist. The maximum number of full time clinical education credits is 23.

4. Related Professional Coursework

Content is required in the following nine areas:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| a. Professional behaviors | d. Research and clinical decision making | g. Communication (related to client/patient care) |
| b. Administration | e. Educational techniques | h. Legal and ethical aspects of physical therapy practice |
| c. Community health | f. Medical terminology | i. Psychosocial aspects in physical therapy practice |

EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Name:	Date:
School:	Country:
Degree:	
Reviewing Organization:	
Reviewer(s):	
Signature of Issuing Organization's Authorized Representative:	
Print Name and Title:	

Note for Reviewing Organizations: Please affix official organization seal to each page of the Evaluation Checklist for authentication purposes.

General Education

A. HUMANITIES: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. English*		
2. English Composition*		
3. Speech or Oral Communication		
4. Foreign Language (other than native language)		
5. Literature		
6. Art		
7. Music		
8. Native Language		
9.		

*For rows 1 & 2, if no credit in English or English composition is provided, the licensing jurisdiction should require the applicant to demonstrate English proficiency.

B. PHYSICAL SCIENCE: Two one-semester courses in chemistry with laboratory and two one-semester courses in physics with laboratory are required*	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Chemistry with laboratory (Course I)*		
2. Chemistry, with laboratory (Course II)*		
3. Physics with laboratory (Course I)*		
4. Physics with laboratory (Course II)*		
5. Geology		
6. Astronomy		
7.		
8.		

*Required

C. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Biology		
2. Anatomy		
3. Physiology		
4. Zoology		
5. Kinesiology		
6. Neuroscience		
7. Genetics		
8.		
9.		

D. SOCIAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. History		
2. Geography		
3. Sociology		
4. Economics		
5. Religion		
6. Political Science		
7.		
8.		

E. BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Psychology*		
2. Anthropology		
3. Philosophy		
4. Ethics		
5.		
6.		

*Required

F. MATHEMATICS: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Statistics		
2. Algebra		
3. Pre-Calculus		
4. Calculus		
5. Trigonometry		
6. Geometry		
7.		

SUB-TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____

Professional Education

A minimum of 90 semester credits is required in this area.

A. BASIC HEALTH SCIENCE: Must include but not limited to areas 1- 5.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Human Anatomy (Specific to physical therapy)			
2. Human Physiology (Specific to physical therapy)			
3. Neuroscience (Neuroanatomy/ Neurophysiology)			
4. Kinesiology or Functional Anatomy			
5. Pathology			
6.			
7.			

B. MEDICAL SCIENCE: Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. Must include but not limited to 1 - 6.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Neurology			
2. Orthopedics			
3. Pediatrics			
4. Geriatrics			
5. Cardiopulmonary			
6. Pharmacology			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

C. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Examination & Evaluation Must include but not limited to 1a – 4b.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Integumentary System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
2. Musculoskeletal System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
3. Neuromuscular System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
4. Cardiopulmonary System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
5.			
6.			
7.			

Note: Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Examination & Evaluation above, indicate on the examination and evaluation content area summary below, for which you found evidence for items 1 - 23.

Examination and Evaluation Content Area Summary

Must include, but are not limited to areas 1-23:	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
1. Aerobic capacity		
2. Anthropometric characteristics		
3. Arousal, mentation, and cognition		
4. Assistive and adaptive devices		
5. Community and work (job, school, or play) reintegration		
6. Cranial nerve integrity		
7. Environmental, home, and work barriers		
8. Ergonomics and body mechanics		
9. Gait, assisted locomotion, and balance		
10. Integumentary integrity		
11. Joint integrity and mobility		
12. Motor function		
13. Muscle performance (including strength, power, and endurance)		
14. Neuromotor development and sensory integration		

Must include, but are not limited to areas 1-23:	Present = √ Absent = Ø	Transcript Reference
15. Orthotic, protective and supportive devices		
16. Pain		
17. Posture		
18. Prosthetic requirements		
19. Range of motion		
20. Reflex integrity		
21. Self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		
22. Sensory integration (including proprioception and kinesthesia)		
23. Ventilation, respiration, and circulation		
24.		
25.		

Adapted from *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists*. Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; 1996; p. 29.

D. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Interventions Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 4.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Integumentary Interventions			
2. Musculoskeletal Interventions			
3. Neuromuscular Interventions			
4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions			
5.			
6.			

Note: Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Interventions above, indicate on the intervention content area summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1-10.

Intervention Content Area Summary

Must include, but not limited to, areas 1-10.	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
1. Airway clearance techniques		
2. Debridement and wound care		
3. Electrotherapeutic modalities		
4. Functional training in community and work (job, school, or play) reintegration (including instrumental activities of daily living, work hardening, and work conditioning)		
5. Functional training in self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		
6. Manual therapy techniques		
7. Patient-related instruction		
8. Physical agents and mechanical modalities		
9. Prescription, application, and as appropriate, fabrication of assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices and equipment		
10. Therapeutic exercise (including aerobic conditioning)		
11.		
12.		

Adapted from: *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists*. Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; 1996; p. 30.

E. CLINICAL EDUCATION	CREDIT HOURS*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
Two Clinical Internships, total 800 hours			

Note: Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory, examination, evaluation, and intervention. The applicant must have a minimum of two full-time clinical internships of no less than 800 hours total that are supervised by a physical therapist.

*Maximum number of full time clinical education credits is 23.

F. RELATED PROFESSIONAL COURSEWORK: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 9.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	COMMENTS
1. Professional Behaviors			
2. Administration			
3. Community Health			
4. Research and Clinical Decision Making			
5. Educational Techniques			
6. Medical Terminology			
7. Communication (related to client/patient care)			
8. Legal and Ethical Aspects of Physical Therapy practice			
9. Psychosocial Aspects in Physical Therapy Practice			
10.			
11.			
12.			

SUB-TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____
 (90 minimum)

Academic Institution

Describe the academic level of the educational program and the institution within the context of the country's educational system:
1. Status (recognition/accreditation) within the country's educational system:
2. Entry requirements (secondary education):

Describe the academic level of the educational program and the institution within the context of the country's educational system:
3. Degree equivalence (Baccalaureate, etc.):
4. Other (CAPTE accreditation, etc.):

Summary

Total General Education Credits:	
Total Professional Education Credits (90 Minimum):	
Total Credits (150 Minimum)	

DEFINITIONS

Adequate: Coursework satisfies the requirement that the level of complexity and scope of the content in a course or courses meets established standards necessary for the entry-level degree.

Clinical Education: That portion of a physical therapy program that is conducted in the healthcare environment rather than the academic environment. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; p. 159*)

Clinical Sciences: Content includes both diseases that require direct intervention of a physical therapist for management and diseases that affect conditions being managed by physical therapists across systems. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; p. 159*)

Clock Hour: Fifty to sixty minutes or as determined by the policy of the institution.

Comments: Validation of transcript references. Identifies specific location within official institutional records where content area(s) may be found. These references may be in the form of educational objectives, listing of course content, course syllabi, test questions or other curricular documents.

Content Area: Component competencies as designated by the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* (Adopted October 1996; Effective January 1998).

Course: A series of study which is taught at the post secondary level, which results in an official transcript of record with assigned grade, a course description and syllabus, and credit that can be verified by the institution. Credit is either assigned by a semester of 15 weeks, plus an exam week, or is converted to semester hours based on 16 weeks of study.

Credit Hour: A semester credit hour must include at a minimum: 15 hours of lecture, or 30 hours of laboratory, or 48 hours of clinical education.

Evaluation: A dynamic process in which the physical therapist makes clinical judgments gathered during the examination (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, 2003, APTA*).

Examination: A comprehensive and specific testing process performed by a physical therapist that leads to diagnostic classification or, as appropriate, to a referral to another practitioner. The Examination has three components: the patient/client history, the systems reviews, and tests and measures. (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, APTA, 2003*)

Foundational Sciences: Essential content that contributes to the development and understanding of physical therapy to include sciences that can be described as *basic* and *applied* and as *biological, physical, and behavioral*. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004, p. 162*)

General Education: General Education constitutes all non-physical therapy education completed, provided these courses were taken at the college level from a recognized educational program. These courses, both pre-professional and post-professional education, may be used to fulfill the core course requirements

Grades: Undergraduate grades must equate to a "C" average in the United States. No failing grades should be accepted. Professional coursework must meet the requirement of a "C" or higher. Credentialing decisions for conversion of grades or semester credits should follow accepted guidelines as published in acceptable and

recognized country codes and "International Reference Guides." This includes, but is not limited to P.I.E.R., NAFSA publications, or AACROA publications.

Intervention: The purposeful interaction of the physical therapist with the patient/client, and, when appropriate, with other individuals involved in patient/client care, using various physical therapy procedures and techniques to produce changes in the condition. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; Page 163*)

Standards: Foundational requirements of an established profession; in this case used by FCCPT to determine entry-level professional requirements for physical therapists. In physical therapy, *The Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Second Edition, A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004*, and *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* serve as resources for setting these requirements.

Substantially Equivalent: The individual has satisfied or exceeded the minimum number of credits required in general and professional education needed for a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy. Coursework completed may not be identical in all respects to a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy, but all required content areas are evident. Deficiencies may be noted in coursework, but not in essential areas of professional education nor be of such magnitude that the education is not deemed to be at the entry-level of preparation for practice in the United States.

