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**22.01.05 - RULES FOR THE REGISTRATION OF PHYSICAL THERAPISTS  
AND PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

Pursuant to Idaho Code, Section 54-2209 the Idaho State Board of Medicine is authorized to promulgate rules to govern the registration of physical therapists and physical therapy assistants. (7-1-93)

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

The rules shall be cited as IDAPA.22.01.05, "Rules for the Registration of Physical Therapists and Physical Therapy Assistants." (7-1-93)

**002. -- 009. (RESERVED).**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

01. Board. The Idaho State Board of Medicine. (7-1-93)
02. Committee. The Physical Therapy Advisory Committee. (7-1-93)
03. Physical Agents. Physical agents include heat, cold, water, air, sound, compression, electricity, and electromagnetic energy. (7-1-93)
04. Physical Measures, Activities, and Devices. Includes but are not limited to resistive, active, and passive exercise, with or without devices; joint mobilization or manipulation; mechanical stimulation; biofeedback; postural drainage; traction; positioning; massage; splinting; training in locomotion; functional activities, with or without assistive devices; and correction of posture, body mechanics and gait. (7-1-93)
05. Physical Therapy. The examination, treatment, and instruction of human beings to detect, assess, prevent, correct, alleviate and limit physical disability, bodily malfunction, and pain from injury, disease and any other bodily and mental conditions, and includes the administration, interpretation, and evaluation of tests and measurements of bodily functions and structures; the planning, administration, evaluation, and modification of treatment and instruction, including the use of physical measures, activities, and devices, for preventive and therapeutic purposes; and the provision of consultative, educational, and other advisory services for the purpose of reducing the incidence and severity of physical disability, bodily malfunction, and pain. (7-1-93)
06. Physical Therapist. A person who practices physical therapy. (7-1-93)
07. Physical Therapist Assistant. A person who assists, under the direction and supervision of a registered physical therapist, in the practice of physical therapy and whose activities require an understanding of physical therapy but do not require professional or advanced training in the anatomical, biological and physical sciences involved in the practice of physical therapy. (4-2-93)
08. Supervision. The supervision of a physical therapist assistant requiring that the following activities be performed by the supervising physical therapist: (4-2-93)
  - a. Perform and document initial evaluation of the patient. (4-2-93)
  - b. Develop and document a treatment plan and program, including long and short-term goals. (4-2-93)
  - c. Assess the competence of the physical therapist assistant to perform assigned tasks. (4-2-93)
  - d. Select and delegate appropriate portions of the treatment plan and program to the physical therapist assistant. (4-2-93)

- e. Direct and supervise the physical therapist assistant in delegated functions. (4-2-93)
  - f. Reevaluate the patient and adjust the treatment plan as acceptable physical therapy practice dictates. When supervision is indirect, patient reevaluation must be performed and documented by the supervising physical therapist every five (5) visits or once a week if treatment is performed more than once a day. (4-2-93)
  - g. Any change in the patient's condition not consistent with planned progress or treatment goals necessitates a documented reevaluation by the supervising physical therapist before further treatment is carried out. (4-2-93)
  - h. Provide and document discharge planning. (4-2-93)
09. Physical Therapist and Physical Therapy Assistant Supervision Ratio. The number of full time equivalent physical therapist assistants utilized in any physical therapy practice or site, shall not exceed twice in number the full time equivalent licensed physical therapists practicing therein. (4-2-93)
10. Tests and Measurements. Includes assessment or evaluation of muscle strength, force, endurance and tone; reflexes; automatic reactions; posture and body mechanics; movement skill and accuracy; joint range of motion and stability; sensation; perception; peripheral nerve function integrity; locomotor skills; fit, function and comfort of prosthetic, orthotic, and other assistive devices; limb volume, symmetry, length and circumference; clinical evaluation of cardiac and respiratory status to include adequacy of pulses, noninvasive assessment of peripheral circulation, thoracic excursion, vital capacity, and breathing patterns; vital signs such as pulse, respiratory rate, and blood pressure; activities of daily living; and the physical environment of the home and the work place; and pain patterns, localization and modifying factors; and photosensitivity. Specifically excluded are the ordering of electromyographic study, electrocardiography, thermography, invasive vascular study, selective injection tests, or complex cardiac or respiratory function studies without consultation and direction of a physician. (7-1-93)
11. Registration. The act of acquiring legal certification as a Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant in Idaho. (7-1-93)
12. Approved Physical Therapy Curriculum. A school or course of physical therapy approved by: (7-1-93)
- a. The American Physical Therapy Association from 1926 to 1936; or the APTA Accreditation Commission. (7-1-93)
  - b. The Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association for 1936 to 1960; or (7-1-93)
  - c. An accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education, the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation, or both. (7-1-93)
13. Graduate of School Located Outside U.S. If a graduate of a school located outside of the United States, completion of a school or course that is determined to be equivalent to physical therapist education in the United States, by a recognized accreditation organization. (7-1-93)
- a. An accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education and the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation. (7-1-93)
14. Approved Physical Therapist Assistant's Curriculum. A school or course approved by: (7-1-93)
- a. The American Physical Therapy Association from 1967 to 1977; or the APTA Accreditation Commission. (7-1-93)
  - b. An accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education and the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation. (7-1-93)

