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Candidate Information Booklet

Nebraska Physical Therapy NE Law Computer Based Testing Examination

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Statement Of Nondiscriminatory Policy

The Department does not discriminate among Applicants on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, disability, or marital status.

Protect Your Reputation and Your Career

Passing the Nebraska Law Examination (NE Law) is required in order to receive your license to practice Physical Therapy, or your certification to practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant. Understandably, you will want to take advantage of all available resources when preparing for this important examination.

In the past when you have prepared for examinations at school, you considered fellow students to be good resources for learning about questions that were on those tests.

It is illegal and unethical to recall (memorize) and share questions that are on the examination or to solicit questions that are on the NE Law Examination from applicants who have taken the exam.

What Do You Mean It's Illegal to Recall Questions?

Each candidate who sits for the NE Law/Jurisprudence exam must accept the Security Agreement. The Security Agreement states that the exam and items contained therein are owned by the Board of Physical Therapy and the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy and protected by Federal Copyright Law.

It also informs applicants that no part of the examination may be copied or reproduced in part or whole by any means whatsoever, including memorization.

Recalling questions from the examination and sharing them with anyone else violates both the Federal Copyright Law and the FSBPT Security Agreement that Applicants must accept before taking the Nebraska Law/Jurisprudence examination.

ITEMS FROM THE EXAM ARE NOT TO BE RECALLED FOR ANY PURPOSE.

Why is it Unethical to Ask Someone Else for Recalled Questions?

Soliciting recalled questions from applicants who have previously taken the examination is unethical for several reasons. The first is obvious; you are expected to pass the test based on your own merit without assistance. The members of the public who will entrust you with their well-being expect that you are a trustworthy and competent individual.

You are encouraging applicants to commit illegal acts, if you are soliciting questions from previous test takers who have accepted the FSBPT Security Agreement.

ITEMS FROM THE EXAM ARE NOT TO BE SOLICITED FOR ANY PURPOSE.

What Happens If I Do Share or Solicit Recalled Questions?

- The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy and the State of Nebraska, Board of Physical Therapy, have and will continue to actively prosecute individuals who violate the security agreement.
- The Federation will also report any incidents of applicants requesting questions or sharing questions to the State of Nebraska, Department of Health and Human Services' Licensure Unit.
- Applicants who are prosecuted by the Federation or who are reported to the State of Nebraska, Department of Health and Human Services' Licensure Unit, for soliciting or sharing questions will severely damage their chances of being licensed.

I. The Examination

Special Accommodations

You must submit appropriate documentation of your request for special accommodations, (see Attachment "B" of the initial application, Special Accommodations Request Form), to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Licensure Unit, at the time that you submit your application for licensure. Only those applicants who have been granted approval from the Department will receive special accommodations during testing. For further information about how to request special accommodations, you must contact the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Licensure Unit, P.O. Box 94986, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4986, attention: Irene Eckman. Please call 402-471-2299 if you wish to contact the Department by phone. You may also visit the Department's web site at http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/crlPhysTherapyHome.aspx

Examination Fee, Method of Payment And Registration

Applicants must apply and be approved before they can take the NE Law examination. In order to avoid delays, it is recommended to register on-line and pay for the NE Law examination with the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) and you apply for licensure to our office. Below is the total fee to take the NE Law Examination.

The total fee for the Nebraska NE Law exam is $75. This fee is in addition to the initial application and licensure fees. Payment below is as follows:

- $50 exam fee payable on-line to the FSBPT. Visit their Web site at https://www.fsbpt.org/index.asp regarding registering for the exam and other information. You may pay the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) either by Visa or MasterCard.
- $25 Prometric testing fee payable to the Prometric Testing Center at the time of scheduling. Visit their Web site at http://www.prometric.com/FSBPT/default.htm for more information on scheduling the exam and other information. Payment for the Prometric Testing Center fee may be made by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) or by direct debit to a checking account. It is not possible to pay at the testing center.