Transcript Reference: Official documentation from the academic institution of courses completed, grades assigned, and degree conferred in the form of an official transcript. In the exceptional cases where an official transcript does not exist within the institution, an alternative official document may be considered.



FSBPT
Coursework Tool
For Foreign Educated
Physical Therapists who Graduated
June 30, 2009 – December 31, 2016

CWT 5

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
124 West Street, South Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone: 703.299.3100 Fax: 703.299.3110
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COURSEWORK TOOL 5

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INTRODUCTION

The Coursework Tools for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists (CWT) were developed by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in response to the needs of its member jurisdictions for a standardized method to evaluate the educational equivalence of foreign educated physical therapists. Each CWT reflects the minimum general and professional educational requirements for substantial equivalence at the time of graduation with respect to a US first professional degree in physical therapy. Adoption of the tools would allow the same mobility of foreign educated physical therapists as that afforded to US educated graduates. Coursework Tools should not be interpreted as the sole determinant of an individual's educational preparation or competence to practice. CWT 5 is based upon the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists*, CAPTE, which will be implemented by FSBPT on July 1, 2009 through December 31, 2016.

The CWT that reflects current standards may be used to determine qualifications for prescreening certification for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). They are also designed to be used by credentialing organizations and education programs. In addition, the CWTs may be used as a self-evaluation method to guide foreign educated physical therapists in comparing their education to US standards.

OVERVIEW

Summary

The applicant must meet the requirement of not less than 150 semester credit hours as a prerequisite. The minimum coursework requirements, in and of themselves, do not necessarily satisfy the requirements of the first professional degree. The applicant must have completed sufficient credit to satisfy the requirement for a post-baccalaureate degree. The applicant must also meet any jurisdiction-specific requirements.

General Education

General education in the areas of humanities, physical science, biological science, social science, behavioral science, and mathematics, must be identified. A minimum of a one-semester course must be successfully completed in each area of general education unless otherwise noted.

Note: Some jurisdictions may require a specific number of semester credits. The applicant must meet the specific requirements in the jurisdiction where they are seeking licensure.

1. Humanities

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| a. English | e. Literature |
| b. English composition | f. Art |
| c. Speech or oral communication | g. Music |
| d. Foreign language (other than native language) | |

2. Physical Science

- a. Chemistry with laboratory (one course required) *
 - b. Physics with laboratory (one courses required) *
 - c. Geology
 - d. Astronomy
- * Two semesters preferred

3. Biological Science

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| a. Biology | e. Kinesiology |
| b. Anatomy* | f. Neuroscience |
| c. Physiology* | g. Genetics |
| d. Zoology | |
- * One year of anatomy & physiology preferred

4. Social Science

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| a. History | d. Economics |
| b. Geography | e. Political science |
| c. Sociology | f. Religion |

5. Behavioral Science

- a. Psychology*
 - b. Anthropology
 - c. Philosophy
 - d. Ethics
- * Required

6. Mathematics

- a. Statistics
- b. Algebra
- c. Pre-calculus
- d. Calculus
- e. Trigonometry
- f. Geometry

Professional Education

Ninety semester credits shall be the minimum required in professional education.

1. Basic Health Science

Content is required in each topic listed (a through e) under basic health sciences.

- a. Human anatomy (specific to physical therapy)
- b. Human physiology (specific to physical therapy)
- c. Neuroscience
- d. Kinesiology or functional anatomy
- e. Pathology

2. Medical and Clinical Science

To prepare a competent physical therapist practitioner, the education must incorporate the essential elements of Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention. Therefore, educational coursework must contain all of the following:

- a. Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. This must include but not be limited to:
 - 1. Neurology
 - 2. Orthopedics
 - 3. Pediatrics
 - 4. Geriatrics
 - 5. Cardiopulmonary
 - 6. Pharmacology
 - 7. General Medical/Surgical Metabolic Conditions
- b. Physical therapist coursework must include but not be limited to:

1. Integumentary System	3. Neuromuscular System	5. Metabolic Problems
a. Examination	a. Examination	a. Examination
b. Evaluation	b. Evaluation	b. Evaluation
2. Musculoskeletal System	4. Cardiopulmonary System	
a. Examination	a. Examination	
b. Evaluation	b. Evaluation	

Note: Examination and evaluation content areas must be completed. See Examination and Evaluation Content Area Summary.

- c. Physical therapist coursework must include but is not limited to:
 - 1. Integumentary Interventions
 - 2. Musculoskeletal Interventions
 - 3. Neuromuscular Interventions
 - 4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions

Note: Intervention content areas must be completed. See Intervention Content Area Summary.

3. Clinical Education

Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory, examination, evaluation, and intervention. The applicant must have a minimum of two full-time clinical internships of no less than 800 hours total, which are supervised by a physical therapist. The maximum number of full time clinical education credits is 23.

4. Related Professional Coursework

Content is required in the following 12 areas:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| a. Professional behaviors | e. Educational techniques | i. Psychosocial aspects in physical therapy practice |
| b. Administration | f. Medical terminology | j. Emergency procedures |
| c. Community health | g. Communication (related to client/patient care) | k. Cultural competency |
| d. Research and clinical decision making | h. Legal and ethical aspects of physical therapy practice | l. Consultation, screening and delegation |

EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Name:	Date:
School:	Country:
Degree:	
Reviewing Organization:	
Reviewer(s):	
Signature of Issuing Organization's Authorized Representative:	
Print Name and Title:	

Note for Reviewing Organizations: Please affix official organization seal to each page of the Evaluation Checklist for authentication purposes.

General Education

A. HUMANITIES: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. English*		
2. English Composition*		
3. Speech or Oral Communication		
4. Foreign Language (other than native language)		
5. Literature		
6. Art		
7. Music		
8. Native Language		
9.		

*For rows 1 & 2, if no credit in English or English composition is provided, the licensing jurisdiction should require the applicant to demonstrate English proficiency.

B. PHYSICAL SCIENCE: One semester course in chemistry with laboratory and one semester course in physics with laboratory are required.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Chemistry with laboratory (Course I)		
2. Chemistry, with laboratory (Course II)*		
3. Physics with laboratory (Course I)		
4. Physics with laboratory (Course II)*		
5. Geology		
6. Astronomy		
7.		
8.		

*One year of chemistry & physics preferred

C. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Biology		
2. Anatomy*		
3. Physiology*		
4. Zoology		
5. Kinesiology		
6. Neuroscience		
7. Genetics		
8.		
9.		

* One year of anatomy & physiology preferred

D. SOCIAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. History		
2. Geography		
3. Sociology		
4. Economics		
5. Religion		
6. Political Science		
7.		
8.		

E. BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Psychology*		
2. Anthropology		
3. Philosophy		
4. Ethics		
5.		

*Required

F. MATHEMATICS: One course minimum	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Statistics		
2. Algebra		
3. Pre-Calculus		
4. Calculus		
5. Trigonometry		
6. Geometry		
7.		

SUB-TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____

Professional Education

A minimum of 90 semester credits is required in this area.

A. BASIC HEALTH SCIENCE: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 5.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Human Anatomy (Specific to physical therapy)			
2. Human Physiology (Specific to physical therapy)			
3. Neuroscience (Neuroanatomy/ Neurophysiology)			
4. Kinesiology or Functional Anatomy			
5. Pathology			
6.			
7.			

B. MEDICAL SCIENCE: Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. Must include but not limited to areas 1 - 7.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Neurology			
2. Orthopedics			
3. Pediatrics			
4. Geriatrics			
5. Cardiopulmonary			
6. Pharmacology			
7. General Medical/Surgical Metabolic Conditions			
8.			
9.			
10.			

C. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Examination & Evaluation Must include but not limited to areas 1a – 5b.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Integumentary System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
2. Musculoskeletal System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
3. Neuromuscular System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
4. Cardiopulmonary System			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			
5. Metabolic Problems			
a. Examination			
b. Evaluation			

Examination and Evaluation Content Area Summary

Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Examination & Evaluation above, indicate on the examination and evaluation content area summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1 - 23.	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
1. Aerobic capacity		
2. Anthropometric characteristics		
3. Arousal, mentation, and cognition		
4. Assistive and adaptive devices		
5. Community and work (job, school, or play) reintegration		
6. Cranial nerve integrity		
7. Environmental, home, and work barriers		
8. Ergonomics and body mechanics		
9. Gait, assisted locomotion, and balance		
10. Integumentary integrity		
11. Joint integrity and mobility		
12. Motor function		
13. Muscle performance (including strength, power, and endurance)		
14. Neuromotor development and sensory integration		

Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Examination & Evaluation above, indicate on the examination and evaluation content area summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1 - 23.	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
15. Orthotic, protective and supportive devices		
16. Pain		
17. Posture		
18. Prosthetic requirements		
19. Range of motion		
20. Reflex integrity		
21. Self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		
22. Sensory integration (including proprioception and kinesthesia)		
23. Ventilation, respiration, and circulation		
24.		
25.		

Adapted from *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists*. Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; 1996; p. 29.

D. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Interventions Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 4.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Integumentary Interventions			
2. Musculoskeletal Interventions			
3. Neuromuscular Interventions			
4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions			
5. Physical Agents / Electrotherapy			
6.			

