

Oregon Physical Therapist Licensing Board

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2012/2013

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BOARD STAFF

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Executive Director

Sherry Paru, PT
Clinical Advisor/Investigator

Rick Sullivan, PTA
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BOARD WEBSITE

www.ptboard.state.or.us

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
(Closed Holidays and state
mandatory furlough days)

2013 License Renewal Is Just Around The Corner

This year, unlike in years past, the Board will not be sending out a Renewal Form, Announcement or Instruction Letter. During the week of January 7, 2013 the Board will open the online renewal system and mail out a Renewal Reminder Postcard. Renewal instructions will be available on the Board website at www.ptboard.state.or.us. You will have until March 31st to complete the renewal process without penalty and with a reduced fee (see below).

If you do not receive the postcard by February 1st, contact the Board office, or go to the Board website and follow the on-line instructions to complete your renewal. There is no continuing education requirement for renewal in 2013 (the current CE certification period is 4.1.12 through 3.31.14). As part of your 2013 renewal, you will be required to complete the Healthcare Demographic Survey. The Demographic Survey was mandated by the 2009 Oregon Legislature and your license cannot be renewed if you do not complete the survey.

******* Fee Reduction For 2013 License Renewal *******

If you renew your license by March 31, 2013, you will be entitled to a one-time renewal fee reduction. Based upon a Reserve Analysis Report, presented to the Board at its October 26, 2012 meeting, the Board determined that it held a surplus of funds in its reserve account. The Board tries to maintain a reserve funding balance equal to one year operating expense. The Board voted to implement a **ONE-TIME fee reduction for 2013** which will adjust the reserve account balance accordingly. The total estimated fiscal impact to the Board is a reduction in income of approximately \$110,000.

All Licensees will benefit equally with a renewal fee reduction of 25% which will reduce fees to the following:

PT Renewal Fee = \$75
PTA Renewal Fee = \$48.75

It is also important to note, that in an effort to keep your renewal fees down, the PT Board has already chosen to absorb the \$2.50 charge per licensee from the Oregon Healthcare Workforce Institute for the collection, processing and analysis of the healthcare professional demographics survey data. This has an annual fiscal impact to the Board of \$10,000. The Board has also chosen to absorb the bank processing fee for use of the online renewal system; with an annual fiscal impact of approximately \$8,000. Most of the other health boards have passed these charges along to their licensees.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND UPDATES

Are You Interested In Serving On A Rules Advisory Committee?

At its October 26, 2012 meeting at Lane Community College in Eugene, the Board instructed staff to form a Rules Advisory Committee to review the Board Rules (Division 35) on “Continuing Education” in its entirety. The Board has completed two CE certification periods and audits and staff has presented the Board with several cases of abuse and non-compliance, particularly relating to the completion of on-line CE courses. Within the next few months, Board staff will assemble a 7-10 member Rules Advisory Committee to review Division 35 and eventually propose amended rule language and changes for Board consideration. The Board encourages licensees from all practice settings (including new graduates and new licensees) to participate. If you are interested in serving on the committee, contact Sherri Paru, PT Clinical Advisor/Investigator at sherri.paru@state.or.us by February 1, 2013.

How Can You Receive CE Credit For Being a CI?

In order to receive CE credit for being a clinical instructor, you must complete a Board approved CI credentialing course. Approved courses are currently being offered by the APTA and also by the Texas Consortium. You will get CE credit for completing the course and you may also receive up to 1/3 of your required CE provided that you obtain a letter from the student's school indicating the number of hours of clinical instruction you provided to a student. You will receive 1 CE credit hour for each 40 hours of direct clinical supervision. Although a course on completion of the CPI will not count as a CI credentialing course, you may still obtain CE credit for attending such a course.

Do CPR Courses Count For CE Credit ?

The Board no longer requires completion of a CPR course for any licensee or aide. If a licensee completes any CPR course (initial or refresher) during a certification period, the licensee may receive a maximum 1 hour of CE credit regardless of the length of the course and regardless of the number of CPR courses completed during the certification period. On-line CPR courses count. As with any other CE course, a licensee must be able to provide the Board with evidence of course completion. Licensees who complete an instructor certification course for CPR or First Aid may be able to receive additional CE credit and should contact the Board for further information.

