

Physical Therapy Examining Board

2021 Annual Review

- **Board Members in 2021:** Shari Berry, PT (Tomah); Barbara Carter, PTA (Black River Falls); John Greany, PT (La Crosse); Todd McEldowney, Public Member (Rhinelander); and Kathryn Zalewski, PT (Milwaukee).
- **Officers in 2021:** John Greany (Chair), Kathryn Zalewski (Vice Chair), and Barbara Carter (Secretary).
- **2021 Liaison Appointments:**
 - Credentialing – John Greany, Kathryn Zalewski (Alternate – Barbara Carter)
 - Monitoring – Todd McEldowney (Alternate – John Greany)
 - Education and Exams – John Greany, Barbara Carter (Alternate – Kathryn Zalewski)
 - Legislative – John Greany (Alternate – Kathryn Zalewski)
 - Travel – Barbara Carter (Alternate – John Greany)
 - Administrative Rules – John Greany (Alternate – Kathryn Zalewski)
 - Website – Barbara Carter (Alternate – Todd McEldowney)
 - Professional Assistance Procedure – John Greany (Alternate – Todd McEldowney)
 - Screening Panel – Todd McEldowney, John Greany (Alternate – Kathryn Zalewski)
 - Licensure Compact – Kathryn Zalewski
- **PT Compact Implementation:**

The PT Licensure Compact Law was enacted in Wisconsin (2019 Wisconsin Act 100) on February 5th, 2020, which included the addition of Subchapter X, Wis. Stat. s.448.985 to Chapter 448 in the Medical Practice Act.

 - The board wrote and submitted rules related to the Compact. The following rule project is complete and effective as of July 2, 2021:
 - CR #20-056: PT 1 to 10, Implementation of the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact
 - The Department actively worked all year on identifying and securing operational needs to issue and accept Compact privileges. Full participation is anticipated in 2022.
- **Administrative Rules:**

The board wrote and submitted rules related to PT Chapter 1, relating to Reciprocal Credentials for Service Members, Former Service Members, and Their Spouses.

 - The following rule project is complete and effective as of July 1, 2021:
 - CR #20-054: PT 1, Reciprocal Credentials for Service Members, Former Service Members, and their Spouses (2019 WI Act 143)
 - Wis. Stat. s. 448.52 (1m) (c) was amended by 2019 Wisconsin Act 138 on March 3, 2020 to permit the Board to write rules related to the supervision of students who perform physical therapy procedures and related tasks. The current statute is as follows:

- 448.52 (1m) (c) A physical therapy student or a physical therapist assistant student performing physical therapy procedures and related tasks, if doing so is within the scope of the student's education or training. The examining board may promulgate rules related to the supervision of students who perform physical therapy procedures and related tasks.
 - The following rule project, which implements the statute, is complete and effective as of July 1, 2021:
 - CR #20-055: PT 1, 5, and 7, Supervision of Students
 - Other rules in-progress:
 - PT 1 and 5, Supervision of Physical Therapist Assistants
 - Emergency Rule #EmR2128 – effective 11/24/21-04/22/22
 - Permanent Rule CR #21-079 – anticipated effective date in early 2022
 - **Conference, Training and Special Meetings:**
 - Kathryn Zalewski (alternate delegate) attended the virtual **2021 Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Leadership Issues Forum (LIF)** – July 18-19, 2021.
 - John Greany (Delegate), Kathryn Zalewski (Alternate Delegate) attended the virtual presentation of the **2021 FSBPT Annual Meeting and Delegate Assembly** – October 22-24, 2021.
 - John Greany met with DSPS Secretary Crim on August 26, 2021 while the Secretary was traveling in the state to meet with DSPS stakeholders.

<u>Licensing Activity</u>	<u>PT</u>	<u>PTA</u>
Applications Received	449	132
Licenses Issued	381	133
License Renewals	6,305	2,133

<u>Covid Temp Permits</u>		
Emergency Order 16 temp permit totals:	44	1
Emergency Order 2 temp permit totals:	9	1
Act 10 credential totals:	28	1

• **Enforcement Activity (PT and PTA)**

Complaints received:

Source of complaints received (*Note: A complaint may have more than one source*):

- Consumer: 6
- Family: 2
- Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy: 1
- Government Agency – State of Wisconsin
 - Department of Health Services: 12
 - Department of Safety and Professional Services: 1
 - Office of Commissioner of Insurance: 1
- Licensee: 2

- Number of respondents involved: 24
- Number of cases opened for investigation: 4

Note: There are 5 complaints in the "Complaint Received" status (as of 01/21/2022) therefore, they are not included in this answer.

Total cases/respondents closed:

Note: Cases/respondents closed in 2021 may have been received in previous years.

- Closed at screening: 19
- Closed after investigation: 6 (3 were issued an Administrative Warning)
- Closed with formal action: 0

Cases pending as of January 2022: 1 0

Projects for 2022:

- Develop master document with scheduled activities for review of Jurisprudence exam questions and oral examination. Review alternatives for oral examinations for applicants out of practice more than 3 years.
- Review of Credentialling processes for applicants with Compact privileges and Foreign Educated Physical Therapists.
- Review website instructions for compact licensure.
- Monitor credentialling software changes to address delays and ongoing updates to application status.