

Candidate Information

Booklet

For The

Physical Therapy

Laws & Rules

Computer Based Testing

Examination

Prepared by
Florida Board of Physical Therapy Practice
Division of Medical Quality Assurance

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Candidate Information
Board of Physical Therapy Practice
Florida Laws and Rules Computer Based Testing Examination

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Statement of Nondiscriminatory Policy

The Department of Health does not discriminate among Applicants on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, disability, or marital status.

Protect Your Reputation and Your Career

Passing the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) is a big step toward receiving your license to practice Physical Therapy. Understandably, you want to take advantage of all available resources when preparing for this important examination.

In the past when you have prepared for examinations at school, you considered fellow students to be good resources for learning about questions that were on those tests.

This is NOT the case when preparing for the NPTE.

The NPTE is the property of the FSBPT and is protected by contract, trade secret, and federal copyright laws. It is a violation of those laws, and thus illegal, to share any information whatsoever about any NPTE question. In particular, sharing information about a NPTE question recalled from memory or asking someone who has taken the NPTE to share such information is illegal.

Do You Mean It's Illegal to Recall Questions?

YES! The FSBPT aggressively protects the integrity of the NPTE. Such protection is important to safeguarding the public from persons who do not have the requisite knowledge about physical therapy and therefore are not qualified to practice physical therapy. Any person for whom the FSBPT has a reasonable suspicion of sharing or soliciting information about any NPTE examination question may be prohibited from sitting for the NPTE unless and until they are determined after full investigation not to have shared or solicited such information.

ITEMS FROM THE EXAM ARE NOT TO BE SHARED WITH ANY PERSON FOR ANY PURPOSE.

I. The Examination

Special Accommodations

Special testing accommodations may be requested by submitting the following:

- Application for candidates requesting special testing accommodations in accordance with the American's with Disabilities Act
- Application for special testing accommodations due to a religious conflict

The application must be submitted no later than sixty (60) days prior to sitting for the examination. Please contact the Bureau of Operations immediately for an application at (850) 245-4252 or download the application directly from our web site: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/physical/pt_home.html

Examination Fee, Method of Payment and Registration

Applicants must apply to the Florida Department of Health, Board of Physical Therapy Practice and be approved by the Physical Therapy Board before you can take the laws and rules examination. In order to avoid delays, it is recommended to register online with the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) for the laws and rules examination when you apply to the Board of Physical Therapy for licensure by examination or endorsement. Below is the total fee to take the laws and rules examination.

The exam will be given through FSBPT and will be on the following:

- Chapter 456, Florida Statutes, Health Professions and Occupations: General Provisions
- Chapter 486, Florida Statutes, Physical Therapy Practice Act
- Rules 64B17, Florida Administrative Code
- Candidate Information Booklet for the Physical Therapy Laws & Rules Computer Based Testing Examination may be obtained on our Web site at: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/physical/pt_lic_req.html
 - **The FSBPT Laws and Rules Exam fee must be paid directly to the FSBPT.** Please visit www.fsbpt.org for fee and payment information.
 - The Prometric Testing fee must be paid directly to the Prometric Testing Center at the time of scheduling. Please visit www.prometric.com for fee and payment information.

Scheduling the Examination:

1. You will be required to register Online with the FSBPT for the laws and rules examination at <https://www.fsbpt.net/pt> It is recommended that you register with the FSBPT at the time you submit your application for licensure to the Board of Physical Therapy to avoid delays.
2. Once the Board of Physical Therapy has approved you to sit for the examination, they will approve your eligibility by notifying the FSBPT.
3. FSBPT will send you an "Authorization to Test" letter containing instructions on how to schedule an appointment with Prometric Testing Center.
4. Questions regarding registration processing may be directed to examregistration@fsbpt.org
5. Schedule an appointment for the examination with Prometric by following the instructions listed in your "Authorization-to-Test" letter. You will be required to give the name of the examination, when and where you would like to test, your name, social security number or alternate identification number, daytime telephone number and method of payment: credit card or direct debit.

