

# *Nevada Board of Physical Therapy*



**ProCert**

Recognizing **quality** in  
continuing competence

**aPTitude**

**Charles Brown**

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# Board Liaison Announcements

- Liaison role
- Important 2017 FSBPT events
  - **Regulatory Training for Members and Board Staff:** June 9-11, Alexandria, VA
  - **Leadership Issues Forum:** July 29-30, Alexandria, VA
  - **Annual Meeting & Delegate Assembly:** November 2-4, Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico
- Physical Therapy Licensure Compact

Contact: [cbrown@fsbpt.org](mailto:cbrown@fsbpt.org)



# PURPOSE of this Presentation

- Explore FSBPT Continuing Competence Tools:
  - The FSBPT Continuing Competence Model
  - **aPTitude**
  - **ProCert** Certification
  - **oPTion & Jurisprudence Assessment Modules** (if interested)
- Generate ideas for how NV can leverage these tools to promote competency and protect the public

# ***Context & Background***

# Continuing *competence* – *what's the big deal?*

***FSBPT Mission:*** To protect the public by providing service and leadership that promote safe and ***competent*** physical therapy practice.

## ***Nevada Board's Mission:***

The mission of the Nevada State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners is to protect the safety and well-being of the public consumer of physical therapy.



# 2007 FSBPT Delegate Assembly Motion

That the Board of Directors be charged to move forward with the development of a comprehensive continuing competence program in support of public protection to include, but not be limited to, the following components:

- Continuing competence tools
- A framework for integrating continuing competence tools
- A comprehensive continuing competence certification program
- An appropriate organizational structure





# What Are Other States Doing?

- Expanding and updating their CC models
  - New engagement-based opportunities
  - Requiring some activities to be evaluated against specific standards/criteria
  - Opening the door to self-assessment
- Growing utilization of FSBPT tools and services
- Partnering with key stakeholders to inform



***FSBPT Continuing  
Competence Model***



# FSBPT Continuing Competence Model

## *What is it?*

- Developed by the FSBPT Continuing Competence Committee
- Based on current evidence
- Addresses issues raised by the consumer groups on this complex subject
- Represents the best collective knowledge, versus that of only one state

# FSBPT Continuing Competence Model

## *What is it?*

- A proposed set of requirements for jurisdictions to consider implementing as part of the licensure renewal process
- Assumes a 2-year licensure period
- Licensees complete a minimum of 30 Continuing Competence Units (CCUs) from either the ***Certified Activities*** list or from the ***Approved Activities*** list
- At least 15 of those CCUs shall be obtained by completing ***Certified Activities***



# FSBPT Continuing Competence Model

Certified Activities	Approved Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Conferences</b></li><li>• <b>Continuing Education</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Degree Coursework</li><li>• Board &amp; Committee Work</li><li>• Clinical Instructorship</li><li>• Structured Interactive (group study)</li><li>• In-service</li><li>• Mentorship - as the mentor or protégé</li><li>• Publication - peer-reviewed or not</li><li>• Research</li><li>• Self Study</li><li>• Exams &amp; Assessments</li><li>• Residencies/fellowships</li></ul>

- *At least 15 CCUs*

- *Evaluated-certified*

- *No more than 15 CCUs*

- *Not certified – board assigns the value*

- If a **certification-eligible activity** is not, it shifts to the Approved section with lower level of credit awarded

# NV Current Model

Certified Activities	Approved Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Conferences</b> ✓</li><li>• <b>Continuing Education</b> ✓</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Degree Coursework ✓</li><li>• Board &amp; Committee Work</li><li>• Clinical Instructorship</li><li>• Structured Interactive (group study) ✓ - perhaps</li><li>• In-service ✓ - perhaps</li><li>• Mentorship - as the mentor or protégé</li><li>• Publication - peer-reviewed or not</li><li>• Research</li><li>• Self Study ✓</li><li>• Exams &amp; Assessments</li><li>• Residencies/fellowships</li></ul>

