

# Minnesota Administrative Rules:

## Physical Therapy Continuing Education

### **5601.2100 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT.**

Every two years, each physical therapist licensed by the board shall obtain 20 contact hours of continuing education credit as required by parts [5601.2200](#) to [5601.2600](#).

### **5601.2200 TWO-YEAR CONTINUING EDUCATION CYCLE.**

**Subpart 1. Initial registration or licensure on or after January 1, 1991.** For physical therapists initially registered or licensed on or after January 1, 1991, the first two-year continuing education cycle begins on the January 1 following the date of initial registration or licensure. Future cycles will run consecutively from that point. Continuing education courses taken between the date of initial registration or licensure and January 1 of the following year may be credited toward the first cycle.

**Subp. 2. Initial registration before January 1, 1991.** For physical therapists renewing their registrations or licenses on or after January 1, 1991, but who were initially registered before that date, the first two-year continuing education cycle begins as described in item A or B and runs consecutively from that date.

**A.** If the physical therapist's month of birth occurs in the months of January to June, the cycle begins on January 1, 1992.

**B.** If the physical therapist's month of birth occurs in the months of July to December, the cycle begins on January 1, 1993. In the first cycle, ending December 31, 1994, a physical therapist in this group shall submit 30 hours of credit.

For purposes of this subpart, continuing education courses taken between January 1, 1991, and January 1 of the physical therapist's first two-year continuing education cycle may be credited toward the first cycle.

### **5601.2300 CATEGORIES OF CREDITED ACTIVITIES.**

Continuing education credit may be obtained from the following activities:

**A.** Category 1: No less than ten hours of credit must be obtained in a cycle by attendance at educational activities recognized by the board under part [5601.2400](#). Physical therapists who must submit 30 hours of credit under part [5601.2200](#), subpart 2, item B, must obtain no less than 15 hours of credit under this item.

**B.** Category 2: No more than ten hours of credit may be obtained in a cycle through in-service educational activities sponsored by organizations or individuals not designated in Category 1. Physical therapists who must submit 30 hours of credit under part [5601.2200](#), subpart 2, item B, must obtain no more than 15 hours of credit under this item.

**C.** Category 3: No more than four hours of credit may be obtained in a cycle through teaching, lecturing, or similar presentation programs. Physical therapists who must submit 30 hours of credit under part [5601.2200](#), subpart 2, item B, must obtain no more than six hours of credit under this item.

### **5601.2400 CATEGORY 1 CREDIT.**

**Subpart 1. Courses.** The board shall grant Category 1 continuing education credit meeting the standards of part [5601.2500](#) for educational activities in items A to C:

**A.** any course planned, sponsored, or cosponsored by an accredited university or college, medical school, state or national medical or osteopathic association, or a national medical specialty society;

**B.** any course planned, sponsored, or cosponsored by the American Physical Therapy Association or other national or state physical therapy association; and

**C.** any course planned, sponsored, or cosponsored by the Arthritis Foundation, American Heart Association, or other national or state health organization.

**Subp. 2. Other educational activity.** Any educational activity not included under subpart 1 that meets the standards of part 5601.2500 shall be approved for Category 1 continuing education credit by the board.

An individual or organization seeking board approval of an educational activity for Category 1 continuing education credit as provided under this subpart shall provide to the board documents describing the name and address of the organization sponsoring the activity, the name and address of the facility at which the activity will be presented, the name and credentials of each instructor or person making a presentation, and the course content in detail, including a time schedule for the activity.

### **5601.2500 CREDIT STANDARDS.**

The board shall grant continuing education credit for any educational activity that meets the standards in items A to E.

**A.** The educational activities must have significant intellectual or practical content dealing primarily with matters directly related to the practice of physical therapy or to the professional responsibility or ethical obligations of the participants.

**B.** Each person making a presentation shall be qualified by practical or academic experience to teach the subject the person covers.

**C.** Participants shall attend educational activities in a classroom or other setting suitable for the activity. Video, motion picture, or sound presentations may be used.

**D.** One hour of credit shall be given for each 60 minutes actually spent on educational activities.

**E.** Credit shall not be given for entertainment or recreational activities or programs, employment orientation sessions, holding an office or serving as an organizational delegate, individual self-directed study programs, management seminars not directly concerning physical therapy operations, meetings for the purpose of making policy, or noneducational association meetings.

Any course planned, sponsored, or cosponsored as provided under part 5601.2400, subpart 1, shall be presumed to meet the standards in items A to E. This presumption may be withdrawn by the board if it determines that a college, university, association, or specialty has sought credit for a course not meeting these standards.

### **5601.2600 VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE.**

At the January license renewal immediately following their two-year continuing education cycle, licensees shall provide a signed statement to the board on a form provided by the board indicating compliance with parts 5601.2100 to 5601.2500. The board shall also accept certification of other state regulatory agencies whose continuing education requirements are equal to or greater than those in parts 5601.2100 to 5601.2500.

Periodically, the board shall select a sample of the licensed physical therapists and request evidence of the continuing education to which they attested. Documentation may come directly from the licensee or from state or national organizations that maintain those types of records.

A licensee failing to submit a statement or who submits a statement that, on its face, indicates noncompliance with parts 5601.2100 to 5601.2500 may be subject to the disciplinary provisions in part 5601.2700.

### **5601.2700 PENALTIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.**

The board shall refuse to renew or grant, or shall suspend, condition, limit, or qualify the licensure of any person who the board determines has failed to comply with parts 5601.2100 to 5601.2600.