

1 GENERAL GOVERNMENT

2 Board of Physical Therapy

3 (Amendment)

4 201 KAR 22:070. Requirements for foreign-educated physical therapists.

5 RELATES TO: KRS 327.050, 327.060

6 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 327.040(1), (11), (13) 327.060(3), 327.310

7 CERTIFICATION STATEMENT: This is to certify that this administrative regulation complies
8 with the requirements of 2025 RS HB 6, Section 8.

9 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 327.040(11) authorizes the Board of
10 Physical Therapy to promulgate and enforce reasonable administrative regulations for the
11 effectuation of the purposes of KRS Chapter 327. KRS 327.040(13) authorizes the board to
12 promulgate and enforce reasonable administrative regulations regarding certification,
13 limitations of activities, supervision, and educational qualifications for physical therapist
14 assistants. KRS 327.060 (3) authorizes the board to approve services to provide an
15 evaluation of a foreign-educated physical therapist applicant's educational credentials. This
16 administrative regulation establishes the requirements a foreign-educated physical
17 therapist shall satisfy to become credentialed in the state of Kentucky.

18

19 Section 1. A foreign-educated physical therapist applicant shall be credentialed if the
20 applicant:

1 (1) Complies with the requirements of KRS 327.060(1)(b);

2 (2) In accordance with KRS 327.060(1)(b), meets the following requirements:

3 (a) Furnishes the board a favorable educational credentials evaluation report
4 from a credentialing agency that uses the appropriate edition of the
5 "Coursework Tool" (CWT) copyrighted by the Federation of State Boards of
6 Physical Therapy (FSBPT). An academic deficiency in general education
7 coursework identified by the CWT shall be satisfied by the applicant through
8 submission of evidence identifying one (1) of the following:

- 9 1. Completion of appropriate coursework at a regionally accredited
10 academic institution;
- 11 2. Continuing education in a course approved by the board; or
- 12 3. Submission of a portfolio including a detailed resume and
13 description of relevant work experience approved by the board;

14 (b) Shows proof of English Language Proficiency by:

- 15 1. A score of not less than fifty (50) on the Test of Spoken English
16 (TSE);
- 17 2. Verification that the applicant has achieved the following minimum
18 scores for each category of the Test of English as a Foreign Language,
19 TOEFLE Internet-based test (TOEFL IBT):

- 20 a. Writing, four point three (4.3); [~~twenty-two (22)~~]
- 21 b. Speaking, four point three (4.3); [~~twenty-four (24)~~]
- 22 c. Listening, four point three (4.3); [~~twenty-one (21)~~]
- 23 d. Reading, four point three (4.3); [~~twenty-two (22)~~] and

1 e. With an overall score of not less than four point three (4.3);

2 [~~eighty-nine (89)~~]; ~~or~~]

3 3. Verification that English is the native language of the country of
4 origin; or

5 4. Other English proficiency exam approved by the Board.

6 (c) Submits a satisfactorily-completed application and appropriate fee as
7 required by 201 KAR 22:020 and 201 KAR 22:135;

8 (d) Completes the Jurisprudence Exam;

9 (e) Obtains a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination
10 (NPTE). The requirements of 201 KAR 22:020, Section 2(3) shall be
11 applicable to examination candidates; and

12 (f) Has successfully completed a minimum of three (3) months and no more
13 than six (6) months of practice under the on-site supervision of a physical therapist
14 credentialed under KRS Chapter 327 at a Kentucky facility previously approved by
15 the board that satisfies the following requirements:

16 1. The supervised practice shall be a minimum of 390 hours in a three
17 (3) month period, in a facility that is serving as a clinical education
18 site for students enrolled in a program in physical therapist education
19 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy
20 Education (CAPTE);

21 2. The applicant shall furnish the board a favorable evaluation of on-
22 site supervision performed by a clinical supervisor who utilizes the
23 "Performance Evaluation Tool for Foreign Educated Therapists

1 Completing a Supervised Clinical Practice in the United States"
2 copyrighted by FSBPT. The clinical supervisor shall submit the
3 evaluation to the board after three (3) months of practice, and if
4 required, after the sixth (6th) month, when the required score
5 denoting clinical competency shall have been reached;

6 3. The supervising physical therapist shall, within the three (3) years
7 prior to serving as a supervisor, have previously acted as clinical
8 supervisor for a physical therapist student as part of a CAPTE
9 accredited program; and

10 4. The supervisor shall countersign all of the candidate's physical
11 therapy records within fourteen (14) days; and

12 (3) Submits to the Board a completed nationwide criminal background check as
13 required by KRS 327.310 with the background investigation completed no later than
14 six (6) months prior to the date of the filing of the application.

