The Board of Directors shall appoint the editor-in-chief of the association's journal, Physical Therapy (PTJ). The editor-in-chief shall be a physical therapist member of the association or a foreign-educated physical therapist who lives outside the United States and is an international partner of the association. The term of appointment shall be 5 years; a single reappointment shall be permitted. At a minimum, a formal evaluation shall be conducted during the fourth year of the contract. No editor-in-chief shall serve more than 2 consecutive 5-year terms.

The editor-in-chief shall receive an honorarium, as determined in the contract between the APTA Board of Directors (Board) and the editor-in-chief.

PTJ Editor-in-Chief Responsibility for PTJ Content
The PTJ editor-in-chief has final decision-making authority on, and is responsible for the appropriate delegation of PTJ Editorial Board responsibilities related to, the scientific, clinical, and other editorial content of PTJ, including solicitation and acceptance or rejection of manuscripts; selection of editorial boards and reviewers; and the approach to correspondence with authors, reviewers, and readers.

Criteria for PTJ Editor-In-Chief Emeritus
The PTJ editor-in-chief emeritus is an honorary position with no specific roles and responsibilities. An editor-in-chief emeritus may be nominated by the APTA Board by the newly appointed PTJ editor-in-chief, or by a majority vote of the PTJ Editorial Board. The editor-in-chief emeritus is approved by the APTA Board. Criteria for the honor include the following:

- Has served at least 5 years in the position of editor-in-chief
- Has made a significant contribution to the development of the PTJ and, thereby, to the advancement of the science and practice of the physical therapy profession. Examples of a significant contribution include, but are not limited to, improvement in the PTJ impact factor, increase in the number of submitted manuscripts, increase in the number of PTJ publications cited in other work, or increase in the number of international manuscript submissions.

Persons appointed will have their name placed on the PTJ masthead as editor-in-chief emeritus.

The name of an editor-in-chief emeritus will remain on the masthead until the person’s death.

Explanation of Reference Numbers:
BOD P00-00-00-00 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.