

## **BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**

### **Approval of a Traineeship**

Section 18VAC112-20-70 in *Regulations Governing the Practice of Physical Therapy* provides the following requirements for a traineeship for an unlicensed graduate who is scheduled to sit for the national examination.

- A. Upon approval of the president of the board or his designee, an unlicensed graduate who is registered with the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy to sit for the national examination may be employed as a trainee under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist until the results of the national examination are received.*
- B. The traineeship, which shall be in accordance with requirements of 18VAC112-20-140, shall terminate five working days following receipt by the candidate of the licensure examination results.*
- C. The unlicensed graduate may reapply for a new traineeship while awaiting to take the next examination, provided he has registered to retake the examination. A new traineeship shall not be approved if more than one year has passed following the receipt of the first examination results. An unlicensed graduate who has passed the examination may be granted a new traineeship for the period between passage of the examination and granting of a license. An unlicensed graduate shall not be granted more than three traineeships within the one year following the receipt of the first examination results.*

The Board provides guidance for applicants in the following circumstances:

- An applicant who has graduated from an accredited physical therapy program and (1) has registered to sit for the national examination or (2) has taken and passed the national examination may be approved for a traineeship even if the degree is to be awarded at a later date. Evidence that the graduate has met all degree requirements would be required for approval.
- A traineeship may be approved for a foreign-trained graduate upon evidence that the graduate's degree is equivalent to a degree from an accredited physical therapy program and that the graduate is registered to sit for the national examination.