**015. -- 019. (RESERVED).**

**020. PHYSICAL THERAPY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

01. Physical Therapy Advisory Committee of the Idaho State Board of Medicine. The committee shall consist of three (3) members, nominated by the Idaho Physical Therapy Association and appointed by the Idaho State Board of Medicine. Each member will serve a term of three (3) years and terms shall be staggered. The Committee shall elect a chairman from its membership. (7-1-93)

02. Affiliation. The Committee will work in conjunction with the Idaho State Board of Medicine and will perform the duties and functions assigned to the Committee by the Board, including: (7-1-93)

a. Evaluating the qualifications of applicants for licensure, administering examinations, and issuing and renewing licenses; (7-1-93)

b. Performing investigations of misconduct and making recommendations regarding discipline; and (7-1-93)

c. Maintaining a list of currently registered Physical Therapists in this state. (7-1-93)

**021. GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION.**

01. Conduct. An applicant must be of good moral character. The Board may refuse registration if it finds that the applicant has engaged in conduct prohibited by Section 54-2213, Idaho Code; provided that the Board shall take into consideration the rehabilitation of the applicant and other mitigating circumstances. (7-1-93)

02. Application. Each applicant shall submit a completed written application to the Board on forms prescribed by the Board no less than forty-five (45) days prior to the next examination date, together with application and examination fees. The application shall be verified under oath and shall require the following information: (7-1-93)

a. The educational background of the applicant; (7-1-93)

b. Evidence of enrollment in an approved physical therapy curriculum; or an approved physical therapist assistant's curriculum; (7-1-93)

c. The disclosure of any criminal conviction or charges against the applicant other than minor traffic offenses; (7-1-93)

d. The current mental and physical condition of the applicant together with disclosure of any previous serious physical or mental illness; (7-1-93)

e. The disclosure of any disciplinary action against the applicant by any professional regulatory agency; (7-1-93)

f. The disclosure of the denial of registration or licensure by any state or district regulatory body; (7-1-93)

g. Not less than three (3) references from persons having personal knowledge of the applicant's moral character; (7-1-93)

h. An unmounted photograph of the applicant, three (3) inches by three (3) inches, taken not more than one (1) year prior to the date of application; and (7-1-93)

i. Such other information as the Board deems necessary to identify and evaluate the applicant's credentials. (7-1-93)

03. Evidence of Graduation. Each applicant shall present evidence of graduation from an approved physical therapy curriculum or an approved physical therapist assistant curriculum and pass an examination conducted by the Board or be entitled to registration by endorsement. (7-1-93)

a. The written examination required by the Board for physical therapist and physical therapist assistant's registration is the examination or an examination otherwise determined by the Board to be an acceptable examination. The minimum passing grade shall be a passing score as determined by formal action of the Board. (7-1-93)

b. An applicant for registration by examination who has failed to pass the examination on three (3) separate occasions will be denied eligibility to reapply, except that his or her application may be considered on an individual basis if he or she submits proof of additional approved training. (7-1-93)