Registering, Payment and Scheduling the Examination:

1. You will be required to register on-line and pay your exam fee with the FSBPT for the NE Law examination at https://www.fsbpt.org/index.asp It is recommended that you register with the FSBPT at the time you submit your application for licensure to Licensure Unit to avoid delays.
2. Once our office has approved you to sit for the examination, they will approve your eligibility by notifying the FSBPT.
3. FSBPT will e-mail you an "Authorization to Test" letter containing instructions on how to schedule an appointment with Prometric Testing Center.
4. Questions regarding registration processing may be directed to examregistration@fsbpt.org
5. Schedule an appointment for the examination with Prometric by calling the telephone number given in your "Authorization-to-Test" letter or you may schedule on-line at http://www.prometric.com/FSBPT/default.htm You will be required to give the name of the examination, when and where you would like to test, your name, social security number or alternate identification number, daytime telephone number and method of payment: credit card or direct debit.
6. Sit for the examination at your chosen Prometric Testing site. You must sit for the examination within your 60-day eligibility period as indicated on the "Authorization-to-Test" letter provided by FSBPT. If you do not sit for the examination, or withdraw your

registration, within these 60 days, you will be removed from the eligibility list and will be required to begin the registration process again.

Content Overview

The NE Law Examination consists of fifty (50) multiple-choice questions, 40 of which are scored and 10 that are pilot questions. Applicants are given one hour (60 minutes) to complete the computer-based test.

Applicants are **NOT** allowed to bring any reference materials, including the NE Law Study Guide, into the examination room.

The NE Law Examination will cover:

Statutes relating to Physical Therapy
Statutes Relating to Medical Records
Statutes Relating to the Practice of Physical Therapy – 172 NAC 137
Statutes Relating to the Uniform Credentialing Act
Statutes Relating to the Uniform Credentialing Act for Mandatory Reporting
Regulations Relating to Mandatory Reporting

The laws and rules may be obtained either by viewing the Department's Physical Therapy web site at: http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/crlPhysTherapyHome.aspx Upon receipt of your Nebraska PT or PTA application, you will also be mailed a Nebraska Physical Therapy Jurisprudence (NELAW) Exam Candidate Handbook CD which will include the laws and rules.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS:

_____1 Supervision of a physical therapist assistant in a hospital setting where the supervisor is also working requires:

A. supervision by the physical therapist once very seven days or five treatments.
B. on-site supervision by the physical therapist.
C. communication accessibility by the physical therapist.
D direct supervision by the referring physician.

_____2 According to the Nebraska Practice Act, disciplinary action may be initiated against a physical therapist for:

A. failure to report loss of a job due to alleged incompetence.
B. reinstating a lapsed license 15 days after expiration.
C. failure to wear a name tag.
D. treatment without a referral from an authorized practitioner.

_____3 Which of the following may a physical therapist delegate to a physical therapist assistant?

A. Initial evaluation of a patient
B. Re-evaluation of a patient
C. Interpretation of the initial evaluation
D Reporting of the patient's progress

Correct Answers: 1. C; 2. A; 3. D

Pilot testing

The NE Law Examination will contain 10 “pilot” test questions. The purpose of including pilot test questions within the examination is to expand and improve the bank of questions from which future examinations will be drawn. This is a common practice used by many national and state examination programs and is a critical step in ensuring the continued reliability and validity of these examinations.

Pilot questions are **NOT** identified. If the pilot questions were identified, many of the applicants would skip them and the results would not be valid. The development of a good examination requires accurate candidate response information for the pilot questions.

II: Scoring Information and Grade Notification

Passing Grade and Results

The Nebraska regulations require a scaled score of 600 or above as the passing score on the Nebraska NE Law Examination. After the administration of the exam, your exam will be scored by the FSBPT. The results will then be transmitted to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Licensure Unit. The Department will notify you of your results.

Re-Examination Information

An applicant who fails to achieve the required passing score on the NE Law Examination shall be required to be re-examined by completing the scheduling of the examination process, as previously outlined on page 2, and submission of the same fees.

Test Taking Advice

The advice offered here is presented primarily to help you demonstrate your knowledge and maximize your chances of passing the examination.

