



Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy

9 Shackleford Plaza, Suite 3
Little Rock, AR 72211
(501) 228-7100

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy (ARPTB) requires that applicants sit for and pass the appropriate **National Physical Therapy Examinations (NPTE)** as a prerequisite for licensure. The **Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT)** is the organization responsible for administering and developing these examinations. Although ARPTB neither administers nor develops the examination, it is responsible for assuring that only eligible candidates sit for the exam and that FSBPT receives the necessary approval. No person who has failed the exam two times is eligible for licensure without presenting a study plan to the Board. This is whether or not the exam was taken in Arkansas. Exam score must meet the criterion-referenced passing point equal to a scaled score of 600 based on a range of 200-800.

Applicants must be graduates of a Board approved physical therapy program at a school, college or university located within the continental United States or its territories. Those who are not must have their educational credentials evaluated to determine if their education is equivalent to the requirements of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants educated in United States educational programs as determined by the Board.

No application is complete without all of the required documents, fees and photograph. Application for licensure must be completed within one year from submission to ARPTB or the application and credentials must be brought up to date and resubmitted with payment of the applicable fees.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a disability covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) you may request special accommodations to take the examination by completing the ADA Request Form. The form is on the Board's website at www.arptb.org. A comprehensive and current report (no more than three years old) from a qualified examiner appropriate for evaluating your disability must accompany the request form. **The request and supporting documentation must be submitted at the time of application submission.** The ADA accommodations question must also be marked appropriately when registering with FSBPT.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE COMPUTERIZED NPTE

The licensure examinations for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants are offered on computer at Prometric Testing Centers. For common questions about the NPTE, refer to the candidate handbook by clicking the Exam Candidates tab on the FSBPT website at www.fsbpt.org.

ELIGIBILITY TO SIT FOR THE NPTE

ARPTB determines eligibility to take the examination based on educational requirements and other guidelines listed in this application packet. If you are eligible to sit for the exam, ARPTB will inform FSBPT. When you have been approved to test, FSBPT will email you confirmation and information about scheduling the examination. Your authorization to test letter will also be available on the FSBPT website under Status of My Request. If you are not eligible, ARPTB will inform you in writing of outstanding requirements to complete before you are eligible to sit for the examination.

SCHEDULING QUESTIONS

Please do not call ARPTB about scheduling your examination. Scheduling questions should be

addressed to FSBPT, which will send you confirmation and information about scheduling the examination. A listing of Prometric Testing Center locations is also available on the Internet at www.prometric.com. The testing program is Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. You will be responsible for payment of the Prometric Testing Center fee at the time you schedule your examination. Cost is \$70.00 for the PTA exam and \$85.00 for the PT exam.

JURISPRUDENCE EXAM

A passing score on the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy Jurisprudence Exam is required for licensure. To take the exam, log on to the Board's website at www.arptb.org. The jurisprudence exam link is under the online services menu button. Prior to taking the exam, download the Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations to reference during the exam. At the end of the exam, a certificate of completion is available and may be printed for your records. ARPTB will print the certificate for your file.

REGISTERING WITH FSBPT

FSBPT registration may be completed prior to applying with ARPTB but the process is not complete until ARPTB receives all required documentation. Register with FSBPT online at <http://www.fsbpt.org/OurServices/CandidateServices/ExamRegistrationPayment.aspx>. FSBPT does not accept checks or money orders.

EXAM DATES

The exam is given four times per year. Exam dates are available on the FSBPT website at www.fsbpt.org.

EXAM RESULTS

If you pass and are eligible for licensure, your license will be issued and you will receive your exam results, a wall certificate and wallet size license. If you fail the examination, a letter will be mailed to you with your exam results. You may take the examination a second time by registering with FSBPT online. If you fail the examination a second time, additional education is required. The guidelines are listed in the ARPTB Rules and Regulations. See Application Process Synopsis for more details regarding exam results.

