



Commission on Accreditation
in Physical Therapy Education

**STANDARDS AND REQUIRED ELEMENTS FOR ACCREDITATION OF
PHYSICAL THERAPIST EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

(Adopted 10/31/2023)

Standard 1: PT

The program has established achievement measures and program outcomes related to its mission and goals.

Refer to the Glossary for CAPTE's definition wherever an asterisk (*) follows a term.

Required Elements

- 1A** The mission* of the program is written and compatible with the mission of the institution, with the unit(s) in which the program resides and with contemporary preparation* of physical therapists.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide the mission statements for the institution, the unit(s) in which the program resides, and the program.
- Describe the congruence of the program's mission statement with the institutions and unit(s) missions.
- Describe the consistency of the program's mission with the contemporary professional expectations for the preparation of physical therapists.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 1B** The program has documented goals* that are based on its mission and that reflect contemporary* physical therapist education, research, and practice.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide student, graduate,* faculty and program goals that are reflective of the program's stated mission and that contribute to the achievement of expected program outcomes.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 1C** The program meets required achievement measures.



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- 1C1** Graduation rates* are at least 80% averaged over two years. If the program admits more than one cohort per year, the two-year graduation rate for each cohort must be at least 80%. When two years of data are not available, the one-year graduation rate must be sufficient to allow the program to meet the expectation for a two-year graduation rate of at least 80%.

Evidence of Compliance

Portal fields:

- Provide graduation data for the most recent two years for which there is full data in the portal section titled Graduation Rate Data for the years identified on the portal (follow Self-Study Report instructions). Identify the number of cohorts admitted each year; data will be required for each cohort.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Only comment needed is to refer to the Graduation Rate Table.
- If outcomes fall below 80%, provide assessment in Standard 2.
- **For initial accreditation only:** Indicate that there are no graduates and provide the expected time frame to collect and analyze graduate data. Provide the Retention Rate Table (forms packet) as an appendix.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 1C2** Ultimate licensure pass rates* are at least 85%, averaged over two years. **Note:** The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy labels this “weighted average ultimate pass rate.” When two years of data are not available, the one-year ultimate pass rate must be sufficient to allow the program to meet the expectation for an ultimate two-year licensure pass rate* of at least 85%.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide the program’s most current licensure pass rate data available through FSBPT:
 - First-time pass rates for all cohorts who have graduated in the past two academic years.
 - Two-year ultimate pass rate based on the following data:
 - Number of graduates who took the exam at least once.
 - Number of graduates who passed the exam after all attempts.
 - If program graduates do not routinely take the National Physical Therapy Examination, provide equivalent data.
 - If outcomes fall below 85%, provide assessment in Standard 2.
- **For Initial accreditation only:** Identify that there are no graduates and provide the expected time frame to collect and analyze graduate data.



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1C3 Employment rates* **as a physical therapist** are at least 90%, averaged over two years. If the program admits more than one cohort per year, the two-year employment rate for each cohort must be at least 90%. When two years of data are not available, the one-year employment rate must be sufficient to allow the program to meet the expectation for a two-year employment rate of at least 90%.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide the two-year employment rate for the last two academic years for each cohort based on the number of graduates who sought employment as a physical therapist and the number of graduates employed within one year of graduation.
- If outcomes fall below 90%, provide assessment in Standard 2.
- **For initial accreditation only:** Indicate that there are no graduates and provide the expected time frame to collect and analyze graduate data.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms



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Standard 2: PT

The program is engaged in effective, on-going, formal, and comprehensive assessment and planning, for the purpose of program improvement to meet the current and projected needs of the program.

Required Elements

- 2A** The program has a written and ongoing strategic plan* that guides its future development. The strategic planning process takes into account program assessment, changes in higher education, the health care environment, and the nature of contemporary physical therapy practice.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe and analyze the strategic planning process, including the opportunities for stakeholder participation.
- Analyze how the process takes into account changes in higher education, the health care environment, and the nature of contemporary physical therapy practice.
- Describe any changes planned for the next three to five years based on the assessment.

For developing programs: The Application for Candidacy must include a written strategic plan.

Initial accreditation: The Self-Study Report should provide evidence of strategic plan implementation and analysis to date.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 2B** The program promotes a culture of justice,* equity,* diversity,* inclusivity* (or JEDI), belonging,* and anti-racism.*

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe how the program defines diversity as it relates to the program's mission and goals.
- Describe how the program's mission, goals, and outcomes promote a culture of JEDI, belonging, and anti-racism.

Final version: Adopted Oct. 2023



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- Provide two **total** examples of how the program incorporates JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism.*
- Describe the data collected, or that will be collected, to determine the extent to which the program promotes a culture of JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism.*
- Analyze the data collected, if available, to determine the extent to which the program promotes a culture of JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism.*
- Describe the program's opportunities and challenges as they relate to JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism* that have been identified through analysis of the data collected.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 2C** The program has documented and implemented ongoing, formal, and comprehensive program assessment processes designed to determine program effectiveness and foster program improvements that are aligned with the program mission, goals, and outcomes, and demonstrate contemporary practice.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide a description of the overall assessment process, which includes, but is not limited to, the areas outlined in Elements 2D1-2D7 and 2E that summarize the information in the program assessment matrix.
- Describe how the program's assessment processes are aligned with the mission and goals of the program and demonstrate contemporary practice.
- Describe the overall opportunities and challenges identified through analysis of cumulative assessment data. If other opportunities and challenges have been identified, describe them and provide the source of evidence that led to that determination.
- Describe **two** examples of change resulting from the assessment process within the last **four** years. For each example, describe the rationale for the change and describe the process, timeline, and results (if available) of reassessment to determine if the change resulted in program improvement.

Initial accreditation: The Self-Study Report should provide evidence of strategic plan implementation and analysis to date.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 2D** For each of the following, provide an analysis of data collected and the conclusions drawn to determine how the program's continuous assessment process meets the program mission, goals, outcomes, and needs.



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Initial accreditation: The Self-Study Report should provide evidence of strategic plan* implementation and analysis for 2D1-2D7.

2D1 The admissions process, criteria, and prerequisites meet the needs and expectations of the program.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the available resources that support the admissions process.
- Provide an analysis of data collected and the conclusions drawn to determine the extent to which the admission process, criteria, and prerequisites meet the needs and expectations of the program.
- If any student achievement (Elements 1C1 and 1C2) or expected program outcomes fall below the CAPTE-required or program-expected levels or if there is a downward trend, document the process used to assess and address the performance deficits. Identify data collected, describe conclusions reached, and describe or identify changes made related to the admissions process, criteria, prerequisites, and student support to address the findings or conclusions. Provide a timeline for implementation, including meeting the respective Element, and for reassessment of the effectiveness of changes.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

2D2 Program enrollment appropriately reflects available resources, program outcomes, and local, regional, and national workforce needs.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide an analysis of data collected and the conclusions drawn to determine the optimum program enrollment, considering resources, program outcomes, and local, regional, and national workforce needs.
- Identify data collected, student achievement and outcomes, and graduate outcomes to describe conclusions reached, and describe or identify changes made related to program enrollment to address the findings or conclusions.
- If changes have been made, provide a timeline for implementation, including meeting the respective Element, and for reassessment of the effectiveness of changes.
- If any student achievement (Elements 1C1 and 1C2) or expected program outcomes fall below the CAPTE-required or program-expected levels or if there is a downward trend, document the process used to assess and address the performance deficits. Identify data collected, describe conclusions reached, and describe or identify changes made related to the admissions process,