Intervention Content Area Summary

Within the credit hours assigned in Clinical Science: Interventions above, indicate on the intervention content area summary below, content for which you found evidence for items 1-10.	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
1. Airway clearance techniques		
2. Debridement and wound care		
3. Electrotherapeutic modalities		
4. Functional training in community and work (job, school, or play) reintegration (including instrumental activities of daily living, work hardening, and work conditioning)		

5. Functional training in self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		
6. Manual therapy techniques		
7. Patient-related instruction		
8. Physical agents and mechanical modalities		
9. Prescription, application, and as appropriate, fabrication of assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices and equipment		
10. Therapeutic exercise (including aerobic conditioning)		
11.		
12.		

Adapted from *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists*. Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; 1996; p. 30.

E. CLINICAL EDUCATION	CREDIT HOURS*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
Two Clinical Internships, total 800 hours			

Note: Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory, examination, evaluation, and intervention. The applicant must have a minimum of two full-time clinical internships of no less than 800 hours total that are supervised by a physical therapist.

*Maximum number of full time clinical education credits is 23.

F. RELATED PROFESSIONAL COURSEWORK: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 12.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Professional Behaviors			
2. Administration			
3. Community Health			
4. Research and Clinical Decision Making			
5. Educational Techniques			
6. Medical Terminology			
7. Communication (related to client/patient care)			
8. Legal and Ethical Aspects of Physical Therapy practice			
9. Psychosocial Aspects in Physical Therapy			

Practice			
10. Emergency Procedures			
11. Cultural Competency			
12. Consultation, Screening & Delegation			

SUB-TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____
 (90 minimum)

Academic Institution

Describe the academic level of the educational program and the institution within the context of the country's educational system:
1. Status (recognition/accreditation) within the country's educational system:
2. Entry requirements (secondary education):
3. Degree equivalence (Baccalaureate, Post – Baccalaureate etc.):
4. Other (CAPTE accreditation, etc.):

Summary

Total General Education Credits:	
Total Professional Education Credits (90 Minimum):	
Total Credits (150 Minimum)	

DEFINITIONS

Adequate: Coursework satisfies the requirement that the level of complexity and scope of the content in a course or courses meets established standards necessary for the entry-level degree.

Clinical Education: That portion of a physical therapy program that is conducted in the healthcare environment rather than the academic environment. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004: p. 159*)

Clinical Sciences: Content includes both diseases that require direct intervention of a physical therapist for management and diseases that affect conditions being managed by physical therapists across systems. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; p. 159*)

Clock Hour: Fifty to sixty minutes or as determined by the policy of the institution.

Comments: Validation of transcript references. Identifies specific location within official institutional records where content area(s) may be found. These references may be in the form of educational objectives, listing of course content, course syllabi, test questions or other curricular documents.

Content Area: Component competencies as designated by the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* (Adopted January 2006; Effective July 1, 2009).

Course: A series of study which is taught at the post secondary level, which results in an official transcript of record with assigned grade, a course description and syllabus, and credit that can be verified by the institution. Credit is either assigned by a semester of 15 weeks, plus an exam week, or is converted to semester hours based on 16 weeks of study.

Credit Hour: A semester credit hour must include at a minimum: 15 hours of lecture, or 30 hours of laboratory, or 48 hours of clinical education.

Evaluation: A dynamic process in which the physical therapist makes clinical judgments gathered during the examination (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, 2003, APTA*).

Examination: A comprehensive and specific testing process performed by a physical therapist that leads to diagnostic classification or, as appropriate, to a referral to another practitioner. The Examination has three components: the patient/client history, the systems reviews, and tests and measures. (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, APTA, 2003*).

Foundational Sciences: Essential content that contributes to the development and understanding of physical therapy to include sciences that can be described as *basic* and *applied* and as *biological, physical, and behavioral*. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004, p. 162*)

General Education: General Education constitutes all non-physical therapy education completed, provided these courses were taken at the college level from a recognized educational program. These courses, both pre-professional and post-professional education, may be used to fulfill the core course requirements

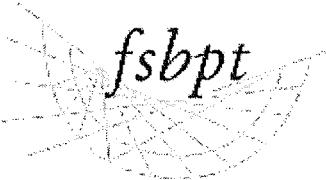
Grades: Undergraduate grades must equate to a "C" average in the United States. No failing grades should be accepted. Professional coursework must meet the requirement of a "C" or higher. Credentialing decisions for conversion of grades or semester credits should follow accepted guidelines as published in acceptable and recognized country codes and "International Reference Guides." This includes, but is not limited to P.I.E.R., NAFSA publications, or AACROA publications.

Intervention: The purposeful interaction of the physical therapist with the patient/client, and, when appropriate, with other individuals involved in patient/client care, using various physical therapy procedures and techniques to produce changes in the condition. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; Page 163*)

Standards: Foundational requirements of an established profession; in this case used by FCCPT to determine entry-level professional requirements for physical therapists. In physical therapy, *The Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Second Edition, A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004*, and *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists* serve as resources for setting these requirements.

Substantially Equivalent: The individual has satisfied or exceeded the minimum number of credits required in general and professional education needed for a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy. Coursework completed may not be identical in all respects to a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy, but all required content areas are evident. Deficiencies may be noted in coursework, but not in essential areas of professional education nor be of such magnitude that the education is not deemed to be at the entry-level of preparation for practice in the United States.

Transcript Reference: Official documentation from the academic institution of courses completed, grades assigned, and degree conferred in the form of an official transcript. In the exceptional cases where an official transcript does not exist within the institution, an alternative official document may be considered.



FSBPT Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapists

CWT 6

For implementation beginning January 1, 2017

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
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Telephone: 703.299.3100 Fax: 703.299.3110
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COURSEWORK TOOL 6

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INTRODUCTION

The Coursework Tools for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists (CWT) were developed by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in response to the needs of its member jurisdictions for a standardized method to evaluate the educational equivalence of foreign educated physical therapists. Each CWT reflects the minimum general and professional educational requirements for substantial equivalence at the time of graduation with respect to a US first professional degree in physical therapy. Adoption of the tools would allow the same mobility of foreign educated physical therapists as that afforded to US educated graduates. Coursework Tools should not be interpreted as the sole determinant of an individual's educational preparation or competence to practice. CWT 6 is based upon the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) *Evaluative Criteria for PT Programs* August 2014, which will be implemented by FSBPT on January 1, 2017.

The CWT that reflects current standards may be used to determine qualifications for an applicant to sit for the NPTE, for first-time licensure in US jurisdictions and prescreening certification for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Per the following motion passed by the 2014 Delegate Assembly, CWTs that reflect previous standards may be used to determine qualifications for licensure through endorsement of a foreign educated PT or PTA who is already licensed, certified or registered in another US jurisdiction.

DEL-14-02

The credentials of a foreign educated physical therapist (FEPT) who is currently licensed in a jurisdiction, and is seeking licensure through endorsement in another jurisdiction should be evaluated using the version of the FSBPT Coursework Tool retro tool that covers the date the applicant graduated from their respective physical therapy education program.

This process should be used for those seeking licensure through endorsement only. First-time licensure candidates should be evaluated using the current Coursework Tool.

In addition, rescind Delegate Assembly motion DEL-05-10.

They are also designed to be used by credentialing organizations and education programs. In addition, the CWTs may be used as a self-evaluation method to guide foreign educated physical therapists in comparing their education to US standards.

OVERVIEW

Summary

The applicant must meet the requirement of not less than 170 semester credit hours as a prerequisite. The minimum coursework requirements, in and of themselves, do not necessarily satisfy the requirements of the first professional degree. The applicant must have completed sufficient credit to satisfy the requirement for at minimum a post-baccalaureate degree. The applicant must also meet any jurisdiction-specific requirements.

General Education

General education in the areas of communications and humanities, physical science, biological science, social and behavioral science, and mathematics, must be identified. A minimum of a one course must be successfully completed in each area of general education unless otherwise noted.

Note: Some jurisdictions may require a specific number of semester credits. The applicant must meet the specific requirements in the jurisdiction where they are seeking licensure.

- 1. Communication and Humanities**
 - a. English
 - b. English composition
 - c. Speech or oral communication
 - d. Foreign language (other than native language)
 - e. Native Language
 - f. Literature
 - g. Visual Arts
 - h. Performing Arts
 - i. Philosophy
 - j. Ethics

 - 2. Physical Science**
 - a. Chemistry with laboratory (one course required) *
 - b. Physics with laboratory (one courses required) *
 - c. Geology
 - d. Astronomy

 - 3. Biological Science (General – not core to PT)**
 - a. Biology
 - b. Anatomy
 - c. Physiology
 - d. Zoology
 - e. Kinesiology
 - f. Neuroscience

 - 4. Social and Behavioral Science**
 - a. History
 - b. Geography
 - c. Sociology
 - d. Psychology*
 - e. Economics
 - f. Political science
 - g. Religion
 - h. Anthropology
- * Required
- 5. Mathematics**
 - a. Statistics
 - d. Calculus

- b. Algebra
- c. Pre-calculus

- e. Trigonometry
- f. Geometry
- g. Computer Studies

Professional Education

Ninety semester credits shall be the minimum required in professional education. There should be at least 68 didactic credits and 22 clinical education credits.

1. Basic Health Science

Content is required in each topic listed (a through l) under basic health sciences. The didactic content is basic to the practice of PT practice.

