CAPTE 2026 Second Quarter Newsletter



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News to Know

No 2026 First Quarter Newsletter

No, you did not miss the 2026 first-quarter newsletter. This 2026 second-quarter newsletter is the first for the calendar year. Welcome to this update of CAPTE news.

Notification Reminder

When a program director is on leave, sabbatical or extended time away from the program, the program needs to provide CAPTE with the name, email address, and phone number of the program's primary contact.

CAPTE Department of Education Recognition

CAPTE remains recognized by the Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. CAPTE Chair Kathy Zalewski responded to

questions by members of the National Advisory Council for Institutional Quality and Integrity, or NACIQI, on Dec. 16, 2025. Council members' questions focused on the cost of Doctor of Physical Therapy education and CAPTE Standards related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Subsequent to this meeting, the Undersecretary of Education determined that CAPTE failed to demonstrate compliance with §602.18(c) due to language in Part 16 of CAPTE Rules of Practice and Procedure. §602.18(c) refers to the decision-making body's ability to apply alternative standards. To come into compliance with the standard, CAPTE needed to remove the reference to applying alternative standards or set explicit policies that applied universally. CAPTE re-evaluated the 2025 changes in CAPTE Rules that significantly revised Part 9 on what was required to make substantive changes. The CAPTE executive committee determined the Part 9 changes addressed a number of petition issues and that further rule review is needed. Subsequently, CAPTE removed Part 16, thereby eliminating the petition for waiver. CAPTE will continue reviewing its rules while also encouraging program innovation. CAPTE submitted the required compliance report that will be reviewed by NACIQI at its Oct.10meeting. In February, CAPTE submitted its Department of Education renewal application for re-recognition in 2028.

2025 Aggregate Program Data Fact Sheets

The PT 2025 Aggregate Data Fact Sheet is posted. Expect the PTA 2025 Fact Sheet to be posted by July 15. Staff continue to review salary data for posting this summer.

CAPTE Recent Accreditation Actions

CAPTE completed a review of 279 programs at its spring 2026 meeting. Find CAPTE's decisions on all the programs reviewed.

CAPTE commends the following programs that earned a "clean" CAPTE reaffirmation review, and whose next CAPTE action is their next scheduled self-study report and onsite visit. All programs are required to submit an Annual Accreditation Report.

Reaffirm Accreditation Without Compliance Report; 10-Year Cycle	
Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University (LA) University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee (WI)	Arapahoe Community College (CO) Central Georgia Technical College (GA) Pima Medical Institute – Albuquerque Campus (NM) Rowan-Cabarrus Community College (NC) Walters State Community College (TN)

CAPTE Standards Review Updates

The Standards Review Group conducted three listening sessions in late May. Group members revised the standards based on feedback received. CAPTE continues its call for comment through a survey being distributed to key stakeholders, including program directors; institutional administrators (president, provost, dean) of accredited and developing programs affected by the Standards and Required Elements under review; students; APTA leadership, including national and component leaders; physical therapists; other accrediting agencies; state higher education authorizing boards; and state physical therapy licensing boards, and others who have made their interest known. CAPTE will post a survey link on the CAPTE website in addition to email communications to the above-mentioned groups. The survey will remain open from July 1-15..

Other Items of Interest

Jurisdictional Licensure Requirement for Faculty

The CAPTE 2025 fourth-quarter newsletter recognized the licensure carve-out that exists in some jurisdictions' practice acts. CAPTE encourages programs to review their practice act and consult with their physical therapy licensure board for the appropriate application of any carve-out. Some carve-outs apply only to activities such as continuing education or athletic event coverage and may not apply to faculty teaching in a DPT or PTA program, regardless of the number of days one teaches or conducts research per year.

Mary Jane Harris Distinguished Service Award

CAPTE's Mary Jane Harris Distinguished Service Award recognizes outstanding and prolonged contributions to the CAPTE accreditation process through any

combination of service on CAPTE, participation on site visit teams, serving as a candidacy reviewer, and/or service on ad hoc committees as assigned.

This year, CAPTE honored Russell Stowers, EdD, Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, and Peggy Gleeson, PT, PhD.

Gleeson began her volunteer journey with CAPTE as a reviewer in 2013. She subsequently joined the PT panel in 2016 and became a central panel member in 2021. Gleeson served as CAPTE chair from 2024-2026, and chaired the 2021 Standards Review Group that produced the 2024 Standards and Required Elements. As CAPTE chair, she led CAPTE Reimagined, which significantly modified the program review process and changed CAPTE's program review, panel, and board structure.

Stowers served CAPTE and PTA education programs for 37 years as an onsite reviewer or PTA panel member. He contributed a valuable perspective for new commissioners on the PTA Request for Additional Information and Application for Approval of Substantive Change panel when CAPTE transitioned to its new structure.

Annual Accreditation Report, 2027 Invoices, and Financial Fact Sheet

Accreditation staff will make the Instructions for the Annual Accreditation Report and Financial Fact Sheet available to programs by Sept. 1. Invoices for 2027 annual feeds will be posted in the CAPTE portal by Sept. 15.

The Annual Accreditation Report and the 2027 annual fees are due Dec. 1. Programs are to post the 2026-2027 Financial Fact Sheet by Oct. 15.

Programs submitting a Self-study report are also required to complete and submit an annual report in that same year.

Call for New CAPTE Reviewers

CAPTE joins APTA Achieve, a new platform for recruiting and selecting volunteers. Individuals interested in becoming a CAPTE reviewer should look for the call for volunteers in August. Prospective volunteers will submit their application materials through APTA Achieve from Aug. 1-31.. Accreditation staff will review applicants' materials. Staff will notify individuals selected by Oct. 1. Selected individuals will complete new reviewer training that involves asynchronous online modules and a synchronous online training on March 16, 2027. New volunteers will also complete the APTA online volunteer orientation in December 2026.

Digital Accreditation Status Badge

CAPTE is pleased to announce its transition to **Accredible** as the new provider of CAPTE digital badges. Accredible offers an enhanced digital credentialing experience, allowing recipients to easily view, manage, share, and verify their achievements through a secure online platform.

All digital badges through Accredible may be discoverable through online searches, depending on the badge's privacy settings. If you do **not** want your personal digital badges to be searchable or publicly visible on the web, you should update your badge settings and **privatize your credential** within the Accredible platform. By privatizing your personal badges, only the CAPTE issued badge will be visible on your program's website (CAPTE Rule: 8.22 Use of CAPTE Logo).

To manage your privacy settings, log in to your Accredible account, access your badge, and review the available visibility options. Setting your credential to private will help ensure that it is not publicly searchable. Individuals must complete the privatization for each badge.

If you have questions about your CAPTE digital badge or need assistance managing your credential settings, please contact accreditationsupport@apta.org.

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