

1 **COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION IN PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION**

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3 Board Chair: TBA

4 Staff Liaison: TBA

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6 The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education provides strategic advice,
7 recommendations, and counsel to the APTA Board of Directors. Pursuant to association policy
8 Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education Programs, the American Physical Therapy Association
9 codifies that the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education is the one agency for
10 accreditation of physical therapy education programs.

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12 **CHARGE**

13 The Board of Directors' determined charge for the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy
14 Education is:

15 • Responsibilities of the CAPTE Board of Commissioners

- 16 A. Provides quality assurance as a support to consumer protection to ensure accredited
17 education programs adequately prepare students to function successfully as physical
18 therapists and physical therapist assistants.
- 19 B. Manages the pre-accreditation and accreditation processes as identified in CAPTE's Rules
20 of Practice and Procedure, including periodic reviews to identify areas for improvement
21 and implements appropriate changes.
- 22 C. Formulates, adopts, revises, and implements CAPTE's Rules of Practice and Procedures
23 and accreditation standards.
- 24 D. Establishes and maintains CAPTE's Rules of Practice and Procedures.
- 25 E. Makes decisions independently concerning the pre-accreditation or accreditation status
26 with respect to monitoring, granting, denying, withdrawing, or conditioning accreditation
27 of any program.
- 28 F. Selects review panelists in concert with current review panelists and the cadre of
29 reviewers as determined by the CAPTE Rules of Practice and Procedure.
- 30 G. Ensures that commissioners, review panelists, and program reviewers are trained
31 sufficiently to meet the needs of CAPTE in accordance with CAPTE's Rules of Practice and
32 Procedure.
- 33 H. Engages with internal and external communities of interest (e.g., APTA, CHEA, USDE,
34 accrediting bodies, institutions/programs, the public), as appropriate, especially in the
35 areas of the standards and required elements, accreditation processes, CAPTE decisions,
36 and complaints about a program or agency.
- 37 I. Communicates publicly in accordance with APTA processes regarding policy positions
38 and other legislative and regulatory matters.
- 39 J. Maintains recognition by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher
40 Education Accreditation.

1 K. Sets reasonable and appropriate fees to ensure that CAPTE can carry out their roles and
2 responsibilities effectively, and that the commission can cover the allocated fair market
3 value for its proportionate share of joint use (e.g., building services, human resources,
4 legal services, technology); the joint use does not compromise the independence and
5 confidentiality of the accreditation process.

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- 7 • Provide counsel to the Board on physical therapy education.
- 8 • Advise and counsel the APTA Board of Directors on proposed and existing Association
9 policies, positions, and the APTA Code of Ethics for the Physical Therapy Profession, as
10 requested.
- 11 • Coordinate and collaborate with other APTA appointed groups and stakeholders, when doing
12 so can further the work of the committee.
- 13 • Submit an annual report to the Board of Directors.
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15 All appointees shall agree to the APTA Volunteer Commitment.

16 **QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTEES**

17 Shall be:

- 18 • CAPTE Board of Commissioners, Including Composition, Eligibility, Terms, and Term Limits
 - 19 ○ Size of the CAPTE Board of Commissioners: 13 members
 - 20 ○ Composition of the CAPTE Board of Commissioners and Commissioner Eligibility
 - 21 ○ Ten commissioners are physical therapists or physical therapist assistants who are
22 APTA members in good standing and one is a higher education administrator; and in
23 accordance with U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education
24 Accreditation regulations, shall meet conditions as outlined in CAPTE's Rules of
25 Practice and Procedures as well as served on the physical therapist or physical
26 therapist assistant program review panel for a minimum of two years.
 - 27 ○ Two commissioners are public members, and each individual shall not be a physical
28 therapist or physical therapist assistant.
- 29 • Selection of CAPTE Board of Commissioners
 - 30 ○ The commissioners identified in II., B. 1., above are elected by the CAPTE Board of
31 Commissioners, CAPTE review panelists, and CAPTE program reviewers in accordance
32 with standard operating procedures as determined by the CAPTE Rules of Practice
33 and Procedure.
 - 34 ○ The commissioners identified in II., B. 2., above are appointed by the CAPTE Board of
35 Commissioners.
- 36 • Length of Term and Term Start Date: three years with each term beginning on January 1.
- 37 • Maximum Number of Consecutive Full Terms: two with partial terms not considered a full
38 term.
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41 **MEETINGS**

1 This committee holds three annual funded in-person meetings, one virtual meeting, and the
2 executive committee meets virtually on a biweekly basis.

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4 **SIZE OF APPOINTED GROUP**

5 One Board chair and fourteen additional members ratified annually by the APTA President; and the
6 APTA President as ex-officio.

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8 **TERMS OF APPOINTEES**

9 With the exception of the Board chair, committee members shall serve three-year terms and may
10 serve two consecutive three-year terms for appointments beginning in 2026 or thereafter. APTA
11 members shall not serve on more than one board-appointed group at a time with the exception of
12 APTA Board members.

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