6. Sit for the examination at your chosen Prometric Testing site. You must sit for the examination within your 60-day eligibility period as indicated on the "Authorization-to-Test" letter provided by FSBPT. If you do not sit for the examination, or withdraw your registration, within these 60 days, you will be removed from the eligibility list and will be required to begin the registration process again.

Content Overview

The Physical Therapy Laws and Rules Computer Based Testing Examination consists of fifty (50) multiple-choice questions, 40 of which are scored and 10 that are pilot questions. Applicants are given one hour (60 minutes) to complete the computer-based test.

Applicants are **NOT** allowed to bring any reference materials including Laws and Rules Study Guide into the examination room.

The Florida Laws and Rules portion of the examination will cover:

Chapter 486, Florida Statutes, Physical Therapy Practice
Chapter 456, Florida Statutes, Health Professions & Occupations: General Provisions
Chapter 64B-17, Florida Administrative Code, Physical Therapy Rules

Florida Jurisprudence Examination Content Outline

Category	Subcategory	Florida Law	Florida Rules	Specs
1. Legislative Intent and Definitions	1.1 Legislative intent	486.015;456.003		10
	1.2 Definition of Physical therapy/practice of physical therapy	486.021(8),(11)		
	1.3 Definition of Physical Therapist, Physical Therapist Assistant, Support Personnel	486.021(5)(7) 486.021(6)(7)		
	1.4 Types of Licenses, inactive status, etc.	486.021(3)	64B17-5	
	1.5 Definition of supervision and levels of supervision	486.021(9)		
2. Board Powers and Duties	2.1 Continuing education	486.109	64B17-8; 64B17-9	2
3. Licensure and Examination	3.1 Renewal/name changes	486.085(PT), 456.036 486.108(PTA)	64B17-2.005(PT, PTA) 64B17-6.004	3
	3.2 Reinstatement of license	486.085 (PT), 486.108(PTA)	64B17-5.001	
4. Patient Care Management and Use of Titles	4.1 Use of Titles	486.135,486.151		14
	4.2 Components of Care/Standards of Practice	486.021(10)	64B17-6.001 64B17-6.003 64B17-6.006	
	4.3 Supervision requirements and ratios (not definitions)		64B17-6.001 64B17-6.002 64B17-6.007	
	4.4 Referral if outside scope of physical therapist practice		64B17-6.001	
	4.5 Documentation/Medical Records		64B17-6.0042 64B17-6.0044 64B17-6.005	

	4.6 Responsibilities of the physical therapist and physical therapist assistant		64B17-6.007 64B17-6.002 64B17-6.001	
5. Disciplinary Action and Unlawful Practice	5.1 Grounds for disciplinary action	486.125(1) 486.123 456.072		6
	5.2 Receipt of complaint, Investigative powers, emergency action, hearing officers	456.073		
	5.3 Unlawful practice, classification, civil penalties, injunctive relief, aiding and abetting unlawful practice	486.151 456.065 486.153		
6. Consumer Advocacy	6.1 Reporting violations, immunity	456.061		5
	6.2 Substance abuse recovery program	456.076		
	6.3 Rights of Consumers, disclosure of financial interests, freedom of choice, confidentiality, public records.	456.052,456.053,456.054		

Sample Questions:

_____ 1. Appropriate general supervision of a physical therapist assistant in an outpatient setting requires:

- A. Direct supervision by the physical therapist.
- B. On-site supervision by the physical therapist.
- C. Communication accessibility and geographic proximity by the physical therapist.
- D. Direct supervision by the referring physician.

_____ 2. An athletic trainer is employed in an outpatient physical therapy center to assist in the delivery of patient care treatment with direct supervision by the physical therapist. The athletic trainer may document which of the following?

- A. Tasks and activities of patients during treatment
- B. Evaluation of a physical therapy patient
- C. Re-evaluation of a physical therapy patient
- D. Patient progress notes during treatment

_____ 3. Which of the following may a physical therapist delegate to a physical therapist assistant?

- A. Initial evaluation of a patient
- B. Re-evaluation of a patient
- C. Interpretation of the initial evaluation
- D. Assessment of the patient's progress

Correct Answers: 1. C; 2. A; 3. D

Pilot testing

The examination will contain 10 “pilot” test questions. The purpose of including pilot test questions within the examination is to expand and improve the bank of questions from which future examinations will be drawn. This is a common practice used by many national and state examination programs and is a critical step in ensuring the continued reliability and validity of these examinations.