FEE SCHEDULE:

- **\$400.00** exam fee to FSBPT (credit or debit cards only)
- **\$50** processing fee to ARPTB (check or money order; no credit cards or cash)
- **\$10** paid online when the jurisprudence exam is taken (credit cards, debit cards or e-checks)
- **\$85.00** paid to Prometric Testing Center when test is scheduled (**Physical Therapists**)
- **\$70.00** paid to Prometric Testing Center when test is scheduled (**Physical Therapist Assistants**)

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

To apply for the PT or PTA examination, all forms, fees and documentation outlined below must be returned to ARPTB. Do not duplicate forms. All documents must have original signatures in ink.

1. *Application for Licensure as a Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant in Arkansas* with all sections completed by applicant, including current photograph, **a non-refundable application fee of \$50.00 payable to ARPTB**. Personal checks are accepted for the application fee. A \$20 charge will be imposed for checks returned for insufficient funds.
2. *Certificate of completion of jurisprudence exam*. Log on to www.arptb.org to take the exam. Download the Practice Act and Rules and Regulations prior to taking the exam. Both will be referenced during the exam. Passing score is 70%. You may print a certificate for your records. ARPTB will print the certificate for your file.
3. *Official transcript* with registrar's seal **including physical therapy degree and date of graduation** must be mailed directly to ARPTB from the school before a permanent license is issued. If an original transcript is provided to a credentialing agency for evaluation of education, a copy of the transcript is acceptable **only** from that agency in lieu of one mailed from the school. Transcripts sent by any other means are not acceptable. An official certification of graduation from the school is sufficient for approval to take the exam.
4. *English Language Proficiency Tests*. **If the applicant is non-USA trained**, proof of proficiency in the English language, both written and spoken, is required. Passing scores are required as follows: Reading - 21, Listening - 18, Speaking - 26, Writing - 24, Total - 89. Exam arrangements can be made with: TOEFL/TSE Services, P.O. Box 6151, Princeton, NJ 08541-6151, USA, Telephone: (609) 771-7100. The TOEFL code number for AR is 9862. Enter this code on the answer sheet and/or the score report request form. **Scores must be mailed directly to ARPTB from Educational Testing Service. Photocopies of score reports are not acceptable.**
5. *Educational Evaluation*. Applicants who are not graduates of a CAPTE-accredited program must submit an original evaluation done specifically for Arkansas by a Board approved agency. *A list of Board approved credentialing agencies can be downloaded from our website at www.arptb.org by clicking on the "applying for licensure" menu button.*

APPLICATION PROCESS SYNOPSIS

Step One

- Candidate mails application and fee to ARPTB.
- Candidate pays and registers with FSBPT online.
- Candidate requests school to mail transcript and/or certification letter to ARPTB.
- Candidate passes jurisprudence exam.

Step Two

- ARBPT receives application and fee and opens a file on candidate.

Step Three

- When candidate file is complete, ARPTB approves candidate to test. (Candidate must be registered with FSBPT for this step to be completed). ARPTB will allow candidates who live in Arkansas and are graduates of CAPTE accredited programs to test 60 days prior to graduation and prior to receiving a transcript if a certification letter from the school and all other required documentation are received. **Licenses will not be issued until a transcript is received. Arkansas law prohibits practice without a license.**

Step Four

- FSBPT receives approval from ARPTB and emails an “authorization to test” letter to candidate. ATT letters are also available on the FSBPT website at <https://www.fsbpt.org>.
To download your letter:
 - Click on "Status of My Request"
 - Click "Order now"
 - Enter personal information and click "Continue"
 - Click on ATT letter

Step Five

- Candidate receives authorization to test letter by email from FSBPT with candidate I.D. number and contacts Prometric to schedule.

Step Six

- Candidate takes exam.

Step Seven

- ARPTB receives test results from FSBPT five business days after the exam is taken.

Receiving Scores

ARPTB receives scores from FSBPT five business days after the exam is taken. Exam dates with timelines are posted on the FSBPT website. **Results will not be given by phone.** You may check your pass/fail status on the FSBPT website at <https://www.fsbpt.org> by selecting “Status of My Request” under the “Top Services” heading. This status will not give the score but will read “Score Received from Prometric – Passed” or “Score Received from Prometric – Failed”. The pass/fail status is available five business days after the test date.

