



American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties
1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-1488

.....
"Specialization really boosted my career. I've gained leadership skills and now regularly teach in academic programs.

I've been asked to speak at continuing education and community events, and I'm an invited author of articles and book chapters. Achieving Board Certification was a wonderful personal and professional accomplishment that opened many doors for me.

*Nancy Prickett, PT, MA, GCS, NCS
Owner
Aspen Physical Therapy
Mt Holly, New Jersey*

Gain the Recognition You Deserve...

American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties



Become a Certified Specialist



.....
For additional information on specialist certification, contact:

**American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties
APTA Specialist Certification Department
1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 800/999-2782, ext 8520
E-mail: spec-cert@apta.org
www.apta.org**

Why Should I Become a Certified Specialist?

ABPTS-certification:

- Promotes the highest level of enhanced diagnostic skills and specialty care for individuals seeking physical therapy, including managing patients with complex conditions, to achieve the most effective clinical outcomes.

"As an employer, I'm eager to hire PTs who are board-certified. To be competitive in your career, I recommend accessing specialization now!"

Larry Benz, PT, MPT, ECS, OCS
Owner, Kentucky Orthopaedic
Rehab Team
Elizabethtown, Kentucky

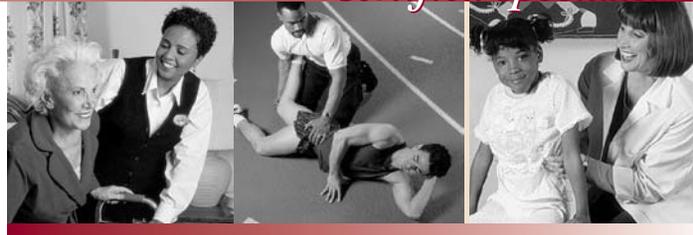
- Provides a reliable and valid method of certification of physical therapists with advanced knowledge and skills in a specialty area.
- Assists consumers and the health care community in identifying practitioners with advanced knowledge and skills in a specialty area.

Who Are Board-Certified Clinical Specialists?

ABPTS board-certified clinical specialists are physical therapists just like you who have built on a broad base of professional education and experience to develop advanced knowledge and skills in a particular area of practice. Certification is achieved by demonstrating competence in specialized knowledge and advanced clinical proficiency.

There are seven specialty areas:

- Cardiovascular and Pulmonary (CCS)
- Clinical Electrophysiologic (ECS)
- Geriatric (GCS)
- Neurologic (NCS)
- Orthopaedics (OCS)
- Pediatric (PCS)
- Sports Physical Therapy (SCS)



Benefits of Earning ABPTS Specialist Certification

- Being one of a distinguished group of colleagues who have demonstrated advanced clinical proficiency by achieving ABPTS board-certification.
- Earning the privilege of being known as a diplomate of the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties.
- Using the ABPTS member-designate logo on your letterhead and business cards so that physicians, patients, and colleagues know that you are board-certified.

...More Benefits of Earning ABPTS Specialist Certification

Certified specialists report¹:

- An increased sense of personal achievement and self-confidence.
- Higher average incomes.
- Board certification accurately indicates knowledge and skill in the area of specialty practice.

ABPTS Program Features

The specialist certification program is administered by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties (ABPTS), the governing board for the specialist certification program within the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

- Eligibility requirements include either a minimum of 2,000 hours of direct patient care in the specialty area or completion of an APTA-credentialed clinical residency.
- The National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) provides test development, test administration, and psychometric services to ABPTS and its specialty councils.
- Certification is valid for a period of 10 years, at which time board-certified specialists must recertify by completing a recertification assessment.

The number of certified specialists has grown substantially over the past 10 years from 1,020 in 1995 to almost 6,745 currently. Board certification will continue to grow in importance within the profession. APTA's Vision 2020 statement envisions physical therapy services being provided by physical therapists who are doctors of physical therapy and who may also be board-certified specialists.