

## NEBRASKA PHYSICAL THERAPY CONTINUING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS

**Physical Therapists must have completed at least twenty (20) hours of acceptable continuing education AND have passed the Nebraska Law Tutorial with a score of 100% or have met conditions of a waiver between 11/02/2017 through 11/01/2019.**

**Physical Therapist Assistants must have completed at least ten (10) hours of acceptable continuing education AND have passed the Nebraska Law Tutorial with a score of 100% or have met conditions of a waiver between 11/02/2017 through 11/01/2019.**

**\*Nebraska Law Tutorial:** You must have successfully passed the Nebraska Law Tutorial between 11/02/2017 through 11/01/2019. The Nebraska Law Tutorial is a free, online open book tutorial developed by the Physical Therapy Board for the purpose of assuring that all physical therapist and physical therapist assistant understand the Physical Therapy Practice Act and the Regulations Relating to the Practice of Physical Therapy – 172 NAC 137. **You must receive a score of 100% and print your certificate for proof of completion. The Nebraska Law Tutorial** and Physical Therapy Statutes, Physical Therapy Regulation are located online at: <http://www.proprofs.com/quiz-school/story.php?title=NTgwOTYx>

### ACCEPTABLE CONTINUING EDUCATION

In order for a learning experience to be accepted for renewal or reinstatement of a physical therapist license or physical therapist assistant certificate, the learning experience must relate to physical therapy and it may focus on research, treatment, documentation, management or education. The Board may accept continuing education for the following learning experiences:

1. Programs at State and National meetings which relate to the theory or clinical application of theory pertaining to the practice of physical therapy for example, a meeting of the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association and/or the American Physical Therapy Association; or
2. Formal education courses or presentations in which:
  - a. The courses or presentations are formally organized and planned instructional experiences that have: (1) A date; (2) Location; (3) Course title; (4) Number of contact hours; (5) A signed certificate of attendance; and (6) Are open to all licensees and certificate holders;
  - b. The objectives relate to the theory or clinical application of theory pertaining to the practice of physical therapy; and
  - c. The instructor has specialized experience or training to meet the objectives of the course;
3. University sponsored courses relating to the theory or clinical application of theory pertaining to the practice of physical therapy;
4. Home study relating to the theory or clinical application of theory pertaining to the practice of physical therapy: A Licensee or certificate holder may complete a maximum of ten hours of continuing education by home study each 24 month renewal period. The home study program must have a testing mechanism;
5. Management courses which relate to the theory or clinical application of theory pertaining to the practice of physical therapy. A Licensee or certificate holder may complete a maximum of four hours of continuing education utilizing management courses each 24 month renewal period;
6. Videotapes or satellite programs that meet the following criteria:
  - a. There is a sponsoring group or agency;
  - b. There is a facilitator or program official present each time the videotapes or satellite programs are presented to monitor attendance of licensees;
  - c. Any program official who wishes to receive credit for a videotape or satellite program may not self-monitor attendance; and
  - d. The objectives of the program must relate to the theory or clinical application of theory pertaining to the practice of physical therapy. A Licensee or certificate holder may complete a maximum of ten hours of continuing education utilizing videotape presentations or satellite programs each 24 month renewal period;
7. Completion and publication of a scientific review of a research paper for a professionally recognized database as approved by the Board for example, *APTA Hooked on Evidence*, Physiotherapy Evidence Database (PEDro). A Licensee or certificate holder will be awarded a maximum of five hours each 24 month period. One contact hour will be awarded for each article published. Documentation must include a certificate of completion or a copy of the published review;
8. Participation in research or other scholarly activities that result in professional publication or acceptance for publication that relates to physical therapy and is intended for an audience of health care professionals: A Licensees or certificate holders will be awarded a maximum of ten hours each 24 month period. These include:
  - a. Primary author of an article in a non-refereed journal. Earn five hours per article: Documentation required – a copy of the article;
  - b. Primary or secondary author of an article in a refereed journal. Earn ten hours per article: Documentation required – a copy of the article;
  - c. Primary, secondary or contributing author of a published textbook. Earn ten hours per book: Documentation required – A copy of the title page;
  - d. Primary or secondary author of a poster presentation. Five hours per presentation: Documentation required – Letter of acknowledgement;
  - e. Primary author of a home study course. Earn five hours per course: Documentation - Letter of approval;
- \*\*9. Completion of the Jurisprudence (NELAW) Examination: Five hours of continuing education will be awarded for passing the Jurisprudence (NE LAW) examination with a scaled score that is greater than or equal to 600;
10. Completion of a residency and/or fellowship program approved by the American Physical Therapy Association: A Licensee or certificate holder will be awarded one hour for each month of participation. Documentation required – Letter verifying participation from the agency providing the program. The dates of participation must be included in the letter;
11. Obtaining the initial Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) certificate issued by the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA). Four hours of continuing education will be awarded for the Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) certificate during the twenty hour months prior to the reinstatement application or license expiration date; or
12. Direct supervision of students for clinical education:
  - a. The physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who is supervising the student must be an American Physical Therapy Association Credentialed Clinical Instructor of record at the Basic Level;
  - b. The student being supervised must be from an accredited physical therapist or physical therapist assistant program and participating in a full-time clinical experience of varying length. Full time is defined as clinical experiences with durations of approximately 40 hours per week ranging from 1-18 weeks;
  - c. One hour will be awarded for every 160 contact hours of supervision of full-time physical therapist student or physical therapist assistant student;

d. A maximum of eight hours for physical therapist and four hours for physical therapist assistant per 24 month renewal period may be awarded to each individual for supervision of a physical therapist student or physical therapist assistant student; and

e. The physical therapist or physical therapist assistant must have documentation from the accredited educational program indicating the number of hours spent supervising a student.

13. Two hours of credit will be awarded for a current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certificate.

14. One hour credit will be awarded for each hour of scientific presentation by a licensee or certificate holder acting as an essayist or lecturer to licensed physical therapists and physical therapist assistants if the program relates to the theory or clinical application of theory pertaining to physical therapy: A licensee or certificate holder may receive continuing education credit for only the initial presentation during a renewal period, with a maximum of four hours of continuing education for presentations in a 24 month renewal period.

**\*One hour of credit will be awarded for each hour of attendance. Credit will not be awarded for breaks or meals.**

**\*Maximum of ten hours of continuing education by home study each 24 month renewal period.**

**NOTE: \* The Nebraska Law Tutorial is free, open-book, located on the Physical Therapy webpage. The Tutorial is mandatory for renewal of a credential.**

**\*\* The Jurisprudence (NELAW) Examination is the licensure examination, is not free and not open-book and is not mandatory for renewal, however can be used for five (5) hours of CE.**