- a. Human anatomy (specific to physical therapy)
- b. Human physiology (specific to physical therapy)
- c. Neuroscience (Neuroanatomy/Neurophysiology)
- d. Kinesiology, functional anatomy or biomechanics
- e. Pathology
- f. Pharmacology
- g. Genetics
- h. Histology
- i. Nutrition
- j. Exercise Science
- k. Psychosocial aspects of health, disability, physical therapy
- l. Diagnostic imaging

2. Medical Science

The competent physical therapist practitioner is cognizant of general medical sciences relevant to healthcare, human function and system interaction. This must include but not be limited to:

- a. Cardiovascular (Including Lymphatic) system
- b. Respiratory system
- c. Endocrine & metabolic systems
- d. Renal, genitourinary systems
- e. Immune system
- f. Integumentary system
- g. Musculoskeletal system
- h. Neurologic system
- i. System interactions
- j. Differential diagnosis
- k. Medical, surgical conditions across the lifespan
 - i. Pediatrics
 - ii. Geriatrics

To prepare a competent physical therapist practitioner, the education must incorporate the essential elements of Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention. Therefore, educational coursework must contain all of the following:

3. Examination

- a. Patient history
- b. Screening of patient
- c. Systems review
- d. Physical exams, tests and measure selection
 - i. Test and measures administration
 - ii. Aerobic capacity/endurance

- iii. Anthropometric characteristics
- iv. Mental functions
- v. Assistive, adaptive devices
- vi. Community work (job, school, or play) reintegration
- vii. Cranial nerve integrity
- viii. Peripheral nerve integrity
- ix. Environmental, home, work barriers
- x. Ergonomics, body mechanics
- xi. Gait
- xii. Integumentary integrity
- xiii. Joint integrity and mobility
- xiv. Mobility (excluding gait)
- xv. Motor function
- xvi. Muscle performance
- xvii. Neuromotor development, sensory processing
- xviii. Pain
- xix. Posture
- xx. Range of motion
- xxi. Reflex integrity
- xxii. Self-care, home management
- xxiii. Sensory integrity
- xxiv. Ventilation, respiration or gas exchange

4. Evaluation

The physical therapist is responsible for the interpretation and analysis of the data collected in the examination of the client/patient. Education must include the following but is not limited to:

- a. Data analysis and evaluation
- b. Patient problem identification
- c. Findings that warrant referral
- d. Prognosis and goal formulation
- e. Plan of care development

5. Plan of Care Implementation

The implementation of treatment interventions is to be included in the educational program for the physical therapist practitioner. This includes the following but is not limited to:

- a. Interventions
 - i. Airway clearance techniques
 - ii. Integumentary repair and protection
 - iii. Wound debridement
 - iv. Electrotherapy
 - v. Physical agents
 - vi. Mechanical agents
 - vii. Community, work, functional training
 - viii. Self-care, home management, functional training
 - ix. Manual therapy techniques (including joint and soft tissue mobilization and massage)
 - x. Patient/client education
 - xi. Prescription, application, and as appropriate, fabrication of assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices and equipment
 - xii. Therapeutic exercise
 - xiii. Mobility training
- b. Plan of care management
- c. Supervision of support staff

- d. Outcome assessment
- e. Discharge or discontinuation planning
- f. Patient-related emergency procedures

6. Clinical Education

Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory, examination, evaluation, and intervention. The applicant must have a minimum of two full-time clinical internships of no less than 1050 hours total, which are supervised by a physical therapist. The required and maximum number of full-time clinical education credits is 22. The clinical internships must also show evidence of a variety of patient diagnoses or conditions.

7. Related Professional Coursework

Content is required in the following 12 areas:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| a. Professional roles and behaviors | f. Teaching & learning (including educational theory) | k. Teamwork and inter-professional collaboration |
| b. Healthcare Systems, Administration and Management | g. Documentation (all aspects of patient/client management) | l. Cultural competency |
| c. Community health | h. Communication | m. Consultation |
| d. Health promotion and wellness | i. Legal and regulatory aspects of physical therapy practice | |
| e. Clinical Decision Making Processes - Evidence-based Practice and | j. Ethical aspects and values of physical therapy practice | |

EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Name:	Date:
School:	Country:
Degree:	
Reviewing Organization:	
Reviewer(s):	
Signature of Issuing Organization's Authorized Representative:	
Print Name and Title:	

Note for Reviewing Organizations: Please affix official organization seal to the Evaluation Checklist authentication purposes.

General Education

A. Communication and Humanities One course minimum from the category	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference
1. English Language		
2. English Composition		
3. Speech or Oral Communication		
4. Foreign Language		
5. Native Language		
6. Composition of Research Writing		
7. Literature		
8. Visual Arts		
9. Performing Arts		
10. Philosophy		
11. Ethics		

B. Physical Science: One course in chemistry (with laboratory) and one course in physics (with laboratory) are required*.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference
1. Chemistry (with laboratory)*		
2. Physics (with laboratory)*		
3. Geology		
4. Astronomy		

C. Biological Science: (General - not core to PT) One course minimum	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference
1. Biology		
2. Anatomy		
3. Physiology		
4. Zoology		
5. Kinesiology		
6. Neuroscience		

D. Social and Behavioral Science: Two courses minimum from the category	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference
1. History		
2. Geography		
3. Sociology		
4. Economics		
5. Religion		
6. Political Science		
7. Psychology*		
8. Anthropology		

*Required

E. Mathematics: One course minimum from the category	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference
1. Statistics		
2. Algebra		
3. Pre-Calculus		
4. Calculus		
5. Trigonometry		
6. Geometry		
7. Computer Studies		

SUB-TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____

Professional Education

A minimum of 90 semester credits is required in this area.

A. Basic Health Science: Must include but not limited to areas 1– 12.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Justification
1. Human Anatomy /core to PT			
2. Human Physiology / core to PT			
3. Neuroscience (Neuroanatomy/ Neurophysiology)			
4. Kinesiology, Functional Anatomy, or Biomechanics			
5. Pathology			
6. Pharmacology			
7. Genetics			
8. Histology			
9. Nutrition			
10. Exercise Science			
11. Psychosocial aspects of health, disability, physical therapy			
12. Diagnostic imaging			

Subtotal Basic Health Science			
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B. Medical Science: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 11b.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Justification
1. Cardiovascular (including Lymphatic)			
2. Respiratory			
3. Endocrine & Metabolic			
4. Renal, Genitourinary			
5. Immune			
6. Integumentary			
7. Musculoskeletal			
8. Neurologic			
9. System Interactions			
10. Differential Diagnosis			
11. Medical, Surgical Conditions across the life span			
11a. Pediatrics			
11b. Geriatrics			
Subtotal Medical Science			

C. Examination: Must include but not limited to areas 1 – 5w.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Justification
1. History			
2. Screening			
3. Systems Review			
4. Physical Exams, Tests, Measures Selection			
5. Tests and Measures Administration:			
a. Aerobic capacity/Endurance			
b. Anthropometric characteristics			
c. Mental Functions			
d. Assistive, adaptive devices			
e. Community, work (job, school, or play) reintegration			
f. Cranial Nerve Integrity			
g. Peripheral Nerve Integrity			
h. Environmental, home, work barriers			
i. Ergonomics, body mechanics			
j. Gait			
k. Integumentary integrity			
l. Joint integrity and mobility			
m. Mobility (excluding gait)			
n. Motor function			
o. Muscle performance			

p. Neuromotor development, sensory processing			
q. Pain			
r. Posture			
s. Range of motion			
t. Reflex integrity			
u. Self-care, home management			
v. Sensory integrity			
w. Ventilation, respiration or gas exchange			
Subtotal Examination			

D. Evaluation: Must include but not limited to areas 1 - 5.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Justification
1. Data Analysis and Evaluation			
2. Patient Problem Identification			
3. Findings that Warrant Referral			
4. Prognosis and Goal Formulation			
5. Plan of Care Development			
Subtotal Evaluation			

E. Plan of Care Implementation: Must include but not limited to areas 1 (1a-m) – 6.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Justification
1. Interventions			
a. Airway clearance techniques			
b. Integumentary Repair & Protection			
c. Wound Debridement			
d. Electrotherapy			
e. Physical Agents			
f. Mechanical Agents			
g. Community, Work Functional Training			
h. Self-Care, Home Management Function Training			
i. Manual therapy techniques (including joint and soft tissue mobilization and massage)			
j. Patient/Client Education			
k. Prescription, application, and as appropriate, fabrication of assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices and			

equipment			
l. Therapeutic exercise			
m. Mobility Training			
2. Plan of Care Management			
3. Supervision of Support Staff			
4. Outcome Assessment			
5. Discharge or Discontinuation			
6. Patient-related Emergency Procedures			
Subtotal Plan of Care Implementation			

F. Clinical Education 22 credits required*	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Justification

Clinical experiences:	Yes	No	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Deliver physical therapy services to patients/clients with a variety of diseases and conditions settings			
2. Occur in at least 2 different types of practice settings			

Note: Clinical education must include physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory, examination, evaluation, and intervention. The applicant must have a minimum of two full-time clinical educational experiences (with a variety of patient populations, diagnoses, and acuity levels) of no less than 1050 hours.

*Full time clinical education credits is to be 22 credits.

