

CAPTE 2023 Second Quarter Newsletter

This second quarter newsletter contains information about changes to the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education's structure and program review process, transition to the expected 2024 Standards and Required Elements, COVID-19 guidance, and outcomes from the CAPTE spring 2023 meeting.

Spring 2023 Meeting Summary

The Commission acted on 257 programs. [Recent CAPTE actions](#) are listed on CAPTE's web site. Individuals wishing to make comment on a program seeking candidate for accreditation status, initial accreditation, reaffirmation of accreditation, or substantive change use the [instructions on how to provide comment](#) and the link to the list of upcoming program reviews.

New Commission Structure Adopted.

Commissioners voted to adopt a new structure changing from the current thirty-two member, three panel structure to a smaller decision-making body and PT and PTA program review committees that make accreditation recommendations to the decision-making body. The decision-making body will include members from education, higher education administration, public members, and a combination of PT and PTA educators and clinicians.

CAPTE formed a nominating committee comprised of current on-site reviewers to create a slate of candidates for a fall 2023 vote on the decision-making body as well as PT and PTA review committees. Current on-site reviewers who completed at least three on-site visits; demonstrated timely communication with programs, team members, and accreditation staff; used objective language related to current processes; followed CAPTE practices and procedures as outlined; and submitted timely reports are eligible to be slated for these CAPTE positions.

Paper and On-site Reviewer Opportunities.

Commissioners also voted to adopt a two-step program review process that includes a paper review and on-site review. This will replace the current three-person review process. Programs with on-site visits in 2023 will continue under the current three-person on-site visit team process. Accreditation staff will communicate more specific details with programs scheduled for 2024 initial and reaffirmation of accreditation visits or Candidacy accreditation visits.

CAPTE's change to a two-person paper and two-person on-site review process opens the opportunity for more individuals to become involved in the accreditation process. The review teams will consist of PT or PTA educators, PT or PTA clinicians, and non-PT or non-PTA faculty or higher education administrators working at an institution with allied health programs. The new review process makes space for faculty, directors of clinical education, and program directors to participate in the accreditation review process. Those seeking to participate as reviewers or committee members should contact [accreditation staff](#) for reviewer application materials.

CAPTE designed these changes to increase feedback to programs throughout the program review process and to increase opportunities for involvement in CAPTE.

CAPTE COVID-19 Guidance

With Congress and President Biden ending the National Emergency on April 11, 2023, all waivers for distance education delivery, minimum length and/or hours of full-time clinical education experiences, as well as breadth and depth of clinical placements, and curriculum sequence changes end. Programs are expected to demonstrate compliance with all CAPTE standards and rules by Oct. 8, 2023. Exceptions will carry through until graduation for students who are actively enrolled in the program as of April 11, 2023, unless the program chooses to return to its pre-COVID-19 policies and procedures for those students. Programs are expected to maintain appropriate documentation that supports their decisions and outcomes. Permanent program changes must follow the procedures for reporting and approval of program changes as outlined in Part 9 of CAPTE's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Standards Review and Transition to New Standards

The Standards and Required Elements Revision Group expects to complete the third and final draft of the revised PT Standards and Required Elements and the PTA Standards and Required Elements by early September 2023. The Commission is expected to vote on a final draft at the fall meeting. Look for the third draft to be posted on the [CAPTE web site](#) by Sept. 8. Final listening sessions for comment are scheduled for the first week in October.

PT Wednesday, Oct 4, at Noon ET

PT Session Zoom link:

<https://apta-org.zoom.us/j/81611634303?pwd=TzlaMXQ1N3lFelJKNnFLck1SaGpGdz09>

PTA Thursday, Oct. 5, at 1:00 p.m. ET

PTA Session Zoom link:

<https://apta-org.zoom.us/j/88570489447?pwd=bEhiS2JlMDdaNFp0V0NzRzIzBkZYdz09>

Accreditation staff established a 2024 Standards and Required Elements Transition Plan that includes a timetable on Page 4. Programs should review the Standards and Required Elements Transition Plan for the standards to which your program will write when submitting self-study reports, application for candidacy reports, compliance or progress reports, application for approval of substantive change, annual accreditation reports, and other CAPTE documents. Access the transition plan document at https://www.capteonline.org/faculty-and-program-resources/resource_documents/accreditation-handbook.

Annual Accreditation Reports and Annual Fees

2023 Annual Accreditation Reports and annual fees will be due Dec. 1. Look for invoices in the portal under "My Orders" after Sept. 7. Due to portal changes, accreditation staff will provide AAR instructions and portal training in early fall. More details are forthcoming on the AAR instructions and CAPTE portal.

Recently Held PTA and PT Town Hall Virtual Meetings

The PTA virtual town hall was held May 31 and the PT virtual town was held June 7.

Download videos from [CAPTE Accreditation Resource Documents](#).

Upcoming virtual sessions

- Workshops:
 - Developing program workshop: Sept.19, 21, 26
 - PTA self-study workshop: modules available through the APTA Learning Center. Corresponding live sessions will occur on Aug. 18 and Nov. 17.
 - PT self-study workshop: Sept. 13, 18, 20.
- CAPTE final Call for Comment virtual sessions:

PT SRE final draft comment session Oct. 4.

<https://apta-org.zoom.us/j/81611634303?pwd=TzlaMXQ1N3lFelJKNnFLck1SaGpGdz09>

PTA SRE final draft comment session on Oct. 5

<https://apta-org.zoom.us/j/88570489447?pwd=bEhiS2JlMDdaNFp0V0NzRzIzZbkZYdz09>

CAPTE's Instruction on CPI Transition in Collaboration With APTA

We've received a few questions about how the transition from CPI 2.0 to CPI 3.0 might affect your program's self-study or reporting, so we reached out to accreditation staff for their consultation. The response we received from accreditation was:

The Standard and Required Element 1C4 requires programs to "Provide evidence that each student who completed the program within the last year demonstrated entry-level clinical performance by the end of their last clinical education experience." For most programs with an upcoming Self-study Report, the narrative should include data from students/graduates who completed their clinical education experiences using the older version of the CPI to show that all students met entry-level performance. CAPTE understands programs will be transitioning to the newer version of the CPI and that programs require time to collect data using the new version.

For the narrative with outcomes to support compliance with the 7Ds, CAPTE will accept program assessment data from both versions of the CPI as the collective versions represent outcome measures for multiple years.

We hope you find this information helpful. If you have any questions, please contact [Doreen Stiskal](#), PT program manager, and [Sharan Zirges](#), PTA program manager.