✓ - Present in the current NV model

*Opportunities exist for NV to expand current model*

# FSBPT Continuing Competence Model

## *What is it?*

- Jurisdictions adopt a variation of the Model that best serves its stakeholders
- Benefits to having some uniformity across jurisdictions
- Encourage boards to adopt models that do not rely solely on continuing education
- Promote value of activities beyond only CE courses
- Raise the bar on the *value* of activities

# FSBPT Continuing Competence Model

## *Guiding Principles*

- Activity choices should be self-directed
- Some assessment of current needs and opportunities should be the essential first step
  - Research support this
- Menu of activities from which to choose to demonstrate competence and stay engaged
- No single “right” way to demonstrate competence



# Aligning the WA Model with the FSBPT Model

Revise **NAC 640-400 through -510** are needed:

1. Δ units to Continuing Competence Units (CCUs)
2. Add activity options from the FSBPT Model
3. Determine who may evaluate and certify CE and Conferences
4. Assign values to ***Approved Activities***
  - Some suggestions at [continuingcompetence.org](http://continuingcompetence.org)



# aPTitude

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aPTitude

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The world of continuing  
competence is changing.

Explore it with **aPTitude**.

## PTS AND PTAS


Find out how aPTitude allows you to plan for, track and manage your continuing competence and education activities.

 [Get Started](#)



## VENDORS

List and manage your continuing competence and education activities to help PTs and PTAs find the offerings they need.

 [Get Started](#)



## JURISDICTIONS

Communicate your continuing competence and education requirements to licensees in a simple and straightforward manner.

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# aPTitude - *What is it?*

- An online system to share CC information
  - Licensees
  - Vendors (providers of CC activities)
  - Jurisdiction boards
- aPTitude compared to other systems
  - aPTitude focus - compliance and public protection
  - Provides board access to view recordings
  - Enables tracking for specific activity categories
  - Free and available to all PTs/PTAs (and students!)

# aPTitude – *Licensees*

- Verify requirements and options
- Find activities within the requirements/options
- Maintain record of completed activities
- Store documentation for those activities
- Receive email reminders for due dates
  - License renewal
  - CC completion
- Works for any number of licenses

# aPTitude – *Activity Providers (Vendors)*

- View CC requirements for all jurisdictions
- Publish offerings (topic, instructor, objectives, approvers, fees, location, schedule...)
- Receive feedback on activities from attendees
- Receive multi-jurisdiction certification for activities meeting the standards (**ProCert**)

# CC/CE Compliance & Discipline

*Failure to complete continuing education/competence requirements was the third most frequently reported violation for PT and second for PTAs.*

Study conducted by Debbie Ingram, PT, EdD, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; Tom Mohr, PT, PhD, University of North Dakota; Renee Mabey, PT, PhD, University of North Dakota; and J. Randy Walker, PT, PhD, DPT, COMT, CMP, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga of disciplinary reports submitted to the FSBPT Disciplinary Database from 2000-2009.



# CC/CE Compliance & Discipline

- Audits are significant drain on board resources
- Minimal impact due to low percentage typically reviewed
- Affirms licensees do not always understand requirements

# aPTitude – *Board Features*

- Communicate CC requirements to licensees
- Push change notifications to licensees
- Use **aPTitude** as your audit system
  - Audit higher %
  - Faster
  - Paperless
  - Reduce filing, storage and postage costs
  - Update your database from the Compliance Report



# What Do Licensees Need to Get Started?

- Name
- Email address
- License Number
- Answer a couple of registration questions:
  1. when was initial license granted?
  2. what is your next continuing competence completion date?

**That's it!**

# What Does the Board Need to Get Started?

*Your account is mostly ready!*

Prior to full implementation:

- We review with you your model for accuracy
- Customize certain settings
  - **Certificates Required?**
  - **Approvers Required?**
- Schedule training with your staff (WebEx)

# Promoting aPTitude

- Partner with NV APTA chapter and other stakeholder groups
- FSBPT can help compose content for:
  - Board newsletters or other publications
  - Website
  - Direct email to NV licensees

# aPTitude Demo

The screenshot displays the aPTitude website interface. At the top right, there is a "Login" link. The main navigation bar includes "Home", "About aPTitude", "Register Now", "CC News", and "Contact aPTitude". The central banner features a landscape with a tree and the text: "The world of continuing competence is changing. Explore it with aPTitude." Below the banner are three feature boxes: "PTS AND PTAS" (with a play button and "Get Started" link), "VENDORS" (with a play button and "Get Started" link), and "JURISDICTIONS" (with a play button and "Get Started" link"). At the bottom, there is a link "LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF APTITUDE" and a footer with navigation links and the FSBP logo.