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criteria, prerequisites, and student support to address the findings or conclusions. Provide a timeline for implementation, including meeting the respective Element, and for reassessment of the effectiveness of changes.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 2D3** The collective core,* associated,* and clinical education faculty* possess the expertise to meet curricular needs and expected program outcomes.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe how the collective core, associated, and clinical education faculty is sufficient in number and expertise to meet all program and curricular needs and is aligned with the program outcomes related to **all** of the bullets below:
 - Student advising and mentorship.
 - Admissions and recruitment activities.
 - JEDI, belonging, and anti-racism.
 - Educational administration.
 - Curriculum development and student assessment.
 - Instructional design.
 - Associated faculty coordination.
 - Clinical education program coordination.
 - Shared program and institutional governance.
 - Clinical practice.
 - Evaluation of expected student outcomes.
- Analyze the data collected and the conclusions drawn to determine the extent to which the collective core and associated faculty meet curricular needs and expected program outcomes.
- Analyze the effectiveness of the faculty-to-student lab ratios in meeting program outcomes.
- Analyze the data collected and the conclusions drawn to determine the extent to which the clinical education faculty meet curricular needs and expected program outcomes.
- If any student achievement (Elements 1C1 and 1C2) or expected program outcomes fall below the CAPTE-required or program-expected levels or if there is a downward trend, document the process used to assess and address the performance deficits. Identify data collected, describe conclusions reached, and describe or identify changes made related to the admissions process, criteria, prerequisites, and student support to address the findings or conclusions. Provide a timeline for implementation, including meeting the respective Element, and for reassessment of the effectiveness of changes.

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2D4 Students demonstrate entry-level clinical performance during clinical education experiences prior to graduation.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the mechanisms used to determine entry-level performance of students during clinical education experiences prior to graduation.
- 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.
- If applicable, describe mechanisms utilized when CI assessment suggested less than entry-level performance and how the program managed each situation when a student did not meet entry-level clinical performance.
- If any student achievement (Elements 1C1 and 1C2) or expected program outcomes fall below the CAPTE-required or program-expected levels or if there is a downward trend, document the process used to assess and address the performance deficits. Identify data collected, describe conclusions reached, and describe or identify changes made related to the admissions process, criteria, prerequisites, and student support to address the findings or conclusions. Provide a timeline for implementation, including meeting the respective Element, and for reassessment of the effectiveness of changes.

Initial accreditation: Indicate that students have not yet completed their last clinical education experience and provide the expected time frame to collect and analyze this data.

Note: The program will be required to provide additional information prior to CAPTE's initial accreditation decision; please refer to Part 8 of CAPTE's Rules of Practice and Procedures, accessible at www.capteonline.org, for detailed information about what must be provided and the timing of the request.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

2D5 Program graduates* (post-degree conferral) meet the expected outcomes as defined by the program.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- For each program graduate goal, list the expected outcomes that support the goal.
- For each outcome, provide the expected level of achievement and describe the process the program uses to determine if the expectation has been met.



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- Analyze data collected from graduates and their employers to determine the extent to which the graduates meet the program's expected graduate outcomes.
- If the program has more than one cohort, provide an analysis for each cohort.
- If any student achievement (Elements 1C1 and 1C2) or expected program outcomes fall below the CAPTE-required or program-expected levels or if there is a downward trend, document the process used to assess and address the performance deficits. Identify data collected, describe conclusions reached, and describe or identify changes made related to the admissions process, criteria, prerequisites, and student support to address the findings or conclusions. Provide a timeline for implementation, including meeting the respective Element, and for reassessment of the effectiveness of changes.

Initial accreditation: Indicate that there are no graduates, provide a response to the first two bullets, and provide the expected time frame to collect and analyze graduate data.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

2D6 Program resources are meeting, and will continue to meet, current and projected program needs including financial resources, administrative support staff and technology support staff, space, equipment, technology, instruction materials, library and learning resources, and student services.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe **each** program resource and analyze data collected to determine the extent to which **each** resource is meeting, and will continue to meet, current and projected program needs including:
 - Financial resources:
 - Financial resources are adequate to achieve the program's stated mission, goals, and expected program outcomes and to support the academic integrity and continuing viability of the program.
 - Portal fields:
 - Provide three years of allocations and expense data in the portal section titled **Income Statement**. Data must be provided for the academic year of the visit, the previous academic year, and projected data for the next academic year. The form, Allocations and Expense Statements, can be used to collect the required data.
 - Administrative assistant staff and technology support personnel:
 - The program has, or has ensured access to, adequate administrative assistant(s) and technical support services to meet expected program outcomes.



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- Describe and analyze the adequate administrative assistant(s) and technical support available to the program, including the administrative assistant support available for the clinical education program.
- Space
 - Space is sufficient for faculty and staff offices, student advising, conducting confidential meetings, storing office equipment and documents, and securing confidential materials.
 - Describe and analyze the adequacy of faculty and staff office spaces to facilitate student advising, confidential meetings, office equipment, documents storage, and confidential materials security.
 - Classroom and laboratory environments support effective teaching and learning.
 - Describe and analyze how the space is supportive of effective teaching and learning: access to current technology, access to safety features, good repair, cleanliness, temperature control, etc.
 - Students have access to laboratory space outside of scheduled class time for practice of clinical skills.
 - Describe and analyze the adequacy of student access to laboratories for practice outside of scheduled class time.
 - Core faculty* have access to sufficient space and equipment to fulfill their scholarly agendas.
 - Describe and analyze the adequacy of equipment and space needs of each core faculty member to facilitate their scholarly agendas.
- Equipment
 - Equipment and materials are typical of those used in contemporary physical therapy practice, are sufficient in number, are in safe working order, and are available when needed.
 - Describe and analyze the adequacy of equipment and materials available, including equipment and supplies that reflect contemporary physical therapy practice.
 - Describe the process used to ensure that equipment is in safe working order.
 - Describe access to equipment being borrowed/loaned or used off-site; describe the contingency plan should borrowed/loaned equipment not be available for remediation and testing.
- Technology
 - Technology resources meet the needs of the program.
 - Describe and analyze the adequacy of the available instructional technology.
- Instruction materials, library and learning resources and student services.



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- The resources of the institutional library system and related learning resource centers are adequate to support the needs and meet the goals of the program, faculty, and students.
- Describe and analyze the adequacy and accessibility of the library resources, including the technological resources, and related learning resource centers available to the program faculty and students.
- If any student achievement (Elements 1C1 and 1C2) or expected program outcomes fall below the CAPTE-required or program-expected levels or if there is a downward trend, document the process used to assess and address the performance deficits. Identify data collected, describe conclusions reached, and describe or identify changes made related to the admissions process, criteria, prerequisites, and student support to address the findings or conclusions. Provide a timeline for implementation, including meeting the respective Element, and for reassessment of the effectiveness of changes.

2D7 Program policies and procedures, as well as relevant institutional policies and procedures, meet program needs. This includes analysis of the extent to which program practices adhere to policies and procedures.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide an analysis of the information collected and the conclusions drawn to determine the extent to which program policies and procedures, as well as relevant institutional policies and procedures, meet program needs. This includes analysis of the extent to which practices adhere to policies and procedures.
- If any student achievement (Elements 1C1 and 1C2) or expected program outcomes fall below the CAPTE-required or program-expected levels or if there is a downward trend, document the process used to assess and address the performance deficits. Identify data collected, describe conclusions reached, and describe or identify changes made related to the admissions process, criteria, prerequisites, and student support to address the findings or conclusions. Provide a timeline for implementation, including meeting the respective Element, and for reassessment of the effectiveness of changes.