04. Interview. Each applicant shall be personally interviewed by the Board, the Committee or a person designated by the Board or the Committee. The interview shall include a review of the applicant's qualifications and professional credentials. The interview may be waived if waiver would not jeopardize public health, safety and welfare. (7-1-93)

05. Application Expiration. An application upon which the applicant takes no further action will be held for no longer than one (1) year, unless for good cause, the Board elects to approve extension. (7-1-93)

**022. REGISTRATION BY ENDORSEMENT.**

01. Registration Without Examination. An applicant may be eligible for registration without examination if he or she meets all of the other qualifications prescribed in Section 021 and also holds a current valid license or registration from some other state, territory or district of the United States. (7-1-93)

02. Verification. Proof of such licensure or registration shall be verified in a manner acceptable to the Board. (7-1-93)

03. Endorsement. Any applicant for licensure by endorsement who has not practiced physical therapy in the five (5) years immediately preceding the application shall successfully demonstrate to the Board competency in the practice of physical therapy or shall serve an internship or take remedial courses as determined by the Physical Therapy Advisory Committee. The Committee may also require the applicant to take an examination. (7-1-93)

04. Registration by Endorsement. If registration is by endorsement, the minimum passing score for the examination required by the other state must be equal to or higher than the minimum passing score in Idaho. (7-1-93)

**023. -- 029. (RESERVED).**

**030. TEMPORARY REGISTRATION.**

01. Temporary Registration. A temporary registration shall not be approved unless a complete application has been filed with the Board and the applicant has been personally interviewed by the Board, the Committee, or a person designated by the Board or the Committee. (7-1-93)

02. Application. The complete application must be on file with the Board and in the hands of the person designated to conduct the personal interview no less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the interview. (7-1-93)

03. Personal Interview. After a personal interview with the applicant, the designated representative of the Board may approve the issuance of a temporary registration. (7-1-93)

04. Effective Date. Temporary registration shall be effective to a specified date normally the next scheduled meeting of the Committee, unless for good cause, the Board or the Committee elects to approve an extension. (7-1-93)

**031. REGISTRATION FOR FOREIGN-TRAINED PHYSICAL THERAPISTS OR ASSISTANTS.**

01. Equivalent Educational Training. In addition to meeting the requirements of Section 021, foreign-trained applicants shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Board that: (7-1-93)

a. The educational training is equivalent to an approved physical therapy curriculum, which equivalency shall be established by an evaluation conducted by a credential evaluation service acceptable to the Board. (7-1-93)

b. If the Board determines that the educational background of the foreign-trained applicant is equivalent to an accredited physical therapy curriculum, the applicant is qualified to write the exam. (7-1-93)

c. If the applicant's program is found deficient in physical therapy credits, the applicant must successfully complete a physical therapy program which conforms with the standards of the official accrediting agency determined by the United States Office of Education or, at the discretion of the Board, complete satisfactory courses in physical therapy. (7-1-93)

d. If the applicant's program is found deficient in the required fifty-eight to sixty-two (58-62) credits of General Education, the applicant must: (7-1-93)

i. Successfully obtain those college level credits prior to the Board's acceptance of Educational credentials; or (7-1-93)

ii. Complete the needed credits by passing the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) examinations prepared by Educational Testing Service prior to the Board's acceptance of educational credentials. (7-1-93)

e. The applicant must be fluent in written and spoken English. (7-1-93)

