All physical therapy education programs are to be held accountable for meeting quality standards. The profession has eleven documents that, together, define quality indicators for the education of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants: Code of Ethics; Guide for Professional Conduct; Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant; Guide for Conduct of the Physical Therapist Assistant; Guide to Physical Therapist Practice; Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists; Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapist Assistants; A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Assistant Education; Professionalism in Physical Therapy: Core Values; and Minimum Required Skills of Physical Therapist Graduates at Entry-Level.

The individual and collective efforts of the profession must be aimed at assuring the quality of education programs. To be successful, these efforts require a fair but uncompromising application of the profession’s standards, approved guidelines, and consensus-based preferences. The quality of education must be compatible with the standard as defined in these documents.

Relationship to Vision 2020: Doctor of Physical Therapy; (Academic/Clinical Education Affairs Department, ext 3203)

[Document updated: 12/14/2009]

Explanation of Reference Numbers:
BOD P__-__-__-__ stands for Board of Directors/month/year/page/vote in the Board of Directors Minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, BOD P11-97-06-18 means that this position can be found in the November 1997 Board of Directors minutes on Page 6 and that it was Vote 18.