Login

**aPTitude** Home About aPTitude Register Now CC News Contact aPTitude


The world of continuing competence is changing.  
**Explore it with aPTitude.**

**PTS AND PTAS**  
Find out how aPTitude allows you to plan for, track and manage your continuing competence and education activities.  
[▶ Get Started](#)

**VENDORS**  
List and manage your continuing competence and education activities to help PTs and PTAs find the offerings they need.  
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**JURISDICTIONS**  
Communicate your continuing competence and education requirements to licensees in a simple and straightforward manner.  
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[LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF APTITUDE](#)

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And best of all . . .

**aPTitude** is FREE to use!

by Licensee

by Vendors

by Jurisdictions



# *Continuing Competence Activity Certification*

**ProCert**

Recognizing **quality** in  
continuing competence



# ProCert - *What is it?*

- A method of evaluating CE/CC activities against a comprehensive set of standards – the **FSBPT Standards for Continuing Competence**
  - Researched and drafted by FSBPT CC Committee
  - Broad stakeholder review and feedback
  - Approval by Board of Directors
  - Find them at **[continuingcompetence.org](http://continuingcompetence.org)**
- Standards are the foundation of **ProCert**
- Value is awarded in Continuing Competence Units (CCUs)





# FSBPT Continuing Competence Standards

## Required

- Administration
  - Appropriate Language
  - Non-discriminatory
  - Copyright & Disclosure
  - Content
  - Content Analysis
  - Instructor/Developer Qualifications
  - Information and Materials
  - Engagement \*
  - Evidence-based Practice \*
  - Behavioral Objectives \*
- \* include both required & value-added criteria*

## Value-Added

- Activity Design
- Assessment
- Review and Evaluation

Find the Standards @  
[continuingcompetence.org](http://continuingcompetence.org)

# ProCert - a different approach

*Shift away from awarding value based  
solely on duration.*

## Historical approach:

- Value = contact hours
- No way to distinguish the values of different activities of the same duration

## FSBPT approach:

- Value is measured using multiple factors
- Reflects:
  - Demand on the learner
  - Degree of learner engagement
  - Adherence to EBP
  - Duration
  - Other factors

# ProCert – Awarding Value

- Activities that comply with more standards, or that better comply with the standards, are awarded higher values
  - *Example: 11-hour CE course with a lab, role-playing, and case presentations by the learners - along with a post-test - could achieve 12 or possibly 13 CCUs*
- Activities that comply with fewer standards, or demonstrate less compliance with the standards, receive lower value
  - *Example: a 3-hour course delivered via DVD should expect 2 CCUs*



# ProCert - *Reviewers*

- Selected from nationwide pool of applicants
  - Educators
  - Clinicians (includes clinical educators)
  - Regulatory background
  - Range of subject matter expertise and specializations
- Complete initial and ongoing training
- Employ several quality assurance strategies in the process

# ProCert – *Term and Fees*

## TERMS

- One and two year term options
- Any activity is permitted one free resubmit
- Any certified activity is eligible for recertification

## FEES

TYPE	CERTIFICATION PERIOD	PRICE
Single activity	1 year	\$100/activity
Single activity	2 years	\$200/activity
Subscription I - up to 20 activities per year	2 years	\$1195/year
Subscription II - up to 100 activities per year	2 years	\$1595/year
Subscription III - up to 500 activities per year	2 years	\$2495/year

# ProCert & aPTitude

- Submissions and reviews are conducted within **aPTitude**
- **ProCert** certified activities are indicated in **aPTitude**
- Licensees can find activities approved by other evaluators in **aPTitude**