- Read all instructions carefully.
- Before selecting the correct answer, read all options carefully.
- You should answer all questions; do not omit an answer for any test question.
- For best results, pace yourself by periodically checking your progress and the time. This will allow you to make any necessary adjustments. Remember, the more questions you answer, the better your chances of achieving a passing score, so you should select an answer for every question.
- Alert the examination supervisor of any problems that may occur during the examination. Do not wait until the examination is over to inform someone of a problem.
- Be sure to select an answer for each question, even the questions about which you are not completely sure. You can skip the questions you wish to reconsider and return to them later.

III. Admission to the Examination:

Supplies: What to Bring:

You must arrive 30 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment with two forms of acceptable identification. Acceptable identification is:

1) A currently valid, military or government-issued photo ID (passport, driver's license, etc.)
2) A currently valid, pre-printed identification with your name and your signature such as a credit card or check cashing card.

You will have to be checked in before taking the examination (i.e., sign in and present the appropriate identification). Once at Prometric, you will be thumb-printed and photographed at the testing center. Another fingerprint will be taken each time you enter or leave the room during your exam. Additionally, all testing sessions will be videotaped.

On both forms of ID your signature must match your pre-printed name. Your first and last name on both forms of ID must exactly match the first and last name on your Authorization to Test letter issued by FSBPT. A Social Security card is not an acceptable form of identification.

What Not to Bring:

Unauthorized supplies, those not listed in this Candidate Information Booklet, will be subject to removal by the examination supervisor at the examination site.

1. The following items are **NOT** allowed in an examination room:
   a. purses, briefcases, portfolios, fanny packs or backpacks
   b. cameras, tape recorders, calculators or computers;
   c. cell phones, pagers, electronic transmitting devices or telephones;
   d. any bound or loose-leaf reference materials and notes; books
   e. dictionary, thesaurus, or other spelling aids;
   f. canisters of mace, pepper spray or other personal defense items.
   g. Coats or jackets

2. Watches with alarms should be set so that they will NOT sound or go off during the examination administration.

Appropriate Attire:

Please dress comfortably but appropriately for the examination. The examination room is usually climate controlled. However, it is not always possible to maintain a temperature suitable to each candidate. It is suggested that you dress in layers that can be removed if you become uncomfortable. For security reasons, Prometric does not allow bulky jackets to be worn.

III. Administrative Policies

Rules for the Examination

1. No examination materials, documents, or memoranda of any kind are to be taken from an examination room.

2. Computer knowledge is not required to take a computerized examination. Before the examination begins, a simple introductory lesson (tutorial) is presented that explains the process of selecting answers and moving from question to question. The time you spend on the tutorial does not count against the time allotted for the examination. You may select your answers using either the keyboard or the mouse. You are strongly encouraged to take the tutorial prior to taking the examination.

3. You should alert Prometric staff immediately to disruptions occurring within the testing

room or computer malfunctions while taking the examination.

4. You are permitted to sign out and leave the room for a break. However, the time remaining on your examination will continue to elapse. This means any time you spend on a break is time that you are choosing not to spend on the examination.

5. Do not bring food or drink into an examination room.

Change of Address

If you have a change of address, you must contact the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Licensure Unit office immediately.

Change or Correction Of Name

If you have a name change or name correction, please contact the Department to request an Affidavit of Name Change form.

Please contact the appropriate office for questions regarding the following:

- **Licensure Applications, Rules & Regulations, Fees, and Special Testing Accommodations:**

Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health
Licensure Unit
P.O. Box 94986
Lincoln, NE 68509-4986
(402) 471-2299
http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/crlPhysTherapyHome.aspx

- **Registration On-line Information:**

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
124 West St. South
Third Floor
Alexandria, VA 22314
Exam Services: (703) 739-9420
https://www.fsbpt.net/pt (note the “s” after “http)

Prometric Testing Center
Registration: 1-800-796-9857
Special Accommodations, 1-800-967-1139
On-line registration at t http://www.prometric.com/FSBPT/default.htm to schedule your appointment or find a test center.