You are not eligible for licensure until your transcript is received by ARPTB. If you pass and are eligible for licensure your score will be mailed with your licensure packet within two business days after receipt of your score.

If you pass and you **are not eligible** for licensure your score will not be mailed until you are eligible and your license is issued. A score report is available ten business days after the test date at <https://fsbpt.org>.

If you fail the exam your score will be mailed to you within two business days after receipt by ARPTB.

**APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION****Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy**

9 Shackleford Plaza, Suite 3 Little Rock, AR 72211

Phone: 501-228-7100

Website: arptb@sbcglobal.net

Office Use Only

Amount _____

Check # _____

Date: _____

Type of Licensure: Physical Therapist Physical Therapist Assistant**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ANSWERS TO ALL QUESTIONS**Name: _____ Male
(Last) (First) (Middle) FemaleMailing Address: _____
(City) (State) (Zip) (County)

Maiden/Former Name: _____ Mother's Maiden Name: _____

Social Security #: _____ Birth Date: _____ City & State of Birth: _____

Office Phone #: () _____ Home Phone #: () _____

Fax #: () _____ Email: _____

Preferred Method of Correspondence: Email Mail *Preferred correspondence is the method the board office will contact you during the application process and when you are licensed. When licensure is issued correspondence includes, but is not limited to, newsletters and renewal forms. Scores will not be emailed.***Ethnic/Race Information:** American Indian or Alaska Native Black or African American Hispanic/Latino
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White/Caucasian**SPECIAL OR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

List all colleges, physical therapy schools and universities attended in descending order beginning with the highest level of education.

Institution and Locations <i>(Include city and state)</i>	Dates Attended <i>(Include month and year)</i>		Major	Degree
	From	To		
	From	To		
	From	To		
	From	To		

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**Requested NPTE test date:** _____Are you currently licensed, or have you ever held licensure, registration or certification to practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant in any other state? **Yes** **No** *If yes, you must complete the application for licensure by endorsement instead of licensure by examination.*Are you currently licensed, or have you ever held licensure, registration or certification to practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant in any other country? **Yes** **No** *If yes, list each country:* _____

How many times have you taken the physical therapist/physical therapist assistant national examination? (This includes PES or ASI examinations taken anywhere in the United States, not just Arkansas.) _____

If one or more times, indicate dates and locations: _____

Are you a current resident of the United States? **Yes** **No** If yes, indicate home state: _____

Have you ever had a license or certification sanctioned, restricted, revoked or suspended, other disciplinary action taken, or any application for licensure or certification refused, revoked or suspended by any professional licensing authority of another state, territory or country? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please explain and attach any pertinent documents including copies of court records and settlement agreements.

Is there any disciplinary action pending against you by any licensing jurisdiction, the USDA, Drug Enforcement Agency, or any state or federal drug enforcement authority? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please explain and attach any pertinent documents including copies of court records and settlement agreements.

Have you ever been charged with or convicted (including a nolo contendere plea or guilty plea) of a felony or any criminal offense in any state or federal court (other than minor traffic violations) whether or not a sentence was imposed or suspended? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please explain and attach any pertinent documents including copies of court records and settlement agreements.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dates	Employer/Location	Supervisor/Address

PHOTOGRAPH

*A 2x2 passport type photograph taken within one year must be attached and embossed with an official notary seal or stamp. Attach your photo to the application form before it is notarized. **Part of the notary seal or stamp should be on the photo and part on the application form.***

Affix photo here.
Part of the notary seal or stamp should be on the photo and part on the application form.

NOTARIZED

This is to certify that the photograph is a correct likeness of the applicant.

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

Your notarized signature must accompany this application.

I, _____ hereby certify under oath or affirmation that I am the person named in the application. I swear/affirm that the contents of this application are true. All information contained in this application may be verified by the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy.

Applicant's Signature

Signed and sworn to before me this _____ Day of _____
(month) (year)

Notary Public