G. Related Professional Coursework: Must include but not limited to areas 1-13.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Justification
1. Professional Roles and Behaviors			
2. Healthcare Systems, Administration, and Management			
3. Community Health			
4. Health Promotion and Wellness			
5. Clinical Decision Making Processes - Evidence-based Practice and			
6. Teaching and Learning (including educational theory)			
7. Documentation (all aspects of patient/client management)			
8. Communication			
9. Legal and Regulatory Aspects			

of Physical Therapy practice			
10. Ethical Aspects and values of Physical Therapy Practice			
11. Teamwork and Inter-professional Collaboration			
12. Cultural Competency			
13. Consultation			
Subtotal Related Professional Coursework			

SUB-TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____
 (90 minimum)

Academic Institution

Describe the academic level of the educational program and the institution within the context of the country's educational system:
1. Status (recognition/accreditation) within the country's educational system:
2. Entry Requirements (secondary education):
3. Degree Equivalence (Baccalaureate, Post-Baccalaureate etc.)
4. Other (CAPTE accreditation, etc.)

Summary

Total General Education Credits:	
Total Professional Education Didactic Credits (68 Minimum):	
Total Clinical Education Hours (1050 Hours required equals 22 credits)	
Total Credits (170 Minimum)	

DEFINITIONS

Adequate: Coursework satisfies the requirement that the level of complexity and scope of the content in a course or courses meets established standards necessary for the entry-level degree.

Clinical Education: That aspect of the professional curriculum during which student learning occurs directly as a function of being immersed within physical therapist practice. These experiences comprise all of the formal and practical “real-life” learning experiences provided for students to apply classroom knowledge, skills, and professional behaviors in the clinical environment. (CAPTE Evaluative Criteria)

Clinical Sciences: Content includes both diseases that require direct intervention of a physical therapist for management and diseases that affect conditions being managed by physical therapists across systems. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004; p. 159*)

Comments: Validation of transcript references. Identifies specific location within official institutional records where content area(s) may be found. These references may be in the form of educational objectives, listing of course content, course syllabi, test questions or other curricular documents.

Course: A series of study which is taught at the post secondary level, which results in an official transcript of record with assigned grade, a course description and syllabus, and credit that can be verified by the institution. Credit is either assigned by a semester of 15 weeks, plus an exam week, or is converted to semester hours based on 16 weeks of study.

Credit Hour: A semester credit hour must include at a minimum: 15 hours of lecture, or 30 hours of laboratory, or 48 hours of clinical education.

Evaluation: A dynamic process in which the physical therapist makes clinical judgments gathered during the examination (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, 2003, APTA*).

Examination: A comprehensive and specific testing process performed by a physical therapist that leads to diagnostic classification or, as appropriate, to a referral to another practitioner. The Examination has three components: the patient/client history, the systems reviews, and tests and measures. (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Rev. Second Edition, APTA, 2003*).

General Education: General Education constitutes all non-physical therapy education completed, provided these courses were taken at the post secondary level from a recognized educational program. These courses, both pre-professional and post-professional education, may be used to fulfill the core course requirements

Grades: Undergraduate grades must equate to a “C” average in the United States. No failing grades should be accepted. Professional coursework must meet the requirement of a “C” or higher. Credentialing decisions for conversion of grades or semester credits should follow accepted guidelines as published in acceptable and recognized country codes and “International Reference Guides.” This includes, but is not limited to P.I.E.R., NAFSA publications, or AACROA publications.

Intervention: The purposeful interaction of the physical therapist with the patient/client, and, when appropriate, with other individuals involved in patient/client care, using various physical therapy procedures and techniques to produce changes in the condition. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004;*

Page 163)

Standards: Foundational requirements of an established profession; in this case used by credentialing agencies to determine entry-level professional requirements for physical therapists. In physical therapy, *The Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Second Edition, A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004*, and *Evaluative Criteria for PT Programs* serve as resources for setting these requirements.

Substantially Equivalent: The individual has satisfied or exceeded the minimum number of credits required in general and professional education needed for a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy. Coursework completed may not be identical in all respects to a U.S. first professional degree in physical therapy, but all required content areas are evident. Deficiencies may be noted in coursework, but not in essential areas of professional education nor be of such magnitude that the education is not deemed to be at the entry-level of preparation for practice in the United States.

Transcript Reference: Official documentation from the academic institution of courses completed, grades assigned, and degree conferred in the form of an official transcript. In the exceptional cases where an official transcript does not exist within the institution, an alternative official document may be considered.

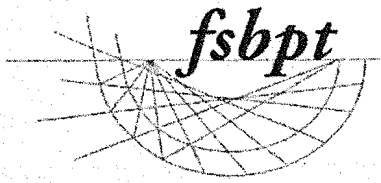
DOCUMENTS INCOPORATED BY REFERENCE

(7)

**FSBPT Coursework Tool
for Physical Therapist
Assistants -**

PTA Tool 1 2007

(Rev. 2012-12)



Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapist Assistants

PTA-Tool 1

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
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INTRODUCTION

The Coursework Tool for Foreign Educated Physical Therapist Assistants (PTA-Tool 1) was developed by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in response to the 2008 published regulation number CMS-1385 by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for Medicare reimbursement. This CMS regulation requires a foreign educated physical therapist assistant to show certification of education which is substantially equivalent to an entry-level physical therapist assistant's education in the United States. PTA-Tool 1 reflects the minimum foundational studies and applied science and technical education for substantial equivalence with respect to a US first degree for a physical therapist assistant. Coursework Tools should not be interpreted as the sole determinant of an individual's educational preparation or competence to work as a physical therapist assistant. CWT PTA-Tool 1 is validated against the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education's (CAPTE) *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapist Assistants* adopted April 2006 and effective July 1, 2007.

PTA-Tool 1 may be used by credentialing organizations and educational programs. In addition, it may be used as a self-evaluation method to guide foreign educated physical therapist assistants in comparing their education to US standards.

The original name of PTA-Tool 1 was PTA Tool 2007. Updates to the CAPTE evaluative criteria required an update to the Tool and the release of PTA-Tool 2. In 2017, the tool name changed from PTA Tool 2017 to PTA-Tool 1; no other changes were made. PTA Tool 2017 and PTA-Tool 1 are the same tool.

THE USE OF THE COURSEWORK TOOL

The PTA-Tool 1 is to be used to assess those candidates who are applying for licensure or certification as PTAs in a US jurisdiction, or who are working in a setting providing services to clients who qualify for CMS funding. Finding substantial equivalency alone does not qualify an individual to work as a PTA. The finding of equivalency, however, may be a determinant in allowing a candidate to sit for the PTA National Physical Therapy Examination.

The role of the physical therapist assistant has historically been identified and labeled in the US as one of a paraprofessional who is uniquely educated to assist the physical therapist in the provision of physical therapy services. PTA education in the US is at the post-secondary level of education, and results in an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.), Associate of Science (A.S.) or an Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree. Programs are generally two years in length. The emphasis of PTA education is in the area of intervention.

US PTA curriculum consists of Foundational Studies and Applied Sciences and Technical Education. Foundational Studies include 15 semester credits in humanities, natural sciences, social/behavioral sciences and mathematics/logic. The Applied Sciences and Technical Education include a minimum of 49 semester credits to address basic health science, medical science, data collection techniques, therapeutic interventions, supervised clinical work and related technical coursework.

At the time of this publication, FSBPT has identified at least seven foreign PTA programs, located primarily in Canada and Europe.

OVERVIEW

Summary

The applicant must meet the requirement of not less than sixty-four semester credit hours; 15 in foundational studies and 49 in applied science and technical education. The minimum coursework requirements, in and of themselves, do not necessarily satisfy the requirements of the entry-level physical therapist assistant degree. The applicant must have completed sufficient credits to satisfy the requirement for at least two years of post-secondary education. The applicant must also meet any jurisdiction-specific requirements.

Foundational Studies

Fifteen semester credits is the minimum number required in foundational studies. Foundational studies include the areas of English composition, physical/natural & biological science, social/ behavioral science, and mathematics/logic. A minimum of a one-semester course must be successfully completed in each area of foundational studies unless otherwise noted. The physical/natural/biological science content may be imbedded in the technical coursework.

Some jurisdictions may require more than 15 semester credits. The applicant must meet the specific requirements in the jurisdiction where they are seeking licensure.

1. Humanities

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| a. English | e. Literature |
| b. English composition* | f. Art |
| c. Speech or oral communication | g. Music |
| d. Foreign language (other than native language) | |

*required

2. Physical/Natural/Biological Sciences

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| a. Chemistry | f. Physics |
| b. Biology | g. Kinesiology |
| c. Anatomy | h. Neuroscience |
| d. Physiology | i. Genetics |
| e. Zoology | j. Astronomy |

3. Social/Behavioral Science

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| a. History | f. Economics |
| b. Geography | g. Political science |
| c. Sociology | h. Religion |
| d. Psychology | i. Philosophy |
| e. Anthropology | j. Ethics |

4. Mathematics/Logic

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| a. Statistics | d. Calculus |
| b. Algebra | e. Trigonometry |
| c. Pre-calculus | f. Geometry |

Applied Science & Technical Education

Forty-nine semester credits shall be the minimum required in applied science and technical education.

1. Basic Health Science

Coursework is required in each topic listed below.