2D8 The clinical sites available to the Program are sufficient to provide the quality, quantity, and variety of expected experiences to prepare students for their roles and responsibilities as physical therapists.

Evidence of Compliance



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Narrative:

- Describe the process used by the Program to determine that the clinical education sites of experiences for the students are consistent with the goals of the clinical education portion of the curriculum and with the objectives of the individual clinical education course in the curriculum.
- Describe how the Program ensures a sufficient number and variety of clinical education sites to support the goals of the clinical education portion of the curriculum and to meet the objectives of the individual clinical education courses in the curriculum.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 2D9** There are effective written agreements between the institution and the clinical education sites that are current and describe the rights and responsibilities of both parties. At a minimum, agreements address the purpose of the agreement; the objectives of the institution and the clinical education site in establishing the agreement; the rights and responsibilities of the institution and the clinical education site, including those related to responsibility for patient and client care and to responsibilities for supervision and evaluation of students; and the procedures to be followed in reviewing, revising, and terminating the agreement.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Briefly describe the provisions of the clinical education contracts used by the program.
- Describe how the program maintains the currency of written agreements with clinical education sites.
- Describe the process used to ensure that there are current written agreements between the institution and the clinical education sites.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 2E** The curriculum assessment plan is written and addresses the curriculum as a whole. The assessment plan includes assessment of individual courses and clinical education. The plan incorporates consideration of the dynamic nature of the profession and the health care delivery system. Assessment data are collected from appropriate stakeholders including, at a minimum, program faculty, current students, graduates of the program and at least one other stakeholder group such as employers of graduates, consumers of physical therapist services, peers, or other health care professionals. Clinical education assessment includes, at a minimum, the quality, quantity, variety of sites, and the appropriate length and placement within the curriculum to prepare students for their roles and responsibilities as physical therapists.



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Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Identify the stakeholders from whom data is collected, the method(s) used to collect data, and the timing of the collection.
- Describe how the curriculum assessment process considers the dynamic nature of the profession and the health care delivery system.
- Provide evidence that student achievement (Elements 1C1 and 1C2) is used to assess the curriculum.
- Provide evidence that graduate* outcomes (Element 1C3) are used to assess the curriculum.
- Provide evidence that the curricular assessment includes a review of the required elements in Elements 6A through 6H.
- Provide a summary and analysis of the outcomes from the most recent curriculum assessment, including clinical education.
- Describe how the clinical education component is assessed, including, at a minimum, an assessment of the quality, quantity, and variety of clinical sites and the appropriate length and placement within the curriculum to prepare students for their roles and responsibilities as physical therapists.
- Describe **two** curricular changes, including changes to clinical education, in response to the summary and analysis made within the last four years.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms



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Standard 3: PT

The institution and program operate with integrity. Integrity is the consistent and equitable implementation of policies and procedures (institution, program, and CAPTE), with demonstrated focus on quality assurance and improvement.

Required Elements

- 3A** The sponsoring institution(s) is authorized under applicable law* or other acceptable authority to provide postsecondary education and has degree-granting authority. In addition, the institution has been approved by appropriate state authorities to provide the physical therapist education program.

Evidence of Compliance

Upload evidence of the following:

- Identify the jurisdiction's agency from which the institution has authority to offer the program and award the degree.
- If the institution is in a collaborative arrangement with another institution to award degrees, provide the above for the degree-granting institution.
- Indicate if the institution has authorization to provide clinical education experiences in other states, where required.
- If the program utilizes distance education,* indicate that the institution has authorization to provide distance education* in other states, where required.

Note: States and institutions that are recognized by the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement meet the conditions related to distance education* and clinical education experiences.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 3B** The sponsoring institution(s) is accredited by an agency or association recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

Evidence of Compliance

Upload evidence of the following:



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- For the degree-granting institution, provide the accrediting agency name and the date that the current institutional accreditation status was granted.
- Provide documentation that the institution is in good standing. If sanctions, warning, probation, show cause, or pending termination have been issued by the accrediting agency, provide a narrative explaining the reasons for the accreditation status and the impact on the program.
- If in a collaborative arrangement, provide the above for the degree-granting institution.
- For institutions in countries other than the United States that are not accredited by an agency or association recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation:
 - Identify the agency or agencies that provide the authorization for the institution to provide (1) postsecondary education; and (2) the professional physical therapy program and indicate the dates such authorization was received. Provide contact information, including address, phone number, and email address.
 - State the institution's current accreditation status or provide documentation of a regular external review of the institution that includes the quality of its operation, the adequacy of its resources to conduct programs in professional education, and its ability to continue its level of operation.
 - Provide evidence that the accrediting agency fulfills functions similar to those agencies or associations recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. If the institution has an accreditation or external review status other than full accreditation of approval, describe the impact, if any, of the current institutional status on the program.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 3C** Institutional policies related to academic standards support academic and professional judgments of the physical therapist program core faculty.* The core faculty determine student progression through all stages of the program.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide institutional policies and practices that allow for faculty to employ academic freedom when making decisions.
- Describe how the institution supports the professional judgment of the program faculty regarding academic regulations and professional behavior expectations of students.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 3D** Policies and procedures exist to facilitate equal opportunity and nondiscrimination for faculty, staff, prospective and enrolled students, and the public (i.e., vendors, standardized patients, other visitors).



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Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide the institution's equal opportunity and nondiscrimination statement(s).
- Describe how the nondiscrimination statement and policy are made available to faculty, staff, prospective and enrolled students, and the public (i.e., vendors, standardized patients, other visitors).

Appendices and On-site Material: See SSR Instructions and Forms

- 3E** Policies, procedures, and practices that affect the rights, responsibilities, safety, privacy, and dignity of program faculty and staff are written, disseminated, and applied consistently and equitably.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide institutional and program policies, procedures, and practices that affect the rights, responsibilities, safety, privacy, and dignity of program faculty and staff.
- Describe how the program policies, procedures, and practices are made available to faculty and staff.
- Provide evidence that the core faculty workloads are within the defined institutional and program workload policies.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 3F** Program specific policies and procedures are compatible with institutional policies and with applicable law.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe how the program policies and procedures are compatible with applicable law* and regulations for both state and federal.
- List the program-specific policies and procedures that differ from those of the institution (e.g., admissions procedures, grading policies, policies for progression through the program, policies related to clinical education, faculty workload policies) and describe how the policies and procedures differ and why.
- Describe how institutional approval is obtained for program policies and procedures that differ from those of the institution.



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- 3G** Policies, procedures, and practices exist for handling complaints, including a prohibition of retaliation following submission of a complaint. The policies are written, disseminated, and applied consistently and equitably. Records of complaints about the program, including the nature of the complaint and the disposition of the complaint, are maintained by the program.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide the relevant institutional or program policy and procedure that addresses handling complaints (e.g., complaints from prospective and enrolled students, faculty, staff, clinical education sites, employers of graduates, the general public).
 - This institutional or program policy and procedure should include the prohibition of retaliation.
- Describe how the policies are disseminated and applied consistently and equitably.
- Describe how the policies and procedures for handling complaints are made available to internal and external stakeholders.
- Describe how the stakeholder would file a complaint.
- Provide the URL from the program or institutional website where policies for handling complaints are located.
- Describe how the records of complaints are, or would be, maintained by the program.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms



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Standard 4: PT

The program faculty are qualified for their roles and effective in carrying out their responsibilities.