15 Section 2. Temporary Permits for Foreign-educated Physical Therapist Applicants.

16 (1) An applicant who has not satisfactorily completed three (3) months of
17 supervised practice as a physical therapist shall be issued a temporary permit to
18 complete Section 1(2)(f) of this administrative regulation if the applicant has:

19 (a) Completed the requirements of Section 1(2)(a) through (e) of this
20 administrative regulation; and

21 (b) Submitted an approved Supervisory Agreement for Physical Therapists
22 Educated in a Foreign Country.

1 (2) The temporary permit shall be revoked if the applicant has not satisfactorily
2 completed the supervised practice within a six (6) month period.

3 Section 3.

4 (1) A foreign-educated physical therapist assistant applicant shall be credentialed if
5 the applicant has:

6 (a) Completed the application process;

7 (b) Provided written proof that the education institution in which the
8 applicant received his or her education to be a physical therapist assistant is
9 recognized by its own ministry of education;

10 (c) Provided proof of legal authorization to reside and seek employment in
11 the United States or its territories;

12 (d) Provided proof of authorization to practice as a physical therapist
13 assistant without limitations in the country where the professional education
14 occurred;

15 (e) Furnished the board a favorable educational credentials evaluation
16 report from a credentialing agency that uses the appropriate edition of the
17 "Coursework Tool" (CWT) copyrighted by the Federation of State Boards of
18 Physical Therapy (FSBPT). An academic deficiency in general education
19 coursework identified by the CWT shall be satisfied by the applicant through
20 submission of evidence identifying one (1) of the following:

21 1. Completion of appropriate coursework at a regionally accredited
22 academic institution;

23 2. Continuing education in a course approved by the board; or

1 3. Submission of a portfolio including a detailed resume and
2 description of relevant work experience approved by the board;

3 (f) Shows proof of English Language Proficiency by:

4 1. A score of not less than fifty (50) on the Test of Spoken English
5 (TSE);

6 2. Verification that the applicant has achieved the following minimum
7 scores for each category of the Test of English as a Foreign Language,
8 TOEFLE Internet-based test (TOEFL IBT):

9 a. Writing, four point three (4.3); [~~twenty-two (22)~~]

10 b. Speaking, four point three (4.3); [~~twenty-four (24)~~]

11 c. Listening, four point three (4.3); [~~twenty-one (21)~~]

12 d. Reading, four point three (4.3); [~~twenty-two (22)~~] and

13 e. With an overall score of not less than four point three (4.3);

14 [~~eighty-nine (89)~~]; or]

15 3. Verification that English is the native language of the country of
16 origin; or

17 4. Other English proficiency exam approved by the Board.

18 (g) Submits a satisfactorily-completed application and appropriate fee as
19 required by 201 KAR 22:020 and 201 KAR 22:135;

20 (h) Completes the Jurisprudence Exam;

21 (i) Obtains a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination
22 (NPTE); and

1 (j) Completes the requirements of Section 1(3) of this administrative
2 regulation.

3 (2) To be eligible for a temporary permit, a foreign-educated Physical Therapist
4 Assistant applicant shall complete the requirements of 201 KAR 22:020, Sections 4
5 and 5.

6 Section 4. Incorporation by Reference.

7 (1) The "Supervisory Agreement for Physical Therapists Educated in a Foreign
8 Country", August 2017, is incorporated by reference.

9 (2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable
10 copyright law, at the Board of Physical Therapy, 312 Whittington Parkway, Suite
11 102, Louisville, Kentucky 40222, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

12 (3) This material is also available on the board's Web site at
13 pt.ky.gov/Forms/Pages/Foreign-Educated-Applicant-.aspx.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD: March 19, 2026



4/15/2026
Date

Stephen Curley, Executive Director
Board of Physical Therapy

PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall be held on June 23, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. (ET) at 312 Whittington Parkway, Suite 102, Louisville, KY 40222. Individuals interested in being heard at this hearing shall notify this agency in writing five days prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing is received by that date, the hearing may be cancelled.

This hearing is open to the public. Any person who wishes to be heard will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed administrative regulation. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made.

If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation. Written comments shall be accepted until June 30, 2026. Send written notification of intent to be heard at the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person.

CONTACT PERSON: Stephen Curley, Executive Director, Board of Physical Therapy, 312 Whittington Parkway, Suite 102, Louisville, KY 40222, (502) 429-7140 and Fax (502) 429-7142, Stephen.Curley@ky.gov.