- a. Human anatomy (specific to physical therapy)
- b. Human physiology (specific to physical therapy)
- c. Kinesiology or functional anatomy
- d. Pathology

2. Medical and Clinical Science

- a. Medical science pertinent to physical therapy. This must include but not be limited to:
 1. Neurology
 2. Orthopedics
 3. Cardiopulmonary
- b. Physical therapist assistant coursework must include but not be limited to:

1. Integumentary System	3. Neuromuscular System
a. Data Collection	a. Data Collection
2. Musculoskeletal System	4. Cardiopulmonary System
a. Data Collection	a. Data Collection
- c. Physical therapist assistant coursework must include but is not limited to:
 1. Integumentary Interventions
 2. Musculoskeletal Interventions
 3. Neuromuscular Interventions
 4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions
 5. Physical Agents/Electrotherapy
 6. First Aid/Emergency Care

3. Clinical Education

The clinical education component includes organized and sequential experiences coordinated with the didactic component of the curriculum, which may include integrated and full-time experiences. The applicant must have full-time clinical experiences with a minimum of two clinical areas of work, for no less than 520 hours total, which are supervised by a clinical supervisor who is a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant. The maximum number of full-time clinical education credits is 15.

4. Related Technical Coursework

Content is required in the following seven areas:

- a. Role of the PTA
- b. Professional Ethics, Behaviors & Issues
- c. Administration
- d. Educational Techniques
- e. Communication (related to client/patient care)
- f. Medical Legal Issues and Healthcare Delivery
- g. Psychosocial Aspects in Physical Therapy Work

PTA EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Foundational Studies

Fifteen semester credits are required in this area.

A. HUMANITIES: One course minimum.	Credit	Transcript Reference	Comments
1. English			
2. English Composition*			
3. Speech or Oral Communication			
4. Foreign Language (other than native language)			
5. Literature			
6. Art			
7. Music			

* Required

B. NATURAL SCIENCE: Physical Sciences & Biological Sciences This content area may be imbedded in Applied Sciences.	Credit	Transcript Reference	Comments
1. Physics			
2. Biology			
3. Anatomy			
4. Physiology			

C. SOCIAL /BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: At least one course - from any area.	Credit	Transcript Reference	Comments
A. History			
B. Sociology			
C. Economics			
D. Religion			
E. Political Science			
F. Psychology			
G. Philosophy			
H. Ethics			

D. MATHEMATICS/LOGIC: At least one course - from any area.	Credit	Transcript Reference	Comments
1. Statistics			
2. Algebra			
3. Pre-Calculus			
4. Calculus			
5. Trigonometry			
6. Geometry			
7. General Mathematics			

SUB-TOTAL FOUNDATIONAL STUDIES CREDITS: _____ (15 minimum)

Applied Sciences & Technical Education

Forty-nine semester credits are required in this area.

A. BASIC HEALTH SCIENCE: Coursework is required in each area (1-4).	Credit	Transcript Reference	Comments
1. Human Anatomy			
2. Human Physiology			
3. Kinesiology or Functional Anatomy			
4. Pathology			

B. MEDICAL SCIENCE: General Medical Knowledge Coursework must include but is not limited to 1-3.	Credit	Transcript Reference	Comments
1. Neurology			
2. Orthopedics			
3. Cardiopulmonary			

C. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Data Collection PTA coursework must include but is not limited to areas 1-4.	Credit	Transcript Reference	Comments
1. Integumentary System Data Collection			
2. Musculoskeletal System Data Collection			

3. Neuromuscular System Data Collection			
4. Cardiopulmonary System Data Collection			

Data Collection Skills Content Area Summary

Within the credit hours assigned above, indicate content area which you found evidence for items 1 – 14.

Data collection skills content areas include but are not limited to the following:	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
1. Aerobic capacity		
2. Anthropometric characteristics		
3. Arousal, mentation, and cognition		
4. Assistive and adaptive devices		
5. Gait, assisted locomotion, and balance		
6. Integumentary integrity		
7. Joint integrity and mobility		
8. Muscle performance (including strength, power, and endurance)		
9. Neuromotor development		
10. Pain		
11. Posture		
12. Range of motion		
13. Self-care and home management (including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living)		
14. Ventilation, respiration, and circulation		

Adapted from the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapist Assistants*, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; 2007; Appendix A1-31.

D. CLINICAL SCIENCE: INTERVENTIONS PTA coursework must include but is not limited to areas 1 – 6.	Credit	Transcript Reference	Comments
1. Integumentary Interventions			
2. Musculoskeletal Interventions			
3. Neuromuscular Interventions			
4. Cardiopulmonary Interventions			
5. Physical Agents/Electro			
6. First Aid/ Emergency Care			

Intervention Content Area Summary

Within the credit hours assigned above, indicate the content area for which you found evidence for items 1-5.

Intervention content areas include, but are not limited to, the following:	Present = √ Absent = ∅	Transcript Reference
1. Wound Management		
A. Application and removal of dressing agents		
B. Identification of precautions for dressing removal		
2. Functional Training		
A. Activities of Daily Living		
B. Assistive /Adaptive Devices		
C. Body Mechanics		
D. Developmental Activities		
E. Gait and Locomotion Training		
F. Prosthetics and Orthotics		
G. Wheelchair Management Skills		
H. Infection Control Procedures		
I. Isolation Techniques		
J. Sterile Technique		
3. Patient-related instruction		
4. Physical agents and mechanical modalities		
A. Athermal Agents		
B. Biofeedback		
C. Compression Therapies		
D. Cryotherapy		
E. Electrotherapeutic Agents		
F. Hydrotherapy		
G. Superficial and Deep Thermal Agents		
H. Traction		
5. Therapeutic exercise (including aerobic conditioning)		
A. Aerobic Exercise		
B. Balance and Coordination Training		
C. Breathing Exercises and Coughing Techniques		
D. Conditioning and reconditioning		
E. Posture Awareness training		
F. Range of Motion Exercises		
G. Stretching Exercises		
H. Strengthening Exercises		

Adapted from the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapist Assistants*.

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; 2007; Appendix A1 30 - 31.

E. CLINICAL EDUCATION	HOURS*	Transcript reference	Comments
Two clinical internships. Total clinic hours = 520 hours			

Note: The clinical education component includes organized and sequential experiences coordinated with the didactic component of the curriculum, which may include integrated and full time experiences. The applicant must have full-time clinical experiences with a minimum of two clinical areas of work, which are supervised by a clinical supervisor who is a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.

*Maximum number of full time clinical education credits is 15. Forty-eight clock hours equal one semester credit.

F. RELATED TECHNICAL COURSEWORK: Coursework is required in areas 1-7.	Credit	Transcript Reference	Comments
1. Role of the PTA			
2. Professional Ethics, Behaviors & Issues			
3. Administration			
4. Educational Techniques			
5. Communication (related to client/patient care)			
6. Medical Legal Issues and Healthcare Delivery			
7. Psychosocial Aspects in Physical Therapy Work			

SUB-TOTAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____ (49 minimum)

ACADEMIC INSTITUTION

Describe the academic level of the educational program and the institution within the context of the country's educational system:
1. Status (recognition/accreditation) within the country's educational system:
2. Entry requirements (minimum of secondary education):
3. Degree equivalence (Associate of Science, etc.):
4. Other (CAPTE accreditation, etc.):

Summary

	Number of Credits
Total Foundational Studies Credits (15 minimum):	
Total Technical Education Credits (49 minimum):	
Total Credits (64 minimum):	

64 credits = Two years of study

DEFINITIONS

Adequate: Coursework satisfies the requirement that the level of complexity and scope of the content in a course or courses meets established standards necessary for the entry-level associate's degree.

Clinical Education: That portion of a physical therapy program that is conducted in the health care environment rather than the academic environment. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007, p 12*)

Clinical Sciences: Content includes both diseases that require direct intervention of a physical therapist for management and diseases that affect conditions being managed by physical therapists across systems. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007; p. 159*)

Clock Hour: Fifty to sixty minutes or as determined by the policy of the institution.

Comments: Validation of transcript references. Identifies specific references within official institutional records where content area(s) may be found. These references may be in the form of educational objectives, listing of course content, course syllabi, test questions, or other curricular documents.

Content Area: Component competencies as designated by the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapist Assistants* (Adopted April 2006, effective July 1, 2007).

Course: A series of study which is taught at the post-secondary level and results in an official transcript of record with assigned grade, a course description and syllabus, and credit can be verified by the institution. Credit is either assigned by a semester of 15 weeks plus exam week or is converted to semester hours based on 16 weeks of study.

Credit Hour: A semester credit hour must include at a minimum: 15 hours of lecture, or 30 hours of laboratory, or 48 hours of clinical education.

Data-collection skills: Those processes/procedures used throughout the intervention to gather information about the patient's/client's progress through observation; measurement; subjective, objective, and functional findings. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007; p. 130*)

Foundational Sciences: Essential content that contributes to the development and understanding of physical therapy to include sciences that can be described as *basic* and *applied*. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007, Page 132*)

General Education: General Education constitutes all non-physical therapy education completed, provided these courses were taken at the college level from a recognized educational program. These courses, both pre-professional and post-professional education, may be used to fulfill the 30 credit requirements after the core courses have been met. General education may be included in Foundational Studies.

Grades: Grades must equate to a "C" average in the United States. No failing grades should be accepted. Credentialing decisions for conversion of grades or semester credits should follow accepted guidelines as published in acceptable and recognized country codes and "International Reference Guides." This includes but is not limited to, P.I.E.R., NAFSA publications or AACROA publications.