# ProCert Submission & Review Process





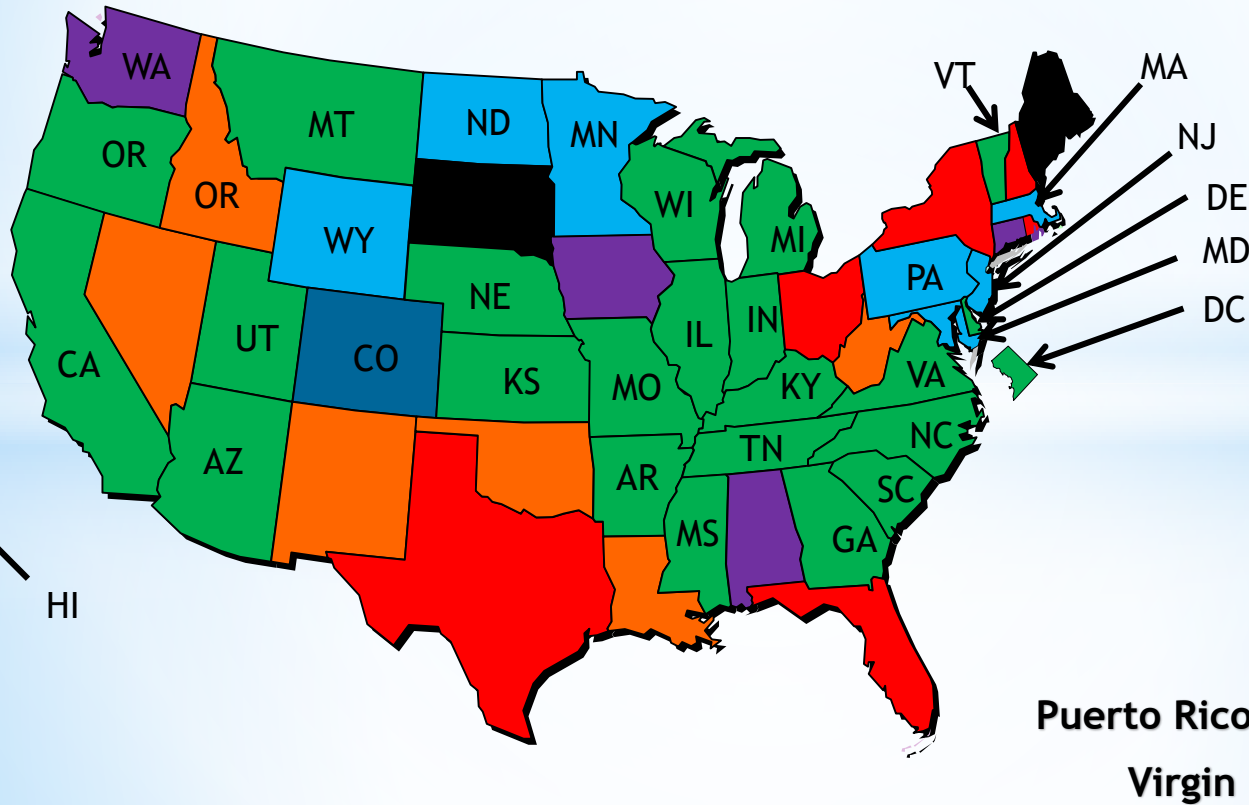
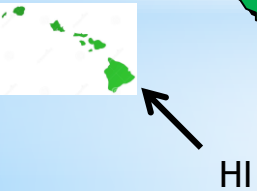
# ProCert – *Why Accept It?*

- Evaluates using comprehensive requirements
- Reviewer preparation focuses on consistency
- Staff support and guidance to vendors and reviewers
- Many vendors want a single source of approval
- Licensees' perspective: consistency across states makes more sense
- ***Most compelling reason – public protection***

