RULE IMPACT STATEMENT
PROPOSED PERMANENT RULE

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

RULEMAKING ACTION:
Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking intent

PROPOSED RULES:
Subchapter 9. Continuing Education
435:20-9-1 Definitions [AMENDED]
435:20-9-2 Continuing education Professional development requirements for renewal [AMENDED]
435:20-9-3 Continuing education Professional development categories [AMENDED]
435:20-9-3.1 Approval of providers [NEW]
435:20-9-4 Guidelines for the audit process [AMENDED]

PURPOSE OF PROPOSED RULE:
The proposed revisions realign the Physical Therapy administrative rules with national trend in the physical therapy profession moving from continuing education and competency to professional development, and they provide for and clarify certain definitions related to professional development. The revisions also set forth a process wherein certain organizations’ programs may automatically qualify as professional development. While the current rules separate continuing education and competency into two categories, the revisions eliminate these categories and instead distinguish between synchronous, asynchronous, and other educational and competency opportunities. The methods for earning professional development units have also been significantly expanded.

CLASSES AFFECTED:
The classes of persons most likely to be affected by the proposed amendments are Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, and those members of the public receiving care provided from a Physical Therapist and/or Physical Therapist Assistant. No information on cost impact has been received by the agency from private or public entities to date.

PERSONS BENEFITTED:
The classes of persons most likely to benefit from the proposed amendments are Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants and those members of the public receiving care provided by a Physical Therapist and/or Physical Therapist Assistant.

PROBABLE ECONOMIC IMPACT:
1. On affected classes: There will be little or no impact due to the proposed changes in these rules.
2. On political subdivision: There will be little or no impact due to the proposed changes in these rules.
3. Fees: There will be little or no impact due to the proposed changes in these rules.

PROBABLE COST TO THE AGENCY:
Minimal administrative only. No additional personnel or budget expenses are anticipated.

WILL THE RULE IMPACT POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS:
No economic impact, or a need for cooperation from political subdivisions, is anticipated.

SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT:
There is no anticipated adverse impact on small business, with reference to Sections 303
(A) (4) and 304 (b) (6) of the APA.

**ALTERNATIVE METHODS AND COSTS OF COMPLIANCE:**

There are no apparent alternative methods for compliance. The Agency does not anticipate any additional costs of administration due to implementation of these rule changes.

**PUBLIC HEALTH/ SAFETY CONCERNS:**

There will be no adverse impact or concerns with public safety or environment that will result for this proposed rule change.

*Prepared 12/9/2019*