Required Elements

Individual Academic Faculty*

- 4A** Each core faculty* member has doctoral preparation,* contemporary expertise* in assigned teaching areas, and demonstrated effectiveness in teaching and evaluation of student learning. In addition, core faculty* who are physical therapists hold an active, unencumbered PT license in any United States jurisdiction and are in compliance with the state practice act in the jurisdiction where the program is located. For CAPTE-accredited programs outside the United States, core faculty who are PTs are licensed or regulated in accordance with their country's regulations. **(Proviso:** CAPTE began enforcing the requirement for doctoral preparation of all core faculty effective Jan. 1, 2020, except for individuals who were enrolled in an academic doctoral degree* program on that date, in which case the effective date will be extended to Dec. 31, 2025; this will be monitored in the Annual Accreditation Report).

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Provide a brief statement describing the jurisdictional requirements for faculty engaging in teaching and scholarship in the jurisdiction where the program is located. Include URL, verification, or other evidence.
- The only additional response needed in the 4A text box is to refer to the Core Faculty Detail Section for each core faculty member.*

Portal fields are on the Core Faculty Information page.

- In completing the Qualifications box on this portal page:
 - Identify each core faculty's doctoral preparation.*
 - Describe the individual's effectiveness in **both** teaching and evaluation of student learning. (e.g., peer evaluations, student evaluations).
 - For core faculty who are PTs, identify if each holds an active, unencumbered PT license in any United States jurisdiction and in compliance with the state practice act in the jurisdiction where the program is located.



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(Adopted 10/31/2023)

- Identify teaching assignments by prefix, number, and title, and indicate content assigned and role in course.
- Provide evidence of the individual's contemporary expertise* specific to assigned teaching content in the DPT program. This evidence **may** include:
- Education (including post-professional academic work, residency, fellowship, and continuing education).
- Clinical expertise specifically related to teaching areas (e.g., certification as a clinical specialist, residency, fellowship).
- Consultation and service related to teaching areas.
- Course materials that reflect the level and scope of contemporary knowledge and skills (e.g., course objectives, examinations, assignments, readings/references, learning experiences).
- Other evidence that demonstrates contemporary expertise, for example:
 - Scholarship (publications, grant activities, and presentations related to teaching areas).
 - Written evidence of evaluation of course materials by a content expert.
 - Independent study and evidence-based review that results in critical appraisal and in-depth knowledge of subject matter (include description of resources used and time frame for study).
 - Formal mentoring (include description of experiences, time frame, and qualifications of mentor).

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Student Report Instructions and Forms

The program director will attest that each core faculty member who is a physical therapist (by name) is within the guidelines and requirements of the practice act in the jurisdiction where the program is located.

- 4B** Each core faculty member has a well-defined, ongoing scholarly agenda* that reflects contributions to the profession and is aligned with the mission of the institution.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Briefly describe how each core faculty's scholarly agenda is aligned with the institution's mission.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

Required Faculty Scholarship Form has been modified to indicate that a minimum of five and a maximum of 10 peer-reviewed products in the last 10 years should be listed-



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- 4C** Each core faculty member has a record of institutional and/or professional service* that is consistent with the institution's mission and expectations and with the program's mission and goals.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the institution's mission and expectations as they relate to faculty service.
- Describe the program's mission and goals as they relate to faculty service.
- Describe how each core faculty member's service activities align with and contribute to the institution's mission and expectations and to the program's mission and goals.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 4D** Each associated faculty* member has contemporary expertise in assigned teaching areas and demonstrated effectiveness **both** in teaching and in evaluation of student learning.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- For each associated faculty member who is involved in **less than 50%** of the contact hours of a course, provide the following information:
 - Name and credentials.
 - Content taught.
 - Applicable course number(s) and title(s).
 - Total contact hours.
 - Source(s) of contemporary expertise specifically related to assigned responsibilities.
- For associated faculty who are involved in **50% or more** of the contact hours of the course, including lab assistants in courses where they are responsible for working with students for 50% or more of lab contact hours, the only response needed in the 4D text box is to refer the reader to the Associated Faculty Detail Section for each associated faculty member.

Portal fields are on the Associated Faculty Information page.

- In completing the Qualifications box on this portal page:
 - Describe the individual's effectiveness **both** in teaching and in evaluation of student learning.
 - Associated faculty who are PTs hold an active, unencumbered PT license in a United States jurisdiction and are in compliance with the practice act in the jurisdiction where the program is located.
 - Identify teaching assignments by prefix, number, and title, and indicate content assigned and role in course.



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- Provide evidence of the individual's contemporary expertise* specific to assigned teaching content. This evidence can include:
 - Education (including post-professional academic work, residency, fellowship, and continuing education).
 - Clinical expertise specifically related to teaching areas (e.g., certification as a clinical specialist, residency, fellowship).
 - Consultation and service related to teaching areas.
 - Course materials that reflect the level and scope of contemporary knowledge and skills (e.g., course objectives, examinations, assignments, readings/references, learning experiences).
- Other evidence that demonstrates contemporary expertise, for example:
 - Scholarship (publications, grant activities, and presentations related to teaching areas).
 - Written evidence of evaluation of course materials by a content expert.
 - Independent study and evidence-based review that results in critical appraisal and in-depth knowledge of subject matter (include description of resources used and time frame for study).
 - Formal mentoring (include description of experiences, time frame, and qualifications of mentor).

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 4E** Formal evaluation of each core faculty member occurs in a manner and timeline consistent with applicable institutional policy. The evaluation includes assessments of teaching, scholarly activity and service, and any additional responsibilities. The evaluation results in an organized faculty development plan that is linked to the assessment of the individual core faculty member and to program improvement.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the faculty evaluation process, including how it addresses teaching, service, scholarship, and any additional responsibilities.
- Provide a recent (within the past **three** years) example for **each** core faculty of faculty development activities that have been based on needs of the faculty and for program improvement.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 4F** Evaluation of associated faculty occurs and results in a plan to address identified needs.



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Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the process used to determine the associated faculty development needs, individually and, when appropriate, collectively.
- Provide **two** examples within the past three years of development activities used by the program to address identified needs of associated faculty. (Note: CAPTE does not require that **each** associated faculty member participate in a development activity in the past three years. This requirement pertains to the aggregate of associated faculty).

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

Program Director*

- 4G** The program director demonstrates the academic and professional qualifications and relevant experience in higher education requisite for providing effective leadership for the program, the program faculty, and the students. These qualifications include **all** of the following:
- Is a physical therapist who holds an active, unencumbered PT license in any United States jurisdiction and is in compliance with the practice act in the jurisdiction where the program is located. For CAPTE-accredited programs outside the United States, the program director is licensed or regulated as a PT in accordance with their country's regulations.
 - Has earned an academic doctoral degree or previous CAPTE-granted exemption.
 - Holds the rank of associate professor, professor, clinical associate professor, or clinical professor.
 - Has a minimum of six years of full-time* higher education experience, with a minimum of three years of full-time experience as a core faculty member in a CAPTE-accredited entry-level physical therapist education program.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe how the program director meets **all** of the following qualifications:
 - Holds an active, unencumbered PT license in any United States jurisdiction and is in compliance with the state practice act in the jurisdiction where the program is located.
 - Has an earned academic doctoral degree or previous CAPTE-granted exemption.
 - Has the rank of associate professor, professor, clinical associate professor, or clinical professor.
 - Has a minimum of six years of full-time higher education experience, with a minimum of three years of full-time experience as a core faculty member in a CAPTE-accredited entry-level physical therapist education program.