**032. -- 039. (RESERVED).**

**040. DENIAL, REVOCATION, OR SUSPENSION OF LICENSES.**

01. Discipline. The Board has the power to discipline any licensee or to condition, withhold, deny or revoke or suspend any certificate of registration to practice physical therapy or to assist in the practice of physical therapy upon the following grounds: (7-1-93)

a. Gross negligence in the practice of physical therapy. (7-1-93)

b. Incompetency in the practice of physical therapy. (7-1-93)

c. Habitual drunkenness or addiction to the use of narcotic drugs. (7-1-93)

d. Violation of the laws of the state of Idaho in regards to the use of a controlled substance. (7-1-93)

e. Delegation to an unqualified person of any services which require skill, knowledge, and judgment of the licensed physical therapist or assistant. (7-1-93)

f. Poor moral character. (7-1-93)

g. Being found guilty of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules of the Board, or violating the code of ethics, a copy of which is attached to these rules. (4-2-93)

h. Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude; (7-1-93)

i. Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license or temporary license by fraud; (7-1-93)

- j. Treating or undertaking to treat ailments of human beings otherwise than by physical therapy as described herein; (7-1-93)
- k. Providing physical therapy which fails to meet the standard of health care provided by other qualified physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in the same or similar communities. (4-2-93)
- l. In the case of practice as a physical therapist assistant, practicing other than under the direction of a registered physical therapist; (7-1-93)
- m. Failure to supervise a physical therapist assistant; or (7-1-93)
- n. Violation of other requirements of law or these rules. (7-1-93)

**041. CERTIFICATES.**

- 01. Expiration. Certificates of registration shall expire on the 30th day of June following their issuance or renewal and shall become invalid after that date unless renewed. The Board may condition the issuance of such certificate for the full term upon the occurrence of events specified by the Board and the Board may extend such certificates for an intermediate period of time. (7-1-93)
- 02. Renewal. Each registration shall be renewed annually before July 1st by the payment of a renewal fee to the Board. Registrations not renewed by their termination date shall be canceled. (7-1-93)
- 03. Reinstatement. Registration canceled for nonpayment of yearly renewal fees may be reinstated by filing a request with the Board and paying reinstatement fees and unpaid interim renewal fees. (7-1-93)
- 04. Reapplication. Persons whose registrations have been canceled for a period of more than five (5) years shall be required to reapply as new applicants. (7-1-93)

**042. FEES.**

- 01. Fee Table. (7-1-93)
  - a. The fee for registration shall be no more than eighty dollars (\$80). (7-1-93)
  - b. The fee for temporary registration shall be no more than seventy dollars (\$70). (7-1-93)
  - c. The examination fee shall equal the cost of the test plus an administration fee of no more than forty dollars (\$40). (7-1-93)
  - d. The annual renewal fee shall be no more than seventy dollars (\$70). (7-1-93)
  - e. The reinstatement fee shall be no more than fifty dollars (\$50). (7-1-93)
- 02. Application Fees and Refunds. Necessary fees shall accompany applications. Fees shall not be refundable. (7-1-93)
- 03. Extraordinary Expenses. In those situations where the processing of an application requires extraordinary expenses, the Board may charge the applicant with reasonable fees to cover all or part of the extraordinary expenses. (7-1-93)

**043. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

These rules shall be effective June 1, 1980, and thereafter. Certain amendments became effective on July 5, 1988, May 25, 1989 and April 2, 1993. (7-1-93)

**044. -- 999. (RESERVED).**

**APPENDIX A**  
**CODE OF ETHICS**

This Code of Ethics sets forth ethical principles for the physical therapy profession. Members of this profession are responsible for maintaining and promoting ethical practice.

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants shall respect the rights and dignity of all individuals.

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants shall comply with the laws governing the practice of physical therapy.

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants shall accept responsibility for the exercise of sound judgement.

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants shall maintain and promote high standards for physical therapy practice, education and research.

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants shall seek remuneration for their services that is deserved and reasonable.

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants shall provide accurate information to the consumer about the profession and about those services they provide.

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants shall accept the responsibility to protect the public and the profession from unethical, incompetent, or illegal acts.

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants shall participate in efforts to address the health needs of the public  
(4/2/93)