

**TITLE 435. STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
CHAPTER 20. PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AND ASSISTANTS**

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 9. Continuing education [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

The proposed amendments clarify the types of continuing education that may be submitted and update the procedures for submitting continuing education for approval for Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants.

AUTHORITY:

TITLE 59 O.S., §§ 887.4, 887.5, 887.12, State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision

COMMENT PERIOD:

The comment period will run from May 3, 2010 to July 30, 2010. Written comments may be sent to the office of the Board, PO Box 18256, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0256.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing will be held to provide an opportunity for persons to orally present their views on August 5, 2010, 9:00 a.m. at the office of the Board, 101 N.E. 51st Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Written notice of intent to make oral comment must be received by this office no later than July 30, 2010.

REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS ENTITIES:

n/a

COPIES OF PROPOSED RULES:

Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained at the office of the Board, 101 N.E. 51st Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

A rule impact statement will be prepared and available after May 3, 2010 at the office of the Board, 101 N.E. 51st Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73105.

CONTACT PERSON:

Kathy Plant, Executive Secretary (405) 962-1400, ext. 122

**TITLE 435. STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
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SUBCHAPTER 9. CONTINUING EDUCATION

435:20-9-3. Continuing education categories

(a) Approval for continuing education.

(1) To receive initial approval for a continuing education offering of either category, submission of an Application for Approval of Continuing Physical Therapy Education form is required. The application must include the following information:

(A) Course title with an abstract, summary or course syllabus.

(B) A program agenda complete with a breakdown of all time spent in instructional and non-instructional periods to include break time, meals, etc. (Contact hours will be awarded for instructional hours only. If a course is 6 hours or longer the agenda must include at least a 30 minute lunch and two 15 minute breaks.)

(C) The course or program's goals and objectives sufficient to provide information for evaluation of relevance and practical application to the field of physical therapy beyond basic preparation of the licensee.

(D) Documentation of instructor background/expertise relevant to the field of physical therapy.

(E) Location of the program, including the address, city, state, and zip, or Internet site.

(F) Contact name, phone number and address of course sponsors or publishers;

(G) Specific date(s) of course participation.

(H) Method of certifying attendance and contact hours. (Adjustment of contact hours may occur within the approval process.)

(2) Individual participants are responsible for maintaining these records.

(3) Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants working less than 250 hours per year may request permission from the to earn all contact hours from Category B and/or Category C.

(4) Pre-approval is required for guaranteed credit under either Category.

(b) Category A – synchronous educational opportunities. At least half of the required contact hours must be acquired from Category A. ~~Contact hours considered under Category A involve synchronous or real-time interaction between the course instructor and physical therapists or physical therapist assistants, with opportunity for immediate feedback.~~

(1) Synchronous education – Attendance at a synchronous education course with real-time interaction between the course instructor and physical therapists or physical therapist assistants, with opportunity for immediate feedback.

(2) Presentation of program - A licensee who presents an original continuing education program targeted towards peers and other health care professionals may receive continuing education credit once per compliance period.

(3) Post Graduate Studies - Successful completion of post graduate education course work related to physical therapy will be awarded continuing education credit of up to 16 contact hours for each college credit hour.

(c) Category B – other. ~~Contact hours considered under Category B may involve either synchronous or asynchronous instructional delivery and may or may not include feedback for the learner. It is recommended that continuing education in this category be pre-approved.~~

- (1) Opportunities under Category B continuing education include:
- (A) Publication - Writing for professional publication may be awarded continuing education credit. Actual number of contact hours granted will be determined by the Committee. Acceptance for publication must occur within the current compliance period. Contact hours will not be approved for repeat publication of the same material.
- (i) Each published paper/book ~~and/or~~ chapter/or case study may receive a maximum of fifteen (15) contact hours.
 - (ii) Each published ~~abstract and/or~~ book review may receive a maximum of ten (10) contact hours.
 - ~~(iii) Pre-approval for guaranteed credit and determination of contact hours is recommended for continuing education approved by other U.S. physical therapy licensing bodies, APTA or its components that is consistent with the criteria for Category B as stated under 435: 20-9-3.~~
- (B) Study groups - A series of synchronous or asynchronous meetings designed for intense study in a physical therapy related topic. A minimum of four participants and four hours of participation are required for continuing education eligibility. Those seeking approval for a group study project shall submit a full description including an outline of the topics and subtopics, references, bibliographical citations or copies of the printed materials, a time and place of study, the methods to be used, the number of hours of credit sought, and any other information relevant to the evaluation of the proposed projects.
- (C) Individualized instruction - ~~This may include but not be limited to activities such as reading professional literature or reviewing video/audio programs, and other asynchronous instructional opportunities such as~~ includes home study or Internet courses relating to physical therapy practice extending beyond basic preparation of the licensee. In order to count any individualized instruction toward Category B hours, the licensee must submit proof of a passing score on a post test and a certificate of completion, write an original summary of each learning experience, reflecting the value of the experience with respect to the practice of physical therapy. Each summary must be typewritten and approximately 250 words in length, or one (1) page, double spaced. Video and audio programs must consist of a minimum of 60 minutes of running time per contact hour. Each peer-reviewed article or each chapter in a book will equal one contact hour. The Committee will consider recommendations by the course author(s) as to contact hours for asynchronous course work, but will reserve judgment as to the approved quantity of contact hours. Limitations on contact hours under Individualized Instruction for continuing education requirements are:
- ~~(i) reading peer-reviewed literature—4 contact hours maximum per compliance period.~~
 - ~~(ii) video or audio programs—3 contact hours maximum per compliance period.~~
- (D) ~~Presentation of program—A licensee who presents an original continuing education program targeted towards peers and other health care professionals may receive continuing education credit. No credit shall be given for repeated presentations. Reiteration of information obtained from attendance at a continuing education program will not qualify.~~
- (E) ~~Publication—Writing for professional publication may be awarded continuing education credit. Actual number of contact hours granted will be determined by the~~

~~Committee. Acceptance for publication must occur within the current compliance period. Contact hours will not be approved for repeat publication of the same material.~~

~~(i) Each published paper and/or chapter may receive a maximum of fifteen (15) contact hours.~~

~~(ii) Each published abstract and/or book review may receive a maximum of ten (10) contact hours.~~

~~(iii) Each published case study/report may receive a maximum of ten (10) contact hours.~~

~~(FD)~~ Learning opportunities not listed above may be considered for continuing education credit, but will require pre-approval.

~~(GE)~~ Activities not accepted - Examples of activities that will not be accepted include but are not limited to:

(i) Regularly scheduled education opportunities provided within an institution, such as rounds or on-the-job required in-service training such as CPR, blood-borne pathogens, equipment or procedural updates.

(ii) Staff meetings.

(iii) Meetings, workshops or seminars held by personnel with less medical training than registered physical therapists or physical therapist assistants.

(iv) Publications for the lay public.

(v) Presentations to lay groups and non-professionals.

(vi) Teaching personnel, students or staff within one's job requirement.

(vii) Non-educational meetings, entertainment or recreational activities at professional meetings.

(viii) APTA, chapter or section offices or committee appointment.

(d) **Category c. - Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy's Practice Review**

Tool. Actual number of contact hours granted will be determined by the Committee. Pre approval required for credit.