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- Has experience/professional development/education in administration, management, and leadership. Experience and professional development derived from the clinic is acceptable.
- Professional development and/or education in **all** of the following: educational theory and methodology, instructional design, student evaluation, and outcome assessment.
- Has experience in fiscal management. Experience derived from the clinic is acceptable.
- Has experience or formal training in program evaluation, assessment, and curriculum development.
- Is familiar with CAPTE accreditation requirements and has experience with other accreditation and/or regulatory agencies. Experience derived from the clinic is acceptable.
- Has prior engagement at the academy/academic institutional level (i.e., faculty senate).

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 4H** The program director provides effective leadership for the program, including responsibility for communication, program assessment and planning, fiscal management, and faculty evaluation/professional development.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the effectiveness of the mechanisms used by the program director to communicate with program faculty and other individuals and departments (e.g., admissions, library), involved with the program.
- Describe the effectiveness of the mechanisms used by the program director to communicate with external stakeholders (e.g., advisory board, community partners, clinical faculty) involved with the program.
- Describe the responsibility, role, and effectiveness of the program director for assessment and planning.
- Describe how the workload allocates sufficient time for administrative responsibilities.
- Describe the responsibility, role, and effectiveness of the program director in fiscal planning and allocation of resources, including long-term planning.
- Describe the responsibility, role, and effectiveness of the program director for faculty evaluations/professional development.
- Describe the effectiveness of the program director in promoting a culture of JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism* as they relate to faculty, staff, students, and other stakeholders.
- Describe the process used to assess the program director as an effective leader.
- Provide **two** examples within the last five years of effective leadership, which **may** relate to:
 - A vision for physical therapist professional education.
 - Understanding of and experience with curriculum content, design, and evaluation.
 - Employing strategies to promote and support professional development.



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- Proven effective interpersonal and conflict management skills.
- Ability to facilitate change.
- Negotiation skills (relative to planning, budgeting, funding, program faculty status, program status, employment and termination, space, and appropriate academic and professional benefits).
- Effective experience in strategic planning.
- Active service on behalf of physical therapy professional education, higher education, the larger community, and organizations related to their academic interest.
- Effective management of human and fiscal resources.
- Commitment to lifelong learning.
- Active role in institutional governance.
- Program accomplishments (describe).

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 4I** The program director has **appropriate** decision-making authority over the financial/budgetary resources to achieve the program's stated mission, goals, and expected program outcomes and to support the academic integrity and continuing viability of the program.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the mechanisms that are in place for participation in shared decision-making processes between the program director and the institution, to ensure that the program director has **appropriate** decision-making authority over the financial/budgetary resources related to the program.
- Describe the mechanisms that are in place for the program director to receive feedback from the institution (i.e., chair, dean, provost) regarding the input the program director provides in the shared decision-making process.
- Describe the responsibility and effectiveness of the program director in fiscal planning and allocation of resources, including long-term planning of the program.
- Describe the program director's role in financial management of the program, including:
 - Input into tuition rates and fee structures related to the program.
 - Input into financial aid processes as related to the program.
 - Input into program expense decisions related to personnel.
 - Input into program expense decisions external to personnel (e.g., equipment, supplies).
 - Input into the size of the program cohort and number of cohorts.
 - The ability to advocate for additional resources where appropriate.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms



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- 4J** The program director is responsible for compliance with accreditation policies and procedures. Program policies, procedures, and practices provide for compliance with the accreditation policies and procedures including:
- **4J1** Maintenance of accurate information, easily accessible to the public, on the program website regarding accreditation status (including CAPTE logo and required accreditation statement), and current student achievement measures.
 - **4J2** Timely submission of required fees and documentation, including reports of graduation rates, performance on state licensing examinations, and employment rates.
 - **4J3** Following policies and procedures of CAPTE as outlined in the CAPTE Rules of Practice and Procedure.
 - **4J4** Timely notification of expected or unexpected substantive change(s) within the program and of any change in institutional accreditation status or legal authority to provide postsecondary education.
 - **4J5** Coming into compliance with accreditation Standards and Required Elements within two years of being determined to be out of compliance.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- If one or more of these activities have been delegated to include another individual by the program director, identify the individual(s).

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

Director of Clinical Education*

- 4K** The director of clinical education is a physical therapist who holds an active, unencumbered PT license in any United States jurisdiction and is in compliance with the practice act in the jurisdiction where the program is located and has a minimum of three years of full-time post-licensure clinical practice. Two years of clinical practice must include experience as a site coordinator of clinical education or clinical instructor in physical therapy, or a minimum of two years of experience in teaching, curriculum development, and administration in a physical therapist education program. For CAPTE-accredited programs outside the United States, the clinical education coordinator is licensed or regulated in accordance with their country's regulations.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Identify the core faculty member(s) who is (are) designated as the director of clinical education. If this individual has a different title in your program, describe it.



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- If more than one core faculty member is assigned as a director of clinical education, describe the role and responsibilities of each.
- Describe how the director of clinical education meets the following qualifications:
 - Has doctoral preparation.
 - Holds an active, unencumbered PT license in any United States jurisdiction and is in compliance with the practice act in the jurisdiction where the program is located.
 - Has a minimum of three years of full-time (or equivalent) post-licensure clinical practice.
 - Has a minimum of two years of clinical practice as an SCCE or CI or two years of experience in teaching, curriculum development, and administration in a physical therapy education program.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 4L** The director of clinical education is effective in clinical teaching and mentoring, and in developing, conducting, and coordinating the clinical education program.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the effectiveness of the director of clinical education(s) in planning, developing, coordinating, and facilitating the clinical education program, including effectiveness in:
 - Organizational, interpersonal, problem-solving, and counseling skills.
 - Working with clinical education faculty* (SCCEs and CIs) to address the diverse learning needs of the students.
- Describe how the director of clinical education fosters a culture that promotes JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism* in the clinical environment.
- Describe the process used to inform students and clinical faculty in the program's nondiscrimination policies and to monitor adherence to these policies during clinical education experiences.
- Describe the mechanisms used to communicate information about clinical education with core faculty, clinical education sites, clinical education faculty (SCCEs and CIs), and students:
 - Describe how the clinical education faculty are informed of their responsibilities.
 - Describe the process used to monitor that the academic regulations are upheld.
 - Describe the methods used to assign students to clinical education experiences.
 - Describe how the program works to ensure that the supervision and feedback provided to students are appropriate for each student in each clinical education experience.
 - Describe how the need for an altered level of clinical supervision and feedback is determined, communicated to the clinical education faculty, and monitored during the experience.
 - Describe the mechanism used to provide clinical teaching and mentoring to clinical faculty.
 - Has a workload that allows sufficient release time for administrative responsibilities.