# ProCert by the Numbers

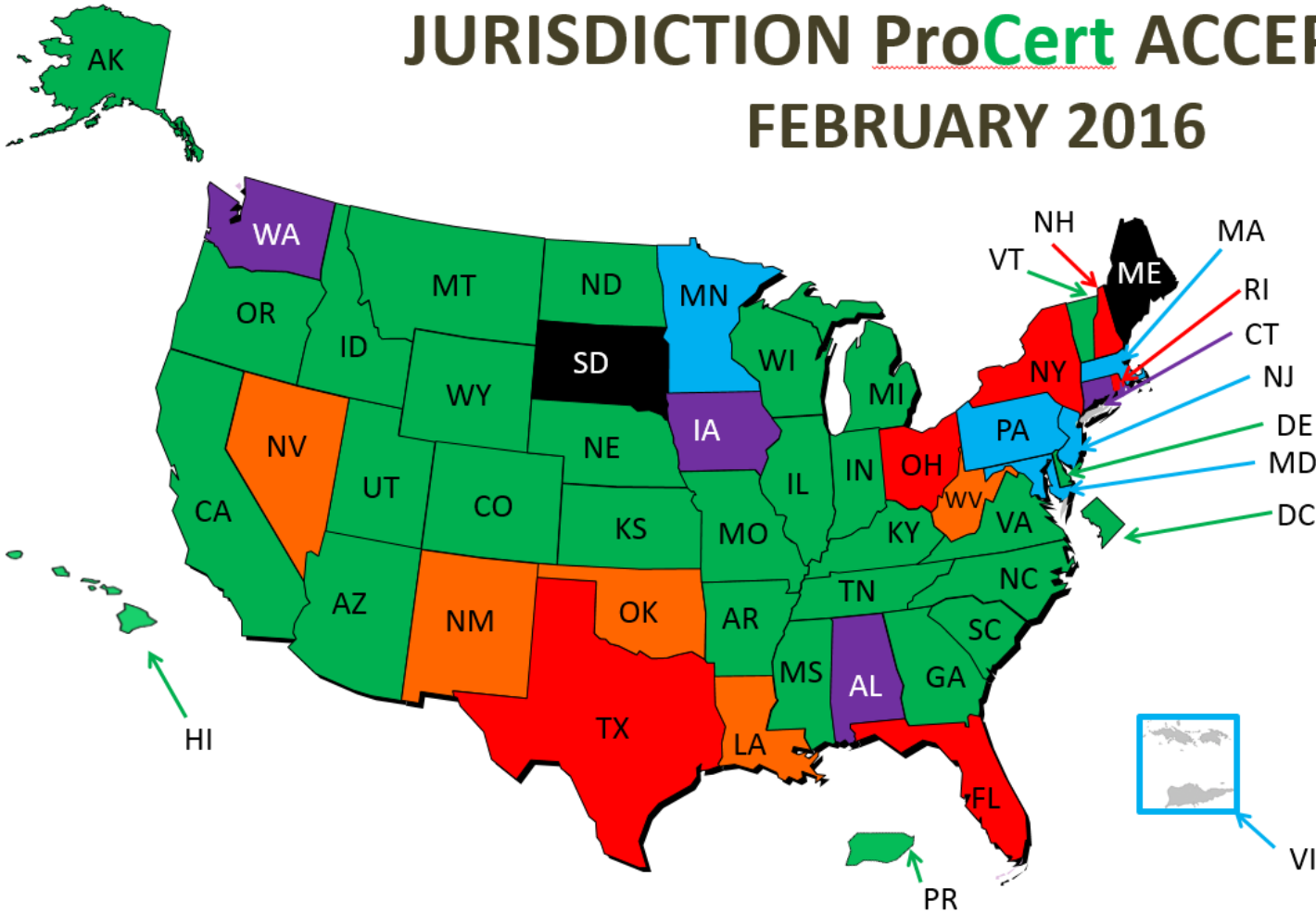
- 45 reviewers
  - Complete 1-4 reviews per week
- 3,500+ activities certified
- 169 vendors have achieved certification for their activities
- 30 states currently accepting **ProCert**
  - 6 additional states pursuing law change to accept

