The qualifications for membership in the American Physical Therapy Association shall be as stated in the Association Bylaws, and in addition:

A. Physical Therapist Membership

1. Graduation from an education program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. If graduation in the United States occurred prior to 1977, then graduation from a program recognized by the American Medical Association in collaboration with the American Physical Therapy Association is required.

2. If educated outside of the United States by a program not accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education and living in the United States, graduation from an education program that by credentials evaluation is determined to be substantially equivalent, with respect to professional physical therapist education in the United States, or a license from a jurisdiction that requires a credentials evaluation prior to licensure.

3. Physical Therapist – Post-Professional Student Membership:
   a. a graduate physical therapist as defined in A. 1 or 2 above;
   b. a graduate physical therapist enrolled full time in a post-professional master’s or doctoral program (excluding transition DPT) and APTA credentialed post-professional residency or fellowship program, or a post-doctoral research fellowship;
   c. be limited to two years in a master’s program, five years in a doctoral program and two years in a post-professional residency or fellowship program; and
   d. have an official statement furnished to APTA by the program at which the graduate student, resident or fellow is enrolled verifying the individual’s full-time enrollment, as defined by that program, at each dues period for which the individual is eligible for physical therapist post-professional student status.

4. Previous Student Physical Therapist membership in the Association is neither a necessary nor a sufficient qualification for Physical Therapist membership.


B. Retired Physical Therapist Membership

1. Attainment of the age of 55 years and completion of 20 years of membership.
2. Have had a career change and no longer engaged in an occupation related to physical therapy.
3. Member signs an official statement, at each dues period for which the individual is eligible for Retired Physical Therapist membership, confirming they are no longer engaged in an occupation related to physical therapy.

C. Life Physical Therapist Membership

1. Attainment of the age of 65 years and completion of 30 years of membership; or
2. If retired because of disability, completion of at least 5 years of membership.

D. Student Physical Therapist Membership

1. Enrollment in a physical therapist education program that is accredited or is seeking or granted candidacy status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.

E. Physical Therapist Assistant Membership

1. Graduation from an education program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.
2. If trained outside of the United States by a program not accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education and living in the United States, graduation from an education program that by credentials evaluation is determined to be equivalent with respect to physical therapist assistant entry level education in the United States, or a license from a jurisdiction that requires a credentials evaluation prior to licensure is required.
3. Previous Student Physical Therapist Assistant membership in the Association is neither a necessary nor a sufficient qualification for Physical Therapist Assistant membership.
4. Agreement to comply with the *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant* of the American Physical Therapy Association.

F. Retired Physical Therapist Assistant Membership

1. Attainment of the age of 55 years and completion of 20 years of membership.
2. Have had a career change and no longer engaged in an occupation related to physical therapy.
3. Member signs an official statement, at each dues period for which the individual is eligible for Retired Physical Therapist Assistant membership, confirming they are no longer engaged in an occupation related to physical therapy.
4. Agreement to comply with the *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant* of the American Physical Therapy Association.

G. Life Physical Therapist Assistant Membership

1. Attainment of the age of 65 years and completion of 30 years of membership; or
2. If retired because of disability, completion of at least 5 years of membership.
3. Agreement to comply with the *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant* of the American Physical Therapy Association.
H. Student Physical Therapist Assistant Membership

1. Enrollment in a physical therapist assistant education program that is accredited or is seeking or granted candidacy status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.
2. Agreement to comply with the Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant of the American Physical Therapy Association.

I. Honorary Membership

1. Not eligible for APTA membership.

Contribution(s) are:
- Significant to the profession of physical therapy.
- National in recognition and scope.
- Of unique quality.

J. Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the APTA

1. Demonstrated excellence in a primary domain of research, education, practice, or advocacy with translation of contributions and achievements across 2 of the 3 remaining domains.
2. National recognition by APTA members and by leaders outside the physical therapy profession, related to the impact achieved in the primary domain of research, education, practice, or advocacy.
3. Frequent and sustained contributions (leadership, influence, and achievements) that have advanced the profession over a period of not less than 15 years. Contributions pertaining to leadership, influence, and achievements may be in relation to primary and/or remaining domains.
4. Definitive ways in which advancement of the physical therapy profession have been achieved.

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.