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Collective Academic Faculty

- 4M** The collective core and associated faculty include an effective blend of individuals with doctoral preparation (including at least 50% of core faculty with an academic doctoral degree*) and individuals with clinical specialization sufficient to meet program goals and expected program outcomes as related to program mission, institutional expectations, and assigned program responsibilities. **A DPT, either entry-level or post-professional, does not, by itself, meet the 50% requirement. Note:** The 50% requirement can also be fulfilled by the following: a minimum of 40% of the core faculty **have completed** an academic doctoral degree, and 10% of the core faculty **are actively enrolled** in an academic doctoral degree program. For programs with 10 or fewer core faculty, a maximum of one core faculty member may count for the 10% exception.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Indicate the percentage of core faculty who hold an academic doctoral degree.
- Indicate if any core faculty are actively enrolled in an academic doctoral degree. Identify name, where they are enrolled, and their expected date of degree completion.
- Describe the blend of clinical specialization within the core and associated faculty in the program.
- Describe the effectiveness of the blend to meet program goals and expected outcomes of the program's mission and the institutional expectations related to assigned teaching, scholarship, and service.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 4N** The collective core faculty hold primary responsibility (in collaboration with appropriate communities of interest) for initiating, adopting, evaluating, and upholding academic regulations specific to the program and compatible with institutional policies, procedures, and practices. The regulations address:
- Admission requirements.
 - Grading policy.
 - Minimum performance levels, including those relating to professional and ethical behaviors.
 - Student progression through the program.
 - Development, review, and revision of the curriculum with input from other appropriate communities of interest.

Evidence of Compliance

Final version: Adopted Oct. 2023



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(Adopted 10/31/2023)

Narrative:

- Describe the process by which academic regulations specific to the program are developed, adopted, and evaluated by the core faculty.
- Describe the responsibility of the core faculty for the development, review, and revision of the curriculum plan.
- Provide two examples within the past five years of involvement by communities of interest in curriculum development, review, and revision.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 4O** The collective core faculty are responsible for ensuring that students are professional, competent, safe, and ready to progress to clinical education.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the processes and criteria used by the core faculty to determine that students are professional, competent, and safe in the skills identified by the core faculty and that the students are ready to engage in clinical education.
- Describe how the program ensures that critical safety elements are identified in the competency testing process.
- Describe what happens if a student is found to not be safe and ready to progress to clinical education.
- Describe the mechanisms used to communicate to students and clinical education faculty the specific skills in which students must be competent and safe.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms

Clinical Education Faculty*

- 4P** Clinical education faculty are licensed physical therapists, with a minimum of one year of full-time (or equivalent) post-licensure clinical experience and are effective role models and clinical teachers.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe how the program determines that clinical instructors are meeting the expectations of this element, including:
 - The program's expectations for the clinical competence of CIs.
 - The program's expectations for clinical teaching effectiveness of CIs.



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- How the clinical education sites are informed of these expectations.
- How these expectations are monitored.
- Identify the assessment tool(s) used during clinical education experiences and describe how CIs are trained in the appropriate use of the tool(s).
- Describe how the program determines that the tool used for the evaluation of student performance in the clinical setting has been completed correctly.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self Study Report Instructions and Forms



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(Adopted 10/31/2023)

Standard 5: PT

The program recruits, admits, and graduates students using equitable program policies, procedures, and practices.

Required Elements

- 5A** The program has written policies, procedures, and practices that are related to student **recruitment** and **admission** and are based on appropriate and equitable criteria and applicable law and meet the needs of the program.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Identify where all program policies, procedures, and practices related to student recruitment and admission are located.
- Describe how program policies, procedures, and practices recruit and admit students that are consistent with the mission and goals of the institution and program.
- Describe how the program supports JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism* through its recruitment and admissions policies, procedures, and/or practices.
- Describe how the program policies, procedures, and practices maintain planned class size and identify related policies to prevent overenrollment.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 5B** Prospective and enrolled students are provided with relevant information about the institution and program. Materials related to the institution and program are accurate, comprehensive, current, and provided to students in a timely manner.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe how and when the following information is provided to prospective and enrolled students:
 - Catalogs.
 - Recruitment and admissions information, including admissions criteria, transfer of credit policies, and any special considerations used in the process.
 - Academic calendars.



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- Grading policies.
- Technical standards or essential functions, if used.
- Acceptance and matriculation rates.
- Student outcomes including, but not limited to, the most current two-year data available for graduation rates, employment rates, and first-time and ultimate pass rates on licensing examinations.
- Costs of the program including tuition, institutional fees, programs fees, course fees, clinical education, and refund policies.
- Student Financial Fact Sheet.
- Information and/or resources related to student debt.
- Availability of financial aid.
- Enrollment agreement*, if used.
- Process for filing a complaint with CAPTE.
- Job/career opportunities.
- Availability of student services.
- Health and professional liability insurance requirements.
- Information about the curriculum.
- Information about the clinical education program requirements, including travel expectations to clinical sites.
- Required health information.
- Potential for other clinical education requirements, such as drug testing and criminal background checks.
- Access to and responsibility for the cost of emergency services during off-campus educational experiences.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 5C** The program has written policies, procedures, and practices that address the **rights, responsibilities, safety, privacy, and dignity of program students** and are applied consistently and equitably as students progress through the program.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Identify where all program policies, procedures, and practices that address the rights, responsibilities, safety, privacy, and dignity of the students are located.
- Describe how program policies and procedures that affect students are disseminated to students and program faculty.
- Describe how the program supports JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism* through its program policies, procedures, and/or practices that address the rights, responsibilities, safety, privacy, and dignity of program students.



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- 5D** The program has written policies, procedures, and practices that address **remediation** and **dismissal** while optimizing student success and retention. Remediation, retention, and dismissal policies, procedures, and practices are based on appropriate and equitable criteria and applicable law.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Identify where all program policies, procedures, and practices related to student remediation, retention, and dismissal are located.
- Describe the mechanism by which students receive regular reports of academic and clinical performance and progress:
 - Describe the program policies, procedures, and practices that relate to remediation, retention, and dismissal when unsafe practices are identified and/or knowledge, skills, and/or abilities are deficient.
 - Describe how the program supports JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism* through its program policies, procedures, and/or practices related to remediation, retention, and dismissal.
 - Describe the resources available to support and optimize student success for those students that require remediation and/or are at risk of dismissal.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 5E** Enrollment agreements,* if used, comply with institutional accrediting agency and state requirements and are only executed with a prospective student after disclosure of the information delineated in 5B and formal admission to the program has occurred.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Identify whether enrollment agreements are used.
- If used:
 - Provide evidence that the agreements are consistent across enrollees for a given cohort.
 - Describe the institutional accrediting agency and state requirements for using enrollment agreements and explain how the current agreement complies with these requirements.
 - Indicate when in the enrollment process the student is required to sign the agreement.
- Provide evidence that, prior to having to sign the enrollment agreement, prospective students are provided with:
 - Catalogs.
 - Recruitment and admissions information, including admissions criteria, transfer of credit policies, and any special considerations used in the process.



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- Academic calendars.
- Grading policies.
- Technical standards or essential functions, if used.
- Acceptance and matriculation rates.
- Student outcomes including, but not limited to, the most current two-year data available for graduation rates, employment rates, and first-time and ultimate pass rates on licensing examinations.
- Costs of the program including tuition, institutional fees, programs fees, course fees, clinical education, and refund policies.
- Student Financial Fact Sheet.
- Information and/or resources related to student debt.
- Availability of financial aid.
- Enrollment agreement, if used.
- Process for filing a complaint with CAPTE.
- Job/career opportunities.
- Availability of student services.
- Health and professional liability insurance requirements.
- Information about the curriculum.
- Information about the clinical education program requirements, including travel expectations to clinical sites.
- Required health information.
- Potential for other clinical education requirements, such as drug testing and criminal background checks.
- Access to and responsibility for the cost of emergency services during off-campus educational experiences.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms



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(Adopted 10/31/2023)

Standard 6: PT

The program has a comprehensive curriculum plan.

