



AK PT Scope Modernization Work Group - April 8, 2025

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 9:00 AM AKDT to 11:00 AM AKDT
Zoom

Meeting Details: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83426206738?pwd=GO4V0A0eiuTJcCijBtz6jonLqMQVqV.1>,

Meeting ID: 834 2620 6738

Passcode: 598287

Call-in: +1 253 205 0468 US

Agenda

1. Call to Order

9:00 AM

Please update your Zoom to Name, City

A. Pre-questionnaire on PHY website - please complete if you did not do prior to attending

<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/PhysicalTherapyOccupationalTherapy/BoardMeetingDatesAgendas.aspx>

Information of PT/PTAs interested in participating in smaller ongoing workgroup and the following questions:

1. Have you noticed any topics/concerns that are not currently addressed in the AK scope of practice language?
2. Is there a component of the current scope of practice language that you feel needs to be re-worded? Please expound.
3. Do you think the existing scope of practice language adequately addresses your practice area?
4. Do you think the existing scope of practice language has any deficiencies that might negatively impact patient care in rural areas?
5. What are your greatest concerns moving forward with a new scope of practice for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in Alaska? (Rate all that apply from level of greatest concern = 5 to area of least concern =1)
 - Restrictions on autonomy
 - Being overly prescriptive
 - Adequate definition of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant
 - Adequate definition of the practice of physical therapy
 - Encroachment from other professions
6. Are you a PT or PTA?
7. Are you a member of the American Physical Therapy Association?

2. Purpose and Summary of Workgroup

9:05 AM

Presenter: Jonathan Gates

A. PT Workgroup Objectives

9:10 AM

1. Develop a collaborative plan to address modernization of our scope of practice between all stakeholders (including the state licensing board, APTA-AK, national organizations, and licensees) to create statutory change.
2. Identify needs for change/improvement in the current scope of practice language - AS 08.84.190(7)
3. Develop draft language to address any needs that the workgroup identifies.
4. Address the role of PTAs in scope of practice language
5. Develop an updated draft of scope of practice language with future action steps for recommendation to the PHY Board.

3. Introductions

9:15 AM

- [Jonathan Gates, PT, DPT](#) - Board Member
- Sheri Ryan, Licensing Examiner 3
- Reid Bowman, Program Coordinator 2
- Shane Bannarbie, Program Coordinator 1

Ongoing Work Group Members

- Rebecca Byerley, PT, DPT - APTA-AK
- Leslie Adrian, DPT, MPA - FSBPT
- Sarah R. Kowalczyk, PT, DPT, GTS, CLT
- Mark Venhaus, PTA
- Tina McLean, PT, DPT, ATC, CMTPTDN, GTS
- LeeAnne Carrothers, PT, PhD

4. History leading up to this workgroup

9:20 AM

5. Legislative Process

9:25 AM

Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Statutes and Regulations --

><https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/Portals/5/pub/PT-OTStatutes.pdf>

6. Ongoing Work Group Composition - 7-10 members

9:30 AM

Definition of a Work Group

Soliciting Public Input

When a board identifies the need to propose a regulation to implement, interpret, or make specific a state statute, the board should begin organizing its collective thoughts on the matter at a publicly noticed meeting. If the subject matter is highly technical or complex, it may be helpful for the board to form a public working group from among its members. That group may engage in fact-finding for the purpose of sharing what it has learned with the entire board at an appropriate meeting.

excerpt from page 54 --

>https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/Portals/5/pub/CBPL_Board.Commission.Guide.pdf

A. Categories

1. PHY Board Member = Jonathan Gates, PT, DPT
2. National Organization (FSBPT) = Leslie Adrian, PT, DPT, MPA - Director of Professional Standards w/Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
3. State Organization (APTA-AK) = Rebecca Byerly, PT, DPT - Alaska Chief Delegate to the APTA House of Delegates
4. Sarah Kowalczyk, PT, DPT, GTS, CLT
5. Mark Venhaus, PTA
6. Tina McLean, PT, DPT< ATC, CMTPTDN, GTS

Remainder will be practitioners from a wide variety of practice settings and areas across Alaska -*important that you complete the website questionnaire to help us gather this information.*

7. Formulate needs to guide future meeting agendas 9:35 AM

- What topics the group feels are inadequately addressed by this?
- How does this group feel about language related to PTAs?
- Are there any ideas to share that would improve the format of this work group?

8. Discussion - Homework assignment from 03/25 meeting 9:45 AM

Read FSBPT Model Practice Act 2022 - 7th Edition - as a template with intent to make AK specific to provide consistency of scope of practice across all states and helpful in recruiting qualified personnel.

9. Next Meeting Dates/Times 10:50 AM

- Tuesday, April 22 - 9am - 11am
- Tuesday, May 13 - 9am - 11am

10. Next Steps 10:55 AM

- Invitations to be sent to work group members
 - Sheri Ryan, Licensing Examiner - physicalandoccupationaltherapy@alaska.gov
- All future meetings are open to attend as a member of the public but comment would be limited to the public comment opportunity at the beginning of the meeting.

11. Adjourn 11:00 AM