Intervention: The purposeful and skilled interaction of the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant with the patient/client, and, when appropriate, with other individuals involved in the patient/client care, using various physical therapy procedures and techniques to produce changes in the patient's/client's condition. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007 p. 133*)

Standards: Foundational requirements of an established profession to determine entry-level professional/ technical requirements for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants. In physical therapy, *The Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Second Edition*, *A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007*, and *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapist Assistants* serve as resources for setting these requirements.

Substantially Equivalent: The individual has satisfied or exceeded the minimum number of credits required in foundational and technical education needed for a U.S. first degree for a physical therapist assistant. Coursework completed may not be identical in all respects to a U.S. first degree for a physical therapist assistant, but all required content areas are evident. Deficiencies may be noted in coursework, but may not be in the essential areas of technical education or of such magnitude that the education is not deemed to be at the entry-level of preparation for work in the United States.

Technical Skills: Psychomotor processes/procedures supported by affective and cognitive processes/procedures that constitute patient/client interventions. The skills must be integrated to achieve the most effective interventions and optimal outcomes. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007, p.135*)

Transcript Reference: Official documentation from the academic institution of courses completed, grades assigned, and degree conferred in the form of an official transcript. In the exceptional cases where an official transcript does not exist within the institution, an alternative official document may be considered.

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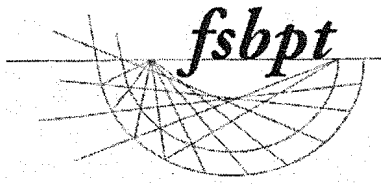
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Coursework Tool For Foreign Educated Physical Therapist Assistants

PTA-Tool 2

Implementation Date February 15, 2017

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INTRODUCTION

The Coursework Tool for Foreign Educated Physical Therapist Assistants (PTA Tool 2007) was developed by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in response to the 2008 published regulation number CMS-1385 by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for Medicare reimbursement. This CMS regulation requires a foreign educated physical therapist assistant to show certification of education which is substantially equivalent to an entry-level physical therapist assistant's education in the United States.

PTA-Tool 2 was developed by the Federation in 2017 to address the changes in the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy (CAPTE) updates to the Evaluative Criteria for accredited PTA programs. The PTA-Tool 2 was approved and adopted by the Board of Directors in February of 2017 with recommended implementation February 15, 2017.

It reflects the minimum foundational studies and applied science and technical education for substantial equivalence at the time of graduation with respect to a US first degree for a physical therapist assistant. Coursework Tools should not be interpreted as the sole determinant of an individual's educational preparation or competence to work as a physical therapist assistant. CWT PTA-tool 2 is validated against the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education's (CAPTE) *PTA Standards and Required Elements for PT Assistant Education Programs effective January 1, 2016*.

PTA- Tool 2 may be used by credentialing organizations and educational programs. In addition, it may be used as a self-evaluation method to guide foreign educated physical therapists assistants in comparing their education to US standards.

THE USE OF THE COURSEWORK TOOL

The PTA Tool 2 is to be used to assess those candidates who are applying for licensure or certification as PTAs in a US jurisdiction, or who are working in a setting providing services to clients who qualify for CMS funding. Finding substantial equivalency alone does not qualify an individual to work as a PTA. The finding of equivalency, however, may be a determinant in allowing a candidate to sit for the PTA National Physical Therapy Examination.

The role of the physical therapist assistant has historically been identified and labeled in the US as one of a paraprofessional who is uniquely educated to assist the physical therapist in the provision of physical therapy services. PTA education in the US is at the post-secondary level of education, and results in an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.), Associate of Science (A.S.) or an Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree. Programs are generally two years in length. The emphasis of PTA education is in the area of intervention.

US PTA curriculum consists of Foundational Studies and Applied Sciences and Technical Education. Foundational Studies include required content in English Composition within the humanities, and social/behavioral sciences. Content in natural sciences, is required however the content may be embedded in the Applied Sciences coursework. The Applied Sciences and Technical Education include a minimum of 60 semester credits to address basic health science, medical science: General Medical Knowledge, Clinical Science: Physical Therapy Management, Clinical Decision Making within the Plan of Care developed by the PT, data collection skills, therapeutic interventions, supervised clinical work and additional required technical coursework.

At the time of this publication, FSBPT has identified at least seven foreign PTA programs, located primarily in Canada and Europe.

OVERVIEW

Summary

The applicant must meet the requirement of not less than seventy-five semester credit hours. The minimum coursework requirements, in and of themselves, do not necessarily satisfy the requirements of the entry-level physical therapist assistant degree. The applicant must have completed sufficient credits to satisfy the requirement for at least two years of post-secondary education. The applicant must also meet any jurisdiction-specific requirements.

Foundational Studies

Foundational Studies include required content in English Composition within the humanities, and social/behavioral sciences. Content in natural sciences, is required however the content may be embedded in the Applied Sciences coursework.

The applicant must meet the specific requirements in the jurisdiction where they are seeking licensure.

1. Humanities

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| a. English | e. Literature |
| b. English composition* | f. Art |
| c. Speech or oral communication | g. Music |
| d. Foreign language (other than native language) | h. Native Languages |

*required

2. Physical/Natural/Biological Sciences

- a. Physics
- b. Biology
- c. Anatomy
- d. Physiology
- e. Chemistry
- f. Zoology

3. Social/Behavioral Science

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| a. History | f. Psychology |
| b. Sociology | g. Philosophy |
| c. Economics | h. Ethics |
| d. Religion | |
| e. Political Science | |

4. Mathematics/Logic – Not Required

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| a. Statistics | e. Calculus |
| b. Algebra | f. Trigonometry |
| c. Pre-calculus | g. Geometry |
| d. Computer Studies | h. General Math |

Applied Science & Technical Education

Forty-nine semester credits shall be the minimum required in applied science and technical education.

1. **Basic Health Science (Coursework is required in each topic listed below.)**
 - a. Human anatomy (specific to physical therapy)
 - b. Human physiology (specific to physical therapy)
 - c. Kinesiology or functional anatomy
 - d. Pathology
 - e. Nervous System
 - f. Musculoskeletal System
 - g. Cardiovascular System
 - h. Respiratory System
 - i. Integumentary System
 - j. Endocrine/Metabolic Systems
 - k. Gastrointestinal System
 - l. Genital and Reproductive Systems
 - m. Hematologic, Hepatic/Biliary Systems
 - n. Immune System
 - o. Renal and Urologic Systems
2. **Medical Science: General Medical Knowledge of systems across the lifespan**
 - a. Pediatric Conditions
 - b. Geriatric Conditions
3. **Clinical Science: PT management of:**
 - a. Integumentary System
 - b. Musculoskeletal System
 - c. Neuromuscular System
 - d. Cardiopulmonary System
 - e. First Aid/Emergency Care
4. **Clinical Decision Making Within the Plan of Care Developed by the PT:**
 - a. Interpret the components of the Plan of Care developed by the PT.
 - b. Health Record Review
 - c. Discontinuation of episode of care/Discharge planning
 - d. Report any Changes in patient status
 - e. Withhold interventions beyond the scope of work for the PTA
5. **Data Collection Skills (17 skills are required)**
6. **Intervention Skills (9 skills and Associated Subcategories are required)**
7. **Clinical Education**
 - a. 520 hours
 - b. Deliver physical therapy services to patients/clients with a variety of diseases/conditions.
 - c. Experiences must occur in at least 2 different types of practice settings.

The clinical education component includes organized and sequential experiences coordinated with the didactic component of the curriculum, which may include integrated and full-time experiences, which are supervised by a clinical supervisor who is a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant. The maximum number of full-time clinical education credits is 15. 48 clock hours equal 1 semester unit.

8. Additional Required Technical Coursework

- a. Role of the PTA
 - i. Direction and supervision of the PTA by the PT
 - ii. Interprofessional collaboration.
- b. Professional Ethics and Behaviors
 - i. Ethical Behaviors
 - ii. Ethical Decision Making
- c. Administration
- d. Educational Techniques
- e. Communication (related to client/patient care)
- f. Documentation/Billing
- g. Medical Legal Issues and Healthcare Delivery
 - i. International Classifications of Disabilities
- h. Psychosocial Aspects in PT Work
- i. Evidence Based Practice
- j. Patient and Healthcare Provider Safety

PTA EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Foundational Studies

I. Foundational Studies

A. HUMANITIES: One course minimum.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. English		
2. English Composition*		
3. Speech or Oral Communication		
4. Foreign Language (other than native language)		
5. Literature		
6. Art		
7. Music		
8. Native Languages		
Humanities subtotal		

* Required

B. NATURAL SCIENCE: Physical Sciences & Biological Sciences This content area may be embedded within Applied Sciences, thus evidence Found In is acceptable.*	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Physics		
2. Biology		
3. Anatomy*		
4. Physiology*		
5. Chemistry		
6. Zoology		
Natural Science subtotal		

C. SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: One course minimum.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. History		
2. Sociology		
3. Economics		
4. Religion		
5. Political Science		
6. Psychology		
7. Philosophy		
8. Ethics		
Social & Behavioral Science subtotal		

D. MATHEMATICS: Not required	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Statistics		
2. Algebra		
3. Trigonometry		
4. Calculus		
5. Pre-Calculus		
6. Geometry		
7. General Mathematics		
8. Computer Studies		
Mathematics/Logic subtotal		
SUBTOTAL FOUNDATIONAL STUDIES CREDITS:		

II. Applied Sciences & Technical Education

Sixty (60) semester credits are required in this area.