Do You Need To Update Your Address and Contact Information?

It's quick, it's easy and yes it is the law! ORS 688.160(9)(a) requires the Board to maintain a current contact list including a person's name, current business and residential addresses, telephone number and electronic mail address. ORS 688.100(4) requires you, as a Licensee of the Board, to notify the Board within 30 days after any change of contact information. The Board can take administrative action against Licensees who are in non-compliance. OAR 848-010-0035(1) states “*failure to receive a renewal notice shall not excuse any licensee from the requirements of renewal*”. Other states (i.e. California) routinely issue citations of up to \$250 for failure to submit a change of address!

The Name/Address Change Forms can be found on the Board's website at www.ptboard.state.or.us

In the left navigation bar click on Forms & Application/Administrative Forms. You may fax, mail or scan and email the form to the Board office. If you cannot access the form, send the Board a written letter or an email with the updated information. It is estimated that the Board spends more than \$500 annually on returned postage. Please keep the Board informed of any changes, it will save time and money while ensuring that you receive all necessary Board communication.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

NAME & LICENSE NO.	DATE OF ACTION	ACTION TAKEN	REASON FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION
Victoria Vestal, PT License # 0865	8/14/2012	STIPULATION & FINAL ORDER: 5 years probation with conditions	Improper use of aides
Andre Tate, PT License # 5285	8/16/2012	FINAL ORDER OF DEFAULT: Revocation of License	Failure to cooperate with an Order of the Board
Karen Counts, PT License # 4046	9/05/2012	STIPULATION & FINAL ORDER: Voluntary Surrender of License	Medical condition interfering with ability to safely practice
Jeanne Jaeger, PTA License # 8826	9/26/2012	STIPULATION & FINAL ORDER: \$500 civil penalty and 1 year probation	Practicing with a temporary permit without required supervision
Nancy Geller, PT License # 1633	11/07/2012	STIPULATION & FINAL ORDER: \$100 civil penalty	Failure to complete all required continuing education
Karin Monger, PT License # 5174	11/15/2012	STIPULATION & FINAL ORDER: \$100 civil penalty	Failure to complete all required continuing education
Holly Gullickson, PT License # 4039	11/19/2012	STIPULATION & FINAL ORDER: \$450 civil penalty	Failure to complete all required continuing education
Heidi Engbersen, PT License # 1708	11/21/2012	STIPULATION & FINAL ORDER: \$100 civil penalty	Failure to complete all required continuing education
James Walker, PT License # 8898	11/27/2012	STIPULATION & FINAL ORDER: Issued license with restrictions	Applicant with prior misdemeanor convictions

2012 CASE INVESTIGATION SUMMARY

The Board opened 45 new investigative cases in 2012 and carried over 13 cases from 2011. Cases were opened due to complaints received, random criminal background checks, a continuing education compliance audit, or licensure applications/renewals requiring investigation. Of the cases investigated, the outcome was as follows:

- ⇒ Nineteen cases closed without any disciplinary action.
- ⇒ Seven cases closed with non-disciplinary Confidential Advisory Letter to the Licensee.
- ⇒ Sixteen cases resulted in a Stipulated Order or Final Order of Disciplinary Action.
- ⇒ Sixteen cases remain open and are still being investigated.



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BOARD OFFICE - SCHEDULED CLOSURES

The Board Office will be closed on the following dates: December 24, 2012 (holiday), December 25, 2012 (holiday), December 31, 2012 (holiday), January 1, 2013 (holiday), January 18, 2013 (state furlough day), January 21, 2013 (holiday), February 18, 2013 (holiday), April 19, 2013 (state furlough day), May 24, 2013 (state furlough day), May 27, 2013 (holiday), July 4, 2013 (holiday), September 2, 2013 (holiday), November 11, 2013 (holiday), November 28, 2013 (holiday), December 25, 2013 (holiday).

Additional closure dates, including any added mandatory state furlough days will be posted on the Board website, as they are determined. Please call ahead if you have a need to come to the Board office.