

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

WINTER 2013
WEB NEWS BULLETIN

Nevada State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

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Admitted in Nevada and Missouri

◆ **NAME TAGS / ADVERTISING** ◆

Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 629, The Healing Arts Law, now requires that all health care professionals wear a name tag indicating his or her licensure while providing health care services. Additionally, all health care professionals are required to identify their type of license when communicating to current and prospective patients, in advertisements or when posting credentials at all practice sites.

Please refer to the following link for the laws, which are effective January 1, 2014. The link is provided on the Board's website as well.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-629.html>

◆ **BOARD POLICY ON USE OF THE TERM "OSTEOPRACTOR"** ◆

Licensed physical therapists who have successfully completed a series of courses provided by Dr. James Dunning, through the Spinal Manipulation Institute, *may* earn a diploma in Osteopractic™. However, the Board has determined that Nevada licensees may not use the terms "Osteopractic" or "Osteopractor" *in any manner*. The diploma offered by the Spinal Manipulation Institute is not an official specialty certification, such as those offered by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties.

◆ **NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 640.610 MEDICAL RECORDS** ◆

Licensees are again reminded as to their requirement to maintain clear, legible, complete and accurate records. Many complaint cases before the Board reveal that medical records are not being maintained as required. Please visit the Board's website under the Practice Act tab to familiarize yourself with these important legal requirements.

◆ **BOARD INSPECTOR LAS VEGAS AREA** ◆

The Nevada State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners is seeking two Inspectors/Investigators for the Las Vegas area. Responsibilities include conducting routine inspections, investigation of complaints received by the Board office, and conduction of compliance visits for licensees under restrictions. Requirements include graduation from an accredited physical therapy program, successful passing of the licensure exam, and active practice, without disciplinary action, as a Physical Therapist in the state of Nevada for a minimum of five (5) years. Individual must have exemplary written and verbal communication skills. This intermittent position is paid hourly without benefits. Approximately 50-100 hours per year available. Please mail or FAX a letter of interest and resume to the Board.



◆ **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CONTINUING EDUCATION SEEKING PEDIATRIC PHYSICAL THERAPIST** ◆

The Board is seeking a pediatric physical therapist to serve in the Advisory Committee on Continuing Education. The role of the committee is to review continuing education courses and make recommendations to the Board as to the approval or denial. The committee also recommends to the Board criteria for evaluating any material or course of study for continuing education. The committee advises the Board on all matters relating to continuing education. The committee meets approximately once per month to review courses. If interested, please contact the Board office for more information.

◆ **BOARD OR ASSOCIATION?** ◆

Many licensees are unaware that the Nevada State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (Board) is separate and unrelated to the Nevada Physical Therapy Association (NPTA). All licensees are regulated and subject to the jurisdiction of the Board based on state legislation and regulation. Membership in your professional association is voluntary. The NPTA can be reached at www.nvapta.org.

◆ **NATIONAL PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINATION NEWS** ◆

At the annual meeting, the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy members voted to protect the integrity of the NPTE by establishing a lifetime limit of six attempts at passing. Candidates who have not passed within the allotted six attempts will not be allowed to sit for the NPTE again. The purpose of the six attempt limit is to restrict access to the NPTE to those candidates who are likely to be competent as measured by the NPTE performance standard. Statistical evidence shows that the likelihood of a truly competent candidate failing to pass the NPTE after six attempts is very low; the likelihood of a candidate who does not truly meet the standard passing is high; and having an unlimited number of attempts has the unintended consequence of "lowering the bar."

At the same meeting, the FSBPT voted to continue to protect the integrity of the NPTE by establishing a low score policy to ensure that candidates with two failing scores at or below 400 will not be allowed to sit again for the NPTE. The purpose of the very low score limit is to restrict access to the NPTE to those candidates who are likely to be competent as measured by the NPTE performance standard.

◆ **ARE YOU WORKING AS A CONTRACTOR** ◆

If you are a contractor, and not an employee of a business, please visit the Secretary of State website for important information on your personal obligations to establish yourself as a business in Nevada. As a contractor, you are required to register with the Secretary of State. Please visit their site at <http://nvsos.gov/index.aspx?page=415>. Please contact them directly with any questions you may have.

◆ **ARE YOU MOVING HOME OR WORK?** ◆

Don't forget NAC 640.061 (2) "A licensee shall notify the Board, in writing, of any change in his or her residential address or primary professional address within 30 days after the change." Moving to a new employment position or moving into a new home can be rather stressful, but don't forget to change your address via the Board's website. You may also elect to complete a change of address form and send it to the Board office about your big move.