A. BASIC HEALTH SCIENCE: Coursework is required in 1-16.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Human Anatomy			
2. Human Physiology			
3. Kinesiology or Functional Anatomy			
4. Pathology			
5. Nervous System			
6. Musculoskeletal System			
7. Cardiovascular Systems			
8. Respiratory System			
9. Integumentary System			
10. Endocrine / Metabolic Systems			
11. Gastrointestinal System			
12. Genital and Reproductive Systems			
13. Hematologic, Hepatic / Biliary Systems			
14. Immune System			
15. Lymphatic System			
16. Renal and Urologic Systems			
Basic Health Science Subtotal			

B. MEDICAL SCIENCE: General Medical Knowledge of Systems across the lifespan: Coursework must include but is not limited to 1-2	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Pediatric conditions			
2. Geriatric conditions			
Medical Science subtotal			

C. CLINICAL SCIENCE: Physical Therapy Management of: PTA coursework must include but is not limited to areas 1 – 5.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Integumentary System			
2. Musculoskeletal System			
3. Neuromuscular System			
4. Cardiopulmonary System			
5. First Aid/ Emergency Care			
Clinical Science subtotal			

D. CLINICAL DECISION MAKING WITHIN THE PLAN OF CARE DEVELOPED BY THE PT:	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Interpret the components of the Plan of Care (POC) developed by the PT.			
2. Health Record Review			
3. Discontinuation of Episode of care./ Discharge Planning			
4. Report any changes in patient/client status			
5. Withhold interventions beyond the scope of work for the Physical therapist assistant			

E. DATA COLLECTION SKILLS CONTENT AREA SUMMARY		
Indicate content area that you found evidence for items 1 – 17. All are required.		
Data collection skills content areas include but are not limited to the following:	Credit Hours	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Aerobic capacity and Endurance		
2. Anthropometric characteristics		
3. Mental functions/Arousal, mentation, and cognition		
4. Assistive Technology/Assistive Devices		
5. Gait, locomotion, and balance		
6. Wheelchair Management and mobility		
7. Integumentary integrity		
8. Joint integrity and mobility		
9. Muscle performance (including strength, length tone and endurance)		
10. Neuromotor development		
11. Pain		
12. Posture		
13. Range of motion		

14. Physical environment and measure of physical spaces		
15. Safety and barriers in the home, community and work environments		
16. Functional status/ (ADL & IADL), including standardized questionnaire		
17. Ventilation, respiration, and circulation		

Adapted from the *PTA Standards with Evidence*, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; 2015

F. INTERVENTION CONTENT AREA SUMMARY		
Indicate the content area for which you found evidence for items 1-9b. All are required.		
Intervention content areas include, but are not limited to, the following:	Credit Hours	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE
1. Airway Clearance Techniques		
1 A. Breathing exercises		
1 B. Coughing techniques		
1 C. Secretion mobilization		
2. Application of Devices and Equipment		
2 A. Assistive/adaptive devices		
2 B. Prosthetic and orthotic devices		
3. Biophysical Agents:		
3 A. Biofeedback		
3 B. Compression Therapies		
3 C. Cryotherapy		
3 D. Electrotherapeutic Agents		
3 E. Hydrotherapy		
3 F. Superficial and Deep Thermal Agents		
3 G. Traction		
3 H. Light therapies		
4. Functional Training in Self-Care and in Domestic, Education, Work, Community, Social, Civic Life		
5. Manual Therapy Technique		
5 A. Passive range of motion		
5 B. Massage		
6. Motor Function Training		
7. Patient/Client Education		
8. Therapeutic Exercise		
9. Wound Management:		
9 A. Isolation and sterile techniques		
9B. Dressings		

G. CLINICAL EDUCATION	CREDIT HOURS**	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
Two clinical internships. Total clinic hours = 520 hours			

** Maximum number of full time clinical education credits is 15.00. Forty-eight clock hours equal one semester credit.

Clinical experiences:	Yes No	TRANSCRIPT/DOCUMENT REFERENCE
1. Deliver physical therapy services to patients/clients with a variety of diseases and conditions settings		
2. Occur in at least 2 different types of practice settings		

H. ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TECHNICAL COURSEWORK: Coursework is required in areas 1-10.	CREDIT HOURS	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCE	JUSTIFICATION
1. Role of the PTA within patient /client management			
1 A. Direction and supervision of the PTA by the PT.			
1 B. Inter-professional collaboration			
2. Professional Ethics and Behaviors			
2 A. Ethical Behaviors			
2 B. Ethical Decision Making			
3 Administration			
4 Educational Techniques			
5 Communication (related to client/patient care)			
6 Documentation/Billing			
7 Medical Legal Issues in Healthcare Delivery			
7A. International Classifications of Disabilities			
8 Psychosocial Aspects in Physical Therapy Work			
9 Evidenced Based Practice			
10. Patient and Healthcare Provider Safety			
Related Technical Coursework subtotal			

SUBTOTAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION CREDITS (60 minimum):	
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III. ACADEMIC INSTITUTION

Describe the academic level of the educational program and the institution within the context of the country's educational system:	
1. Status (recognition/accreditation) within the country's educational system:	
2. Entry requirements (minimum of secondary education):	
3. Degree equivalence (Associate of Science, etc.):	
4. Other (CAPTE accreditation, etc.):	

IV. Summary

	Number of Credits
Total Foundational Studies Credits :	
Total Technical Education Credits (60 minimum):	
Total Credits (75 minimum):	

75 credits = Two years of study including summer sessions, based upon the CAPTE Annual Report 2015.

DEFINITIONS

Adequate: Coursework satisfies the requirement that the level of complexity and scope of the content in a course or courses meets established standards necessary for the entry-level associate's degree.

Clinical Education: That portion of a program that is conducted in the healthcare environment rather than the academic environment. That aspect of the curriculum is where students' learning occurs directly as a function of being immersed within physical therapy work. These experiences comprise all of the formal and practical "real-life" learning experiences provided for students to apply classroom knowledge, skills, and professional behaviors in the clinical environment. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007, p 129.*)

Clinical Sciences: The curricular content which addresses the systems approach to medical and surgical conditions frequently encountered. This component of the curriculum includes content about the cardiopulmonary, integumentary, musculoskeletal, and neuromuscular systems. Clinical science content is related to work expectations which include the specific responsibilities of patient history, data collection, and intervention. Content includes both diseases that require direct intervention of a physical therapist for management and diseases that affect conditions being managed by physical therapists across systems. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Education: Version 2007; p. 112.*)

Clock Hour: Fifty to sixty minutes or as determined by the policy of the institution.

Comments: Validation of transcript references. Identifies specific references within official institutional records where content area(s) may be found. These references may be in the form of educational objectives, listing of course content, course syllabi, test questions, or other curricular documents.

Content Area: Component competencies as designated by the *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapist Assistants* (adopted April 2006, effective July 1, 2007)

Course: A series of study which is taught at the post secondary level and results in an official transcript of record with assigned grade, a course description and syllabus, and credit can be verified by the institution. Credit is either assigned by a semester of 15 weeks plus exam week or is converted to semester hours based on 16 weeks of study.

Credit Hour: A semester credit hour must include at a minimum: 15 hours of lecture, or 30 hours of laboratory, or 48 hours of clinical education.

Foundational (Basic) Sciences: Essential content that contributes to the development and understanding of physical therapy to include sciences that can be described as *basic* and *applied* and as *biological, physical, and behavioral.*(*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007, Page 132*)

Grades: grades must equate to a "C" average in the United States. No failing grades should be accepted. Credentialing decisions for conversion of grades or semester credits should follow accepted guidelines as published in acceptable and recognized country codes and "International Reference Guides." This includes

but is not limited to, P.I.E.R., NAFSA publications or AACROA publications.

Intervention: The purposeful and skilled interaction with the patient/client, and, when appropriate, with other individuals involved in care, using various methods and techniques to produce changes in the patient's/client's condition consistent with the diagnosis and prognosis. (*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Second Edition*, Jan. 2001; p. S37); *A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007* p. 133)

Standards: Foundational requirements of an established profession to determine entry-level professional/ technical requirements for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants. In physical therapy, *The Guide to Physical Therapist Practice Second Edition*, *A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007*, and *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapist Assistants* serve as resources for setting these requirements.

Substantially Equivalent: The individual has satisfied or exceeded the minimum number of credits required in foundational and technical education needed for a U.S. first degree for a physical therapist assistant. Coursework completed may not be identical in all respects to a U.S. first degree for a physical therapist assistant, but all required content areas are evident. Deficiencies may be noted in coursework, but may not be in the essential areas of technical education or of such magnitude that the education is not deemed to be at the entry-level of preparation for work in the United States.

Technical Skills: Psychomotor processes/procedures supported by affective and cognitive processes/procedures that constitute patient/client interventions. The skills must be integrated to achieve the most effective interventions and optimal outcomes. (*A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education: Version 2007*, p.135)

Transcript Reference: Official documentation from the academic institution of courses completed, grades assigned, and degree conferred in the form of an official transcript. In the exceptional cases where an official transcript does not exist within the institution, an alternative official document may be considered.

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