

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 138 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY QUINN, JAMES, McNEILL, SIMMONS, DeLUCA, SIMS,
HILL-EVANS AND PICKETT, JANUARY 28, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
JANUARY 28, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of October 10, 1975 (P.L.383, No.110), entitled
2 "An act relating to the practice of physical therapy,"
3 further providing for qualifications for license and
4 examinations for physical therapists and physical therapist
5 assistants.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Sections 6(b) and 9.1(a) of the act of October
9 10, 1975 (P.L.383, No.110), known as the Physical Therapy
10 Practice Act, are amended to read:

11 Section 6. Qualifications for License; Examinations; Failure
12 of Examinations; Licensure Without Examination; Issuing of
13 License; Foreign Applicants for Licensure; Temporary License;
14 Perjury.--* * *

15 (b) An applicant for licensure must pass an examination
16 approved by the board which shall test the applicant's knowledge
17 of the basic and clinical sciences as they relate to physical
18 therapy theory and physical therapy procedures and such other
19 subjects as the board may deem necessary to test the applicant's

1 fitness to practice physical therapy. No license shall be
2 granted unless an applicant has attained passing scores
3 established by the testing agency and published prior to the
4 administration of the examination. The examination shall be held
5 at such time and place as the board shall determine. An
6 applicant who is 90 days from completing the professional study
7 of physical therapy may sit for the examination if the applicant
8 verifies with the board that the applicant is 90 days from
9 graduating from an accredited program as determined by the
10 board.

11 * * *

12 Section 9.1. Physical Therapist Assistant; Education and
13 Examination; Scope of Duties; Certification.--(a) To be
14 eligible for certification by the board as a physical therapist
15 assistant, an applicant must be at least 18 years of age unless
16 otherwise determined by the board, be of good moral character,
17 not be addicted to the habitual use of alcohol or narcotics or
18 other habit-forming drugs, be a graduate of a physical therapist
19 assistant program adopted by the board, which program has been
20 approved for the education and training for physical therapist
21 assistants by the appropriate nationally recognized accrediting
22 agency and be successful in passing an examination approved by
23 the board, subject to rules and regulations established by the
24 board and administered in accordance with section 812.1 of the
25 act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as "The
26 Administrative Code of 1929." Applicants eligible to register
27 with the board shall be deemed eligible for certification by the
28 board until such time as the board promulgates any regulation
29 regarding certification. No applicant shall be certified unless
30 he has attained passing scores established by the board and

1 published prior to the administration of the examination. An
2 applicant who is 90 days from completing the education required
3 for a physical therapist assistant may sit for the examination
4 if the applicant verifies with the board that the applicant is
5 90 days from graduating from an accredited program as determined
6 by the board.

7 * * *

8 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.