

APPROVED

COMMITTEE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY MINUTES OF LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Friday, April 22, 2005
6603 West Broad Street, 5th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23230
Conference Room 4

Department of Health Professions

- CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of the Virginia Committee of Physical Therapy was called to order at 9:00 a.m.
- PRESIDING:** Damien Howell, P.T., Chair
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Maureen Lyons, P.T.
Lorraine Quinn, P.T.A.
Lisa D. Shoaf, Ph.D., P.T
J. R. Locke, Citizen Member
- MEMBERS ABSENT** None
- STAFF PRESENT:** Elizabeth Young, Executive Director
Annie B. Artis, Operations Manager
Pam Horner, Administrative Assistant
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst
- COUNSEL PRESENT:** Jack Kotvas, Assistant Attorney General
- GUEST PRESENT:** None
- QUORUM:** With 5 members of the Committee present, a quorum was established.
- AGENDA:** Agenda was accepted.
- PUBLIC COMMENT:** None
- NOTICE OF REGULATORY ACTION** The Board for its review submitted a Notice of Regulatory Action concerning its current process of credentialing foreign educated applicants.
- CURRENT REGULATIONS** Ms. Young informed the Committee that the regulations were being reviewed because of a concern expressed by Delegate McQuigg of Northern Virginia about the Board's regulation to utilize only the credentialing services of the Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy (FCCPT).

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**FORMER CREDENTIALING
INFORMATION PROVIDED
TO APPLICANTS**

Dr. Shoaf presented information regarding FCCPT and their evaluation tool. She stated that currently FCCPT would sell their tool to other potential agencies for a cost of one dollar with a requirement that the potential firms also attend a two-day training session. Dr. Shoaf stated that FCCPT has offered their tool to the International Consultants of Delaware and the International Education Consultants. She further stated that FCCPT requires the transcripts and syllabi, which are reviewed for general and professional education; this material is reviewed by physical therapists. Dr. Shoaf stated that FCCPT reviews all course work, and then provides a final summary in its report.

**COURSEWORK
EVALUATION TOOL FOR
FOREIGN EDUCATED
PHYSICAL THERAPISTS**

Dr. Shoaf made a motion to incorporate the proposed change in regulations under §18 VAC 112-20-50 (A) to read as follows: "An applicant for initial licensure as a physical therapist who is a graduate of a school not approved by an accrediting agency which is approved by the Committee shall submit the required application and fee and provide documentation of the physical therapist certification by a credentialing agency approved by the Board that utilizes the most current Coursework Evaluation Tool for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists from the Federation of State Committees of Physical Therapy." The motion was seconded by Ms. Lyons and was carried unanimously by the Committee.

Ms. Young asked the Committee to provide an explanation for the change. In response, Dr. Shoaf suggested that the rationale should state that the proposed change is needed because the Committee reviewed foreign credentials and determined that the Coursework Evaluation Tool for Foreign Educated Physical Therapists has provided the best determination of passage of the national examination.

The Committee discussed the provision for being licensed in another state for seven years. Dr. Shoaf made a motion to change the wording in §18VAC112-20-65 B. 1. to read as follows: "Documentation of having met the educational requirements prescribed in §18 VAC112-20-40 or §18 VAC112-50 or active practice with a current unrestricted

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license or at least seven years prior to applying for licensure in Virginia. “ The motion was seconded by Ms. Lyons and carried unanimously.

Ms. Yeatts stated that the proposed change was not included in the original NOIRA and the Board may need to submit a subsequent NOIRA to amend its regulation. Ms. Young stated that more discussion was needed and further research was necessary before other changes. Dr. Shoaf stated that she would also contact Ms. Lindenblad at FCCPT to obtain information regarding the use of TOEFL and TSE in its evaluation tool. Ms. Young stated that she would review other credential agencies to examine what measures they have implemented to verify English proficiency.

Mr. Locke made a motion to defer further discussion of the issues until the next legislative/regulatory meeting. Dr. Shoaf seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The next Legislative/Regulatory meeting was scheduled for June 17, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With all business concluded the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Damien Howell, P.T., Chair

Elizabeth Young, Executive Director

Date

Date