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Alabama Board of Physical Therapy Newsletter

From the Desk of the Executive Director



Hello all and happy summer!

We need your help sharing important information! While our primary form of communication with licensees is email, we are trying to increase our ability to share information through social media. Social media also helps us relay information to

students/future licensees. We can be found on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Help spread the word by following, liking, and sharing our posts.

Instagram: al_board_pt Facebook: @Alabamaboardphysicaltherapy LinkedIn: Alabama Board of Physical Therapy

Important information to keep in mind:

- On June 1, 2024, the new Direct Access law went into effect. See page 2 for more information.
- As of June 14, 2024, background checks are required for all new applicants.
- July 1, 2024, kicks off the annual renewal cycle. Renew early to avoid issues later on!

As always, we are here to help with any issues and questions you may have. Feel free to reach out to the Board staff and we will be happy to assist in any way we can. Happy summer to you all!

-Kathy Miller, Executive Director





The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy has had a busy 2024 year so far working to implement two pieces of legislation - the PT Compact and Direct Access. We have been fielding many calls and answering as many questions as possible. There are many moving parts! Our goal regarding this legislation is to take care of the licensees while also protecting the public. Here are some information and resources for you as a licensee.

Direct Access:

The Alabama Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association was able to achieve legislative approval and passage of the PT Direct Access Bill, which was signed by Governor Ivey on May 15, 2024, and took effect June 1, 2024. This was the first update since 2012 and does provide for enhanced public access to physical therapy services. Please read the legislation as there are stipulations and requirements, which include, but are not limited to, educational requirements, limitations on patient visits, and required additional continuing education. The Board does not feel additional administrative rules are required at this time for regulation of the statute. However, there will be some new steps implemented for license renewal based on the new legislation, such as the required additional continuing education. As always, it is incumbent upon each licensee to educate themselves on the Practice Act, scope of practice, and this new law. Please be sure to review the information on Direct Access at https://arcsos.state.al.us/ucp/L1547926.Al1.pdf.

PT Compact:

The Alabama Legislature approved allowing Alabama to participate in the Compact last year and the Board has been diligently working with the State to get requirements such as fingerprinting and background checks underway as well as upgrading our software to allow for a smooth transition into the privilege issuing stage. As a licensee or future privilege holder, please be sure to review the information here on PT Compact Licensure at https:// ptcompact.org/How-to-Get-Privileges.

ALABAMA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY



BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ZACH NELSON PTA NORTH REGION

PTA Representative Zach Nelson was appointed to the Board in December 2023. Zach hails from Sylacauga and began his PTA career in July 2009 when he graduated from Jefferson State Community College and worked his way up to Rehab Director at Healthpro-Heritage, proudly serving the Veterans who reside at Bill Nichols and Robert L. Howard VA State Nursing Homes. After earning his MBA in 2021, Zach became a Nursing Home Administrator for Diversicare and currently serves as Director of Operations for Amedisys Hospice. Zach further serves the community as an Advisory Council Member for the North Talladega County Academy of Health Science, is a Board Member for the Sylacauga Parks and Recreation Board, and serves on the Director of Operation Advisory Council for Amedisys Hospice.

In his free time, Zach enjoys going to the gym, outdoor activities such as hiking, kayaking, hunting and fishing, and coaching his son's football, basketball, and baseball teams.

Random Tidbits about Zach:

Favorite Vacation Spot: Beach

Favorite Meal: A steak, sweet potato, and salad

In high school, he was most likely to: Be studying (he was Salutatorian of his graduating class), be on the football field, basketball court or in the weightroom. Zach was being recruited by several college football teams before suffering an ACL injury at the beginning of his senior year of high school. His knee rehabilitation is what led him to his interest in physical therapy.

If he wasn't in his current career, he would: dream job—writing novels or traveling the world as a photographer for National Geographic; more likely a football or basketball coach.

Zach loves Jeeps (especially Wranglers and Gladiators) and has written poetry since high school. He has written two fiction novels! But, alas, has not tried to have them published.

WELCOME ZACH, AND THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE!

ALABAMA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY



It's not only summertime, it is renewal time!

Here are a few highlights to remember:

Renewal timeline: The annual licensure renewal period is July 1 through September 30. **Expired license:** You cannot treat with an expired license on Oct 1. **License fees:** \$130.00 for PTs and \$93.00 for PTAs (plus a processing fee).

Renewal process:

- Go to our website, www.pt.alabama.gov, and select the "Licensing Renewal" tab.
- Scroll to the bottom of the page and select "Renew Your License Here."
- Select your license type, license number, last four digits of your Social Security number.
- Profile should appear and you may begin updating and entering information.
- Upload your continuing education certificates, preferably in pdf format.

3 CEU categories for renewals:

- I graduated in the last calendar year, and I am renewing for the first time. You will be required to upload 2 hours of Alabama Jurisprudence, unless you want to provide direct access, then an additional 2 hours is required.
- I am renewing my license for the first time in Alabama. (I am not a new graduate). You will be required to upload 8 hours of CE and 2 hours of Alabama Jurisprudence, unless you want to provide direct access, then an additional 2 hours is required.
- This is not my first license renewal in Alabama. You will be required to upload 10 hours of CE, unless you want to provide direct access, then an additional 2 hours is required. (No Alabama Jurisprudence Required). Upload the required CE documents and proceed with renewing your license.

Access and print your license and your receipt once complete. It is also accessible during the year. Please use a desktop or laptop computer—mobile devices and tablets will not work properly.

Keep a copy of your receipt for your records. The email with your renewal verification will come from an email address that contains "igovsolutions". Please check your spam/junk folders if you do not receive it in your regular inbox.

Profile Updates: Be sure to create/update your licensee profile under the "Services" tab. **Gold Seal Certificates:** If you wish to have an updated certificate with the gold seal, there is a \$5.00 fee which is available to purchase on our website under the "Services" tab.

We strongly encourage you to renew early to avoid any potential issues or delays!

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School Visits and Trainings



Jefferson State Community College (left)

LBW Community College (right)





South University in Montgomery (left)

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Congratulations New Licensees!



Don't forget you are welcome to come by and pick up your license "hot off the press"!

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Disciplinary Actions:

Case #2023-015: Jenny Clardy Moseley, PTA Practiced with an Expired License Closed and Approved: January 11, 2024 Case #2024-004: James Macon Burnett, PTA Failure to Meet a Condition of Licensure Licensed Surrendered Closed and Approved: May 9, 2024

WE ARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

facebook

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Follow and like us on Instagram! @al_board_pt



Connect with us on LinkedIn! Alabama Board of Physical Therapy

We encourage you to check out:



www.pt.alabama.gov



www.ptcompact.org

APTA Alabama. A Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association

www.ptalabama.org

www.fsbpt.org

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