Pilot questions are **NOT** identified. If the pilot questions were identified, many of the Applicants would skip them and the results would not be valid. The development of a good examination requires accurate candidate response information for the pilot questions.

II: Scoring Information and Grade Notification

Passing Grade and Results

The FSBPT uses a scaled score of 600 as the passing score on the Florida Laws and Rules Examination. After the administration of the exam, your exam will be scored by the FSBPT. The results will then be transmitted to the Florida Board of Physical Therapy Practice. The Board will notify you of your results.

Re-Examination Information

An applicant who fails to achieve the required passing score on the laws and rules examination shall be required to be re-examined upon submission of the re-examination application and payment of the re-examination fee.

Re-Exam Applicants:

- \$25 re-exam application fee payable to the Department of Health along with the application.
- **The FSBPT Laws and Rules Exam fee must be paid directly to the FSBPT.** Please visit www.fsbpt.org for fee and payment information.
- The Prometric Testing fee must be paid directly to the Prometric Testing Center at the time of scheduling. Please visit www.prometric.com for fee and payment information.

Test Taking Advice

The advice offered here is presented primarily to help you demonstrate your knowledge and maximize your chances of passing the examination.

- Read all instructions carefully.
- Before selecting the correct answer, read all options carefully.
- You should answer all questions; do not omit an answer for any test question.

- For best results, pace yourself by periodically checking your progress and the time. This will allow you to make any necessary adjustments. Remember, the more questions you answer, the better your chances of achieving a passing score, so you should select an answer for every question.
- Alert the examination supervisor of any problems that may occur during the examination. Do not wait until the examination is over to inform someone of a problem.
- Be sure to select an answer for each question, even the questions about which you are not completely sure. You can skip the questions you wish to reconsider and return to them later.

III. Admission to the Examination:

Supplies: What to Bring:

What are the requirements for admission to the testing center?

You must arrive 30 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment with two forms of acceptable identification. Acceptable ID is a currently valid, government-issued photo ID (passport, driver's license, etc.), and another piece of identification pre-printed with your name and containing your signature such as a credit card. On both forms of ID, your signature must match your pre-printed name. **A Social Security card is not an acceptable form of identification.** As part of your identification processing, the driver's license/passport will be swiped in order to retain scanned information.

Your first and last name on both forms of ID must exactly match the first and last name on your Authorization to Test letter issued by FSBPT. If you are denied admittance to the examination due to any problem with your identification, you will forfeit your Prometric fee and will be required to schedule another testing appointment within your eligibility period.

Will I be thumb-printed or photographed at the Prometric testing center?

Yes. A digital image of your fingerprint will be taken and you will be photographed at the testing center. Another fingerprint will be taken each time you leave the testing room during your exam. Additionally, all testing sessions will be videotaped.

What Not to Bring:

Unauthorized supplies, those not listed in this Candidate Information Booklet, will be subject to removal by the examination supervisor at the examination site.

1. The following items are **NOT** allowed in an examination room:
 - a. purses, briefcases, portfolios, fanny packs or backpacks
 - b. cameras, tape recorders, calculators or computers;
 - c. cell phones, pagers, electronic transmitting devices or telephones;
 - d. any bound or loose-leaf reference materials and notes; books
 - e. dictionary, thesaurus, or other spelling aids;
 - f. canisters of mace, pepper spray or other personal defense items.
 - g. coats or jackets
2. Watches with alarms should be set so that they will NOT sound or go off during the examination administration.

Appropriate Attire:

The temperature in the Prometric centers varies, and people perceive temperature differently. You should dress in layers that can be removed if you become uncomfortable. For security reasons, Prometric does not allow bulky jackets to be worn.