# JURISDICTION ProCert ACCEPTANCE FEBRUARY 2017



<b>ACCEPTS</b> (25)
<b>PROPOSING</b> (7)
<b>CLARIFYING</b> (1)
<b>NO APPROVAL REQUIRED</b> (4)
<b>NOT ACCEPTED</b> (6)
<b>PT BOARD EXCLUSIVELY EVALUATES</b> (6)
<b>NO CC/CE REQUIREMENT</b> (4)

# JURISDICTION ProCert ACCEPTANCE FEBRUARY 2016



- ACCEPTS (30)**
- PROPOSING (6)**
- NO APPROVAL REQUIRED (4)**
- NOT ACCEPTED (6)**
- PT BOARD EXCLUSIVELY EVALUATES (5)**
- NO CC/CE REQUIREMENT (2)**

*An overview of*

oPTion

# WHAT IS oPTion?

- Online self-directed assessment tool for PTs
- Opportunity to compare knowledge to entry-level general practice
- Patient scenarios with multiple-choice questions emphasizing application of general practice knowledge
- Provides feedback
  - Areas of knowledge strengths
  - Opportunities for growth and development
- Planning guidance for future continuing competence activities



## WHAT ELSE DOES oPTion DO?

- Presents the correct answers with the rationale for all potential answers for each question
- Presents references for every scenario to help the taker improve their knowledge
- Issues a feedback report identifying performance in one of 4 levels

# WHY DID WE CREATE oPTion?

- Our Practice Review Tool was retired in late 2016
  - Inconvenient to complete at a Prometric center
  - Not a good value when jurisdictions don't award credit, or award very little
  - It is a "test" of competency
  - Misconception the results will be shared with the licensure board
- Solution: Improve access to a self-directed assessment opportunity with an online and on-demand oPTion

# oPTion Feedback Report

Scores by Knowledge Area		Your Score	
	Total Items	# Items Correct	Percent Correct
<b>TOTAL</b>	90	76	84.4%
Physical Therapy Examination	21	17	81.0%
Foundations for Evaluation, Differential Diagnosis and Prognosis	33	30	90.9%
Interventions	25	18	72.0%
Non-System Domains	11	11	100.0%

Scores by System		Your Score	
	Total Items	# Items Correct	Percent Correct
<b>TOTAL</b>	90	76	84.4%
Cardiovascular/Pulmonary & Lymphatic Systems	15	11	73.3%
Musculoskeletal System	21	16	76.2%
Neuromuscular & Nervous Systems	19	17	89.5%
Other Systems	35	32	91.4%

## Your Performance

Your score falls within **Performance Level 3**. Descriptions of each Performance Level are shown below.

Performance Level	Criteria
<b>Level 4</b>	77 - 90 Items Correct
<b>Level 3</b>	48 - 76 Items Correct
<b>Level 2</b>	15 - 47 Items Correct
<b>Level 1</b>	0 - 14 Items Correct

Your Level

**Level 3** - A physical therapist who has maintained the ability to clinically apply the requisite entry-level knowledge, concepts, and principles necessary for the provision of safe and effective patient care across a broad range of patient conditions. Demonstrates the breadth of knowledge required to effectively examine, evaluate, and provide care in complex clinical situations using current best evidence from clinically relevant research regarding the safety and efficacy of therapeutic, rehabilitative, and preventive physical therapy services.

- Recognizes comorbidities of different diseases and conditions and their implications
- Considers individual patient responses to physical activity and modifies interventions accordingly
- Considers aspects of patient history and clinical presentation in order to conduct efficient examinations and design effective treatment plans across a broad range of patient conditions
- Understands the phases of tissue healing and applies this knowledge across a broad range of patient conditions
- Understands factors related to wellness/prevention of common chronic health issues

# NEVADA APPROVAL OF OPTION

- WHY?

- Literature supports periodic assessment of knowledge as a necessary element of ensuring ongoing competence

- HOW?

- One strategy: Award oPTion credit as a continuing competence activity
  - Current states' credit ranges from 2-15 units

***Jurisprudence Assessment  
Module (JAM)***



"Ignorance of the law is no excuse? — But I didn't even know *that!*"



# Why Jurisprudence?

- How often do you find licensees don't know the law under?
- How are NV patients harmed - or at risk - when licensees don't know the law?