Required Elements

- 6A** The comprehensive curriculum plan includes the didactic and clinical education components of the curriculum. It is based on information about the contemporary practice of physical therapy; standards of practice; current literature, documents, publications, and other resources related to the profession, to the delivery of health care services, to physical therapy education, and to educational theory; and the mission of the program.
1. The curriculum includes the didactic and clinical portions of the DPT program. The entire curriculum consists of a minimum of 96 weeks (of instruction completed in a minimum of six semesters or the equivalent). The clinical education portion includes a minimum of 30 weeks of full-time clinical education experiences, based on a minimum of 32 hours/week.
 2. Upon satisfactory completion of the program the institution awards/confers the doctor of physical therapy, or DPT as the entry-level degree for physical therapists.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe how the curriculum plan is based on information about the contemporary practice of physical therapy; standards of practice; and current literature, documents, publications, and other resources related to the profession, to physical therapy professional education, and to educational theory.
- Describe how the curriculum plan relates to the mission of the program.
- Identify the length of the program in semesters (or equivalent) and in semester credit hours* (or equivalent).
- Identify the number of weeks of full-time clinical education.
- State the degree conferred.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 6B** The curriculum includes an expectation that students enter the professional program with a baccalaureate degree.



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As an alternate pathway prior to entering the physical therapy program, students may complete three years of undergraduate education that includes in-depth upper division study in one discipline comparable to a minor at the institution.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- If the program requires **all** students to hold an earned baccalaureate degree prior to admission, a statement to that effect is the only response required.
- If the program allows an alternate pathway so that students are not required to hold an earned baccalaureate degree prior to admission, provide evidence that students enter the program with a balance of coursework, including upper division courses in at least one content area that is the equivalent of a minor at the institution.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

6C The prerequisite coursework is determined by the program's curriculum plan.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Identify the prerequisite coursework required for admission into the DPT program.
- Describe the rationale for inclusion of each specific prerequisite course, including the knowledge and skills that students are expected to possess upon entrance into the PT specific courses in the program.
- Analyze the adequacy of the prerequisite coursework to prepare students to be successful in the program.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

6D The curriculum is a series of organized, sequential, and integrated courses designed to facilitate achievement of the expected student outcomes, including the expected student learning outcomes described in Standard 7.

1. The curriculum is based on an educational philosophy that translates into learning experiences.
2. The learning objectives are stated in behavioral terms that reflect the breadth and depth of the course content, including the expected level of student performance.
3. The instructional methods are based on the nature of the content, the needs of the learners, and the defined expected student outcomes.



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4. The learning experiences lead to achievement of the expected student outcomes for individuals across the life span and continuum of care, including individuals with chronic illness.
5. The curriculum includes health care disparities, social determinants of health,* and JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism.*
6. Assessment of student learning processes determine whether students achieve the learning objectives, occur on a regular basis, include the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective domains as related to learning objectives and include expectations for safe practice during all activities.
7. The clinical education component includes organized and sequential experiences coordinated with the didactic component of the curriculum.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the educational philosophy of the curriculum.
- Describe how the organization, sequencing, and integration of courses facilitate student achievement of the expected outcomes.
- Describe how course objectives, in the aggregate, are written in behavioral (measurable and observable) terms.
- Describe the instructional methods and learning experiences that facilitate student achievement of the objectives.
- Describe how the learning experiences lead to achievement of the expected student outcomes for individuals across the life span and continuum of care, including individuals with chronic illness.
- Describe how the curriculum provides learning opportunities regarding health care disparities, social determinants of health, and JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism.*
- Describe the formative and summative evaluation mechanisms that measure student achievement of objectives.
- Describe how the clinical experiences and didactic curriculum are organized, sequenced, and integrated.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 6E** The curriculum includes course syllabi that are comprehensive and inclusive of all CAPTE expectations.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Only response needed is to refer to the course syllabi.



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Note: Each syllabus **must** include at least the following:

- Title and number.
- Description.
- Department offering course.
- Credit hours.*
- Instructor(s).
- Contact hours (lecture and laboratory).
- Course prerequisites.
- Course objectives.
- Schedule, outline of content, and assigned instructor for each class and lab session.
- Description of learning activities (case studies, videos, presentations, group work, assignments, etc.).
- Mode of delivery (in person, hybrid, synchronous, asynchronous, etc.).
 - Describe the substantive and regular interaction that occurs with each mode of delivery.
- Methods of student evaluation/grading.
- Learning resources (textbooks, e-books, etc.).

Note: If the program or institution requires a syllabus format that does not include all of the above, the required syllabus plus an addendum is acceptable. For accreditation review, all of the above are required.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 6F** The didactic and clinical education curriculum includes intra-professional (PT/PTA) and interprofessional (PT with other professions/disciplines) learning activities that are based on best-practice and directed toward the development of intra-professional and interprofessional competencies including, but not limited to, values/ethics, communication, professional roles and responsibilities, and teamwork.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- For **intra-professional** education (didactic and clinical) describe the intentional learning activities that:
 - Involve students, faculty, and/or PT/PTA clinicians.
 - Address the effectiveness of the learning activities in preparing students and graduates for team-based PT/PTA collaborative care.
 - Include the responsibilities and legal aspects of the direction and supervision of physical therapist assistants.



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- For **interprofessional*** education (didactic and clinical) describe the intentional learning activities that address:
 - Values and ethics.
 - Communication.
 - Professional roles and responsibilities.
 - Teamwork.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

6G If the curriculum includes courses utilizing distance education,* the program provides the following evidence.

Note: The USDE has updated the definition of Distance Education. Please see the Glossary for the updated definition.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe the use of distance education* in the curriculum, if any. If no distance education is used, state as such.
- Provide evidence that faculty teaching by distance is effective in the provision of distance education* within the curriculum.
- Describe how the program ensures substantive, regular, monitored, and **planned** interactions between students and faculty.
- Describe the mechanism(s) used to confirm student identity during course activities and when testing occurs at a distance.
- Describe the mechanism(s) used to maintain test security and integrity when testing occurs at a distance.
- Describe how students participating in distance education* have access to academic, health, counseling, disability, and financial aid services.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

6H The clinical education component of the curriculum includes clinical education experiences for each student that encompass health and wellness, prevention, management of patients/clients with diseases and conditions representative of those commonly seen in practice across the life span and the continuum of care; in practice settings representative of those where physical therapy is practiced.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

Final version: Adopted Oct. 2023



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- Describe the clinical education practice settings in which **all** students are required to participate.
- Describe how the program monitors that each student has the required experiences.
- Describe the expectations for management of all aspects of patient and client services as appropriate to the specific clinical experience across the life span and continuum of care.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms



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Standard 7: PT

The curriculum includes content, learning experiences, and student testing and evaluation processes designed to prepare students to achieve educational outcomes required for initial practice in physical therapy, and for lifelong learning necessary for functioning within an ever-changing health care environment.

Required Elements

7A The physical therapist professional curriculum includes content and learning experiences in the biological, physical, behavioral, and movement sciences necessary for entry-level practice.

Topics covered include:

- Anatomy, physiology, pathology, cellular and tissue health throughout the life span for the included body systems:
 - Cardiovascular.
 - Endocrine and metabolic.
 - Gastrointestinal.
 - Genital and reproductive.
 - Hematologic.
 - Hepatic and biliary.
 - Immune.
 - Integumentary.
 - Lymphatic.
 - Musculoskeletal.
 - Neurological.
 - Pulmonary.
 - Renal and urologic systems.
- Body system interactions.
- Differential diagnosis.
- Health and surgical conditions seen in physical therapy.
- Genetics.
- Exercise science.
- Biomechanics.
- Kinesiology.
- Neuroscience.
- Motor control and motor learning.
- Diagnostic imaging.



