

**THE ROLE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN PROMOTING MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION HOD P06-19-65-29** [Initial: HOD P06-04-25-21] [Previously Titled: Physical Therapy Education Program Responsibility to Promote the Value of Membership in the American Physical Therapy Association] [Position]

Membership in the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) is an important responsibility, and engaged members are an asset to the physical therapy profession. To develop physical therapists and physical therapist assistants who understand this responsibility, education programs are expected to provide an invitation into the association, opportunities for students to embrace the profession's core values, and an opportunity to understand the vision for the profession. Further opportunities for students to experience the rewards of APTA membership through interaction with individual members, components, and other resources of the association are most impactful if facilitated throughout students' educational preparation.

This formal introduction to APTA provides students with thorough and accurate information upon which to base their initial decision to join the association and their subsequent responsibility to continue membership throughout their career. The association and profession are best served when physical therapy education programs provide varied experiences that demonstrate the responsibility of membership and the reciprocal benefits afforded to the individual and APTA from sustained member engagement.

**Explanation of Reference Numbers:**

HOD P00-00-00-00 stands for House of Delegates/**month**/**year**/**page**/**vote** in the House of Delegates minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, HOD P06-17-05-04 means that this position can be found in the June 2017 House of Delegates minutes on Page 5 and that it was Vote 4.

P: Position | S: Standard | G: Guideline | Y: Policy | R: Procedure