# Jurisprudence Assessment Module (JAM)

- Online and on-demand tool
  - Initial licensure and/or
  - Renewal
    - Every licensure period OR other (e.g. every 5 years)
- Daunting development process for most states
- FSBPT's JAM offers
  - Delivery platform
  - Development from start to finish
  - Support to the takers and the jurisdiction

# Jurisprudence Assessment Module - *What is it?*

- Measure of knowledge of state law
- Poses questions/scenarios essential to practice in compliance
- Taker applies knowledge to demonstrate understanding
- The ultimate purpose – ***public protection***

# JAM Development - *FSBPT Responsibilities*

- Develop blueprint for state board approval
- Write the items
- Build the forms
- Present items and forms to the board for approval
- Guide board through pass point setting process
- Administer: registration, payment, delivery, scoring
- Report to candidate and to the state
- Annually review item performance statistics
- Issue an annual report to the state

# JAM Development – *State Responsibilities*

- Give us your current law
- Approve the blueprint, items and forms
- Participate in pass point setting meeting
- Provide law changes to FSBPT as soon as possible

# JAM – *Pricing Options*

- **Typical Model**

- Licensee fees

- Varies with usage: Initial licensure? Renewal? Both?

- State Board costs

- Hosting 1 meeting (travel, meals, room rental, etc.)
    - FSBPT covers cost of staff traveling to you

- **Alternative Model**

- Jurisdiction makes investment into the development to reduce licensee fees



# JAM Advantages

- High-quality and reliable assessment
- Assurance of integrity of the development and maintenance processes, and the product itself:
  - Psychometric analysis with review and replacement of items as needed
  - Assurance it meets testing industry standards

# **Jurisprudence Assessment Module**

## ***Why Require It?***

The most important reason:

***Greater assurance of public protection when licensees demonstrate they know the law***

## Licensees

Assure your patients, your licensing board and – most importantly – yourself that you're competent. FSBPT offers resources and tools to:



- Stay current in your practice
- Assess, maintain and enhance your competence
- Meet licensure requirements

[Learn More](#)

## States

The world of continuing competence is changing. Consumers assume a license to practice means competence to practice. Leverage resources for managing continuing competence requirements for your licensees. Partner with FSBPT to effectively design, implement and manage your state's system.

[Learn More](#)

## Course & Activity Providers



List and manage your continuing competence and education activities to help PTs and PTAs find the offerings they need. Submit your activities to ProCert to be evaluated for multi-state certification and acceptance.

[Learn More](#)

## Resources

[aPTitude](#)[Continuing Competence Model](#)[Standards for Continuing Competence Activities](#)[ProCert Course & Activity Certification](#)[Practice Review Tool](#)[Discussion Paper: A Collaboration of FSBPT and the APTA](#)[Jurisprudence Examinations](#)[Articles and Resources](#)[Continuing Competence FAQs](#)[For Consumers and Patients](#)

## Why Continuing Competence?



- Patients have every right to assume that a health care provider's license to practice provides assurance of his or her current professional competence.
- Clinicians themselves want assurance that those with whom they practice possess and use current knowledge and skills, and are fully competent.

The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) is committed to maintaining and enhancing its Continuing Competence Initiative consisting of resources, tools and the aPTitude system for use by physical therapy licensing boards, PT & PTA licensees, and providers of continuing education and competence activities.

## *aPTitude – Your Continuing Competence System*



***Sounds good?***

***Where do we go from here?***



# Where do we go from here?

Rule changes to potentially include:

- Expand the CE model to a CC model
- Implement **aPTitude** as compliance reporting and audit verification system
- Use **ProCert** to evaluate activities
- Award credit to oPTion
- Require a JAM

# Sound Daunting? Let FSBPT Help!

- Drafting/reviewing proposed rule language
- Implementation assistance
- Share research, data, resources
- Communiques to licensees, vendors, other stakeholders

**We are here to serve YOU!**



# Questions, Comments or Feedback?

## Thank You!

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