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- Nutrition.
- Pharmacology.
- Pain and pain experiences.
- Psychosocial aspects of health and disability.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe where and how each of the delineated biological, physical, behavioral, and movement sciences content areas is included in the professional curriculum. Do not include prerequisite courses.

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- 7B** The physical therapist professional curriculum includes content and learning experiences in ethics, values, professional responsibilities, service, and leadership in the ever-changing health care environment.
- 7B1** Practice in a manner consistent with all principles of the APTA Code of Ethics for the Physical Therapist and the Core Values for the Physical Therapist and Physical Therapist Assistant.
- 7B2** Provide learning experiences to develop service and leadership skills and abilities that address the following:
- Legislative and political advocacy.
 - Community collaboration.
 - Health care disparity.
- 7B3** Practice within the legal framework of one's jurisdiction(s) and relevant federal and state requirements.

Evidence of Compliance for Elements 7B1-7B3

Narrative:

- Describe where and how the physical therapist professional curriculum includes content and learning experiences in ethics, values, responsibilities, service, and leadership in the ever-changing health care environment.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 7C** The physical therapist professional curriculum provides learning experiences in lifelong learning, education, and health care disparities* in the ever-changing health care environment.



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- 7C1** Provide learning experiences in contemporary physical therapy knowledge and practice including:
- Evidence-informed practice.*
 - Interpretation of statistical evidence.
 - Clinical reasoning and decision making.
 - Scholarly inquiry.
- 7C2** Provide teaching and learning experiences to improve skills and abilities to educate and communicate in a manner that meets the needs of the patient, caregiver, and other health care professionals.
- 7C3** Provide learning experiences that advance understanding of health care disparities* in relation to physical therapy.
- A. Recognize and adjust personal behavior to optimize inclusive and equitable patient care and patient care environments.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Describe where and how the physical therapist professional curriculum includes content and learning experiences in lifelong learning, teaching and learning, health care disparities* in the ever-changing health care environment.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

- 7D** The physical therapist professional curriculum includes content and learning experiences designed to prepare students to achieve educational outcomes required for entry-level practice of physical therapy for patient and client management in the **ever-changing health care environment**.

Evidence of Compliance

Narrative:

- Identify the sources that inform the decision-making process to determine curricular content as a whole, such as professional resources and organizations, stakeholder feedback, or networking.
- For each of the following 7D elements:
 - Describe where the content is presented in the curriculum and provide example(s) and descriptions(s) of the learning experiences that are designed to meet the practice expectations (i.e., describe where and how the content is taught throughout the curriculum).
 - Provide **two to five** examples of course objectives that demonstrate the progression to the highest expected level of student performance, including course **prefix and number**,



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course name, objective number, and the full wording of the objective. Include objectives from clinical education courses, if applicable.

- Describe outcomes data that may include qualitative and/or quantitative evidence, which demonstrates the level of actual student achievement for each practice expectation 7D1-7D25.

For initial accreditation only, describe the planned outcome and how the program will determine the actual level of student achievement for each practice expectation.

Appendices and On-site Material: See Self-Study Report Instructions and Forms

Patient and Client Management

Screening and Examination

- 7D1** Complete an examination and screening to inform patient and client management:
- A. Perform a comprehensive subjective examination.
 - B. Perform a systems review.
 - C. Select and administer age-appropriate tests and measures that assess each of the following throughout the life span:
 - 1. Cardiovascular system.
 - 2. Pulmonary system.
 - 3. Neurological system.
 - 4. Musculoskeletal system.
 - 5. Integumentary and lymphatic systems.
 - 6. Growth and human development.
 - 7. Pain and pain experiences.
 - 8. Psychosocial aspects.
 - 9. Mental health aspects.
 - D. Determine when patients and clients need further examination or consultation by a physical therapist or referral to other professional(s).
 - E. Provide physical therapist services through direct access.

Evaluation

- 7D2** Evaluate data from the examination (history, health record, systems review, and tests and measures) to make clinical judgments.

Diagnosis



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7D3 Describe a patient's or client's impairments to body functions and structures, activity limitations, and participation restrictions according to the International Classification of Function, Disability, and Health (ICF).

7D4 Determine a physical therapy diagnosis that guides future patient and client management.

Prognosis and Plan of Care

7D5 Determine a prognosis that includes patient and client goals and expected outcomes within available resources (including applicable payment sources) and specify expected length of time to achieve the goals and outcomes.

7D6 Establish a safe and effective plan of care in collaboration with appropriate stakeholders, including patients and clients, caregivers, payers, other professionals, and other appropriate individuals.

7D7 Determine and supervise the components of the plan of care that may be directed to the physical therapist assistant based on:

- A. Team-based care.
- B. The needs of the patient or client.
- C. The education, training, and competence of the PTA.
- D. Jurisdictional law and payor policies.
- E. Facility policies.

7D8: Determine and supervise activities that may be directed to unlicensed support personnel based on:

- A. The needs of the patient or client.
- B. The education, training, and competence of the unlicensed personnel.
- C. Jurisdictional law and payor policies.
- D. Facility policies.

7D9 Create a discontinuation of the episode of care plan that optimizes success for the patient in moving along the continuum of care.

Interventions

7D10 Select and perform physical therapy interventions for each of the following to achieve patient and client goals and outcomes:

- A. Cardiovascular conditions
- B. Pulmonary conditions.
- C. Neurological conditions.



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- D. Musculoskeletal conditions.
- E. Integumentary and lymphatic conditions.
- F. Metabolic conditions.
- G. Human development.
- H. Pain and pain experiences.

Management of the Delivery of Physical Therapy Services

- 7D11** Monitor and adjust the plan of care to optimize patient or client health outcomes.
- 7D12** Assess patient outcomes, including the use of appropriate standardized tests and measures that address impairments of body functions and structures, activity limitations, and participation restrictions.
- 7D13** Educate others, using teaching methods that are commensurate with the needs of the learner, including participation in the clinical education of students. Incorporate cultural humility* and social determinants of health* when providing patient and/or caregiver education.
- 7D14** Manage the delivery of care consistent with administrative policies and procedures of the practice environment, including environmental emergencies.*
- 7D15** Complete documentation related to Elements 7D1-7D13 that follows guidelines and specific documentation formats required by jurisdiction's practice act, the practice setting, and other regulatory agencies.
- 7D16** Participate in the case management process.

Health Care Activities

- 7D17** Participate in activities for ongoing assessment and improvement of quality services.
- 7D18** Participate in patient-centered interprofessional collaborative practice.
- 7D19** Use health informatics* in the health care environment.
- 7D20** Assess health care policies and their potential impact on the ever-changing health care environment and practice.

Community Health



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- 7D21** Provide physical therapy services informed by cultural humility* that address primary,* secondary,* and tertiary* prevention, health promotion, and wellness to individuals, groups, and communities.
- 7D22** Provide physical therapy services that address:
 - A. JEDI, belonging,* and anti-racism.*
 - B. Health care disparities* and social determinants of health.*

Practice Management

- 7D23** Assess, document, and minimize safety risks of individuals and the health care provider:
 - A. Design and implement strategies to improve safety in the health care setting as an individual and as a member of the interprofessional health care team.
 - B. Follow the safety policies and procedures of the facility.
- 7D24** Participate in the financial management of the practice setting, including accurate billing and payment for services rendered.
- 7D25** Participate in practice management activities that **may** include marketing, public relations, regulatory and legal requirements, risk management, staffing, and continuous quality improvement.