III. Administrative Policies

Liability

It is expressly understood by each Applicant that the State of Florida, the Department of Health and/or the Board of Physical Therapy, the Prometric Testing Center and the FSBPT hereby assume absolutely no liability of any nature whatsoever for any items of the candidate's personal property which may have been brought to, left at, or left outside the examination site. It is further understood that the candidate's admission to the examination shall hereby constitute the candidate's full, knowing and complete waiver of any and all such claims against the State of Florida, the Department of Health and/or the Department's staff, Prometric Testing Center or the FSBPT.

Rules for the Examination

1. No examination materials, documents, or memoranda of any kind are to be taken from an examination room.
2. Computer knowledge is not required to take a computerized examination. Before the examination begins, a simple introductory lesson (tutorial) is presented that explains the process of selecting answers and moving from question to question. The time you spend on the tutorial does not count against the time allotted for the examination. You may select your answers using either the keyboard or the mouse. You are strongly encouraged to take the tutorial prior to taking the examination.
3. You should alert Prometric staff immediately to disruptions occurring within the testing room or computer malfunctions while taking the examination.
4. You are permitted to sign out and leave the room for a break. However, the time remaining on your examination will continue to elapse. This means any time you spend on a break is time that you are choosing not to spend on the examination.
5. Based on the October 1985 Florida Clean Indoor Air Act; smoking will not be permitted in the examination room or in the rest rooms.
6. Do not bring food or drink into an examination room.

Conduct During the Examination

Rule 64B-1.004 Conduct at Test Site, Florida Administrative Code states the following:

For examinations administered by the department or a contract provider, the conduct at the test site shall be as follows:

(1) The examination administrator and proctors are the department's designated agents in maintaining a secure and proper examination administration. Failure to comply with the written or oral instructions provided by the department's designated agents shall result in the removal of the examinee from the examination room.

(2) Any individual found by the department or any board within the department to have engaged in conduct which subverts or attempts to subvert the examination process shall have his or her scores on the examination withheld and/or declared invalid, be disqualified from the practice of the profession, and/or be subject to the imposition of other appropriate sanctions by the applicable board or department, when there is not board.

(3) Conduct, which subverts or attempts to subvert the examination process includes:

(a) Conduct which violates the security of the examination materials, such as removing from the examination room any of the examination materials; reproducing or reconstructing any portion of the licensure examination; aiding by any means in the reproduction or reconstruction of any portion of the licensure examination; selling, distributing, buying, receiving or having unauthorized possession of any portion of a future or current licensure examination.

(b) Conduct which violates the standard of test administration, such as communicating with any other examinee during the administration of the examination; copying answers from another examinee or permitting one's answers to be copied by another examinee during the administration of the examination; having in one's possession during the administration of the examination any book, notes, written or printed materials or data of any kind, other than the examination materials distributed or specifically listed as approved materials for the examination in the information provided to the examinee in advance of the examination date by the department and/or the national provider of the examination.

(c) Conduct which violates the credentialing process, such as falsifying information required for admission to the examination; impersonating an examinee or having an impersonator take the licensure examination on one's own behalf.

(4) Any violation of the conduct rules or other irregularities will be documented in writing by the department's agent(s) and the documentation of the violation or irregularity will be presented to the appropriate board or departmental unit for consideration and action.

In addition to, or in lieu of, any other discipline imposed pursuant to Florida Statute 456.018, the act of reproducing, copying or removing any examination administered by the department whether said examination is reproduced or copied in part or in whole and by any means, constitutes a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in Florida Statutes 775.082, 775.083, or 775.084.

Change of Address

If you have a change of address, you must contact the Board office immediately.

Change or Correction of Name

If you have a name change or name correction, please send a copy of notarized legal documentation to the Board Office immediately.

Please contact the appropriate office for questions regarding the following:

- **Application, Policies and Fees**

Florida Board of Physical Therapy Practice

(850) 245-4373

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/physical/pt_lic_req.html

- **Special Testing Accommodations**

Department of Health
Division of Medical Quality Assurance
Bureau of Operations, Testing Services
4052 Bald Cypress Way
BIN #C-90
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3290
(850) 245-4252

- **Registration Online Information:**

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
124 West Street South • Third Floor • Alexandria, VA 22314
Exam Services: (703) 739-9420
www.fsbpt.net/pt

Prometric Testing Center
Online registration: www.prometric.com