

ENTRY-LEVEL EDUCATIONAL EQUIVALENCY REVIEW (ELEER)*
Guidelines for Graduates January 1, 2003 – Current

Physical Therapy Board of California

This evaluation tool should not be interpreted as the sole determinant of an individual's educational preparation or competency to practice. It is not intended to be used as an instrument in evaluation of an educational institution with respect to accreditation.

Name: _____ File #: _____ Years of PT Matriculation: _____

School: _____ City: _____ Country: _____

Reviewer: _____ Date: _____ CAPTE Accredited: _____ YES _____ NO

DEGREE: Currently, a United States graduate degree (Master's or Doctorate) in physical therapy is the degree received by United States educated physical therapists. Equivalency in course work shall be required of foreign-educated physical therapists that pursue licensure to practice in the United States. Because of the differences in United States educational systems, pre-physical therapy undergraduate programs currently advance students to the graduate entry-level programs with minimums of two (2) to three (3) years of undergraduate studies, in some cases.

Additional specific coursework or **content** is required to satisfy the minimum credit hour requirement in areas of general and professional education. The applicant must satisfy the California jurisdiction requirement of semester credit hours in prerequisite course work. The minimum course work requirements may NOT necessarily satisfy the requirements for a baccalaureate degree. California may require a greater number of semester credit hours in either general or professional education as part of the requirements for licensure.

Guidelines

One (1) semester hour of credit = 15 hours of classroom instruction

Courses with laboratory = 30 hours of laboratory instruction per semester credit

Clinical education courses = 48 hours of clinical practicum experience per semester credit

* Based on Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists (adopted 10/30/96; effective 01/01/98). Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, American Physical Therapy Association, Alexandria, VA. and A Course Work Evaluation Tool For Persons Who Received Their Physical Therapy Education Outside the United States; Foreign Educated Physical Therapist Committee (Revised March 1999). Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy, Alexandria, VA and American Physical Therapy Association 2002 Fact Sheet, Physical Therapist Education Programs (October 2002).

ENTRY-LEVEL EDUCATIONAL EQUIVALENCY REVIEW

GENERAL EDUCATION

Sixty (60) semester credits shall be the minimum number required in general education in the following areas:

Humanities - Physical Science - Biological Science - Social Science - Behavioral Science - Mathematics

with a minimum of three (3) semester units to satisfy each area of general education unless otherwise noted.*

* Jurisdictions have the right to determine the inclusiveness/restrictiveness of these criteria, based on the total components of the credentials evaluation. Jurisdictional needs may include differing or additional requirements such as course work hours and supervised clinical practicum requirements.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

I. Humanities: Three (3) semester units minimum	Credit Hours	Converted Grade	Transcript Reference
<i>A. English</i>			
<i>B. English Composition</i>			
<i>C. Speech or Oral Communication</i>			
<i>D. Foreign Language (other than native language)</i>			
<i>E. Literature</i>			
<i>F. Art</i>			
<i>G. Music</i>			
<i>H.</i>			
<i>I.</i>			
<i>J.</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

II. Physical Science: One course in Chemistry with laboratory and one course in Physics with laboratory are required.	Credit Hours	Converted Grade	Transcript Reference
<i>A. Chemistry (organic or inorganic) with laboratory*</i>			
<i>B. Physics with laboratory*</i>			
<i>C. Geology</i>			
<i>D. Astronomy</i>			
<i>E.</i>			
<i>F.</i>			
<i>G.</i>			

* Required

SUBTOTAL: _____

III. Biological Science: Three (3) semester units minimum	Credit Hours	Converted Grade	Transcript Reference
<i>A. Human Biology</i>			
<i>B. Anatomy</i>			
<i>C. Physiology</i>			
<i>D. Zoology</i>			
<i>E. Kinesiology</i>			
<i>F. Neuroscience</i>			
<i>G. Genetics</i>			
<i>H.</i>			
<i>I.</i>			
<i>J.</i>			
<i>K.</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

IV. Social Science: Three (3) semester units minimum	Credit Hours	Converted Grade	Transcript Reference
<i>A. History</i>			
<i>B. Geography</i>			
<i>C. Sociology</i>			
<i>D. Government</i>			
<i>E. Religion</i>			
<i>F. Political Science</i>			
<i>G. Government</i>			
<i>H. Philosophy</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

V. Behavioral Science: Three (3) semester units minimum	Credit Hours	Converted Grade	Transcript Reference
<i>A. Psychology</i>			
<i>B. Anthropology</i>			
<i>C. Ethics</i>			
<i>D.</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

VI. Mathematics: Three (3) semester units minimum	Credit Hours	Converted Grade	Transcript Reference
<i>A. Statistics</i>			
<i>B. Algebra</i>			
<i>C. Pre-Calculus</i>			
<i>D. Calculus</i>			
<i>E. Trigonometry</i>			
<i>F. Geometry</i>			
<i>G. Computer Science</i>			
<i>H.</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDITS: _____ **(60 CREDITS MINIMUM)**

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

I. Basic Health Science: Shall include content areas A. – E.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Syllabus Reference
<i>A. Human Anatomy</i> (Specific to Physical Therapy)			
<i>B. Human Physiology</i> (Specific to Physical Therapy)			
<i>C. Neuroscience</i> (Neuroanatomy and neurophysiology)			
<i>D. Kinesiology</i> OR <i>Functional Anatomy</i> (Biomechanics)			
<i>E. Pathology</i>			
<i>F.</i>			
<i>G.</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

II. Medical Science: Clinical medicine pertinent to physical therapy. Shall include content areas A. – E .	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Syllabus Reference
<i>A. Neurology</i>			
<i>B. Orthopedics</i>			
<i>C. Pediatrics</i>			
<i>D. Geriatrics</i>			
<i>E. Cardiopulmonary</i>			
<i>F. Medicine and Surgery</i>			
<i>G. Pharmacology</i>			
<i>H. Radiology</i>			
<i>I.</i>			
<i>J.</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

III. Clinical Science: Physical Therapy course work. Shall include content areas A. – D.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Syllabus Reference
<i>A. Cardiopulmonary Examination/Evaluation:</i>			
<i>B. Integumentary Examination/ Evaluation:</i>			
<i>C. Musculoskeletal Examination/Evaluation:</i>			
<i>D. Neuromuscular Examination/Evaluation:</i>			
<i>E.</i>			
<i>F.</i>			
<i>G.</i>			
<i>H.</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

NOTE: Within the credit hours assigned in *III. Clinical Science* shown ABOVE, indicate on the Examination and Evaluation content area summary on the FOLLOWING PAGE, the “tests and measures for examinations” content for which you found evidence of at least seventeen (17) out of the twenty-three (23) items.

EXAMINATION AND EVALUATION CONTENT AREA SUMMARY

Adapted from: *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists*. Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; 1996, p. 29.

Examination & Evaluation Content Areas (listed alphabetically) include, but not limited to: Shall show evidence of at least seventeen (17) items.	Present = √ Absent = O	Transcript/Syllabus Reference
1. Aerobic capacity		
2. Anthropometric characteristics		
3. Arousal, mentation, and cognition		
4. Assistive and adaptive devices		
5. Community and work (job, school, or play) reintegration		
6. Cranial nerve integrity		
7. Environmental, home, and work barriers		
8. Ergonomics and body mechanics		
9. Gait, assisted locomotion, and balance		
10. Integumentary integrity		
11. Joint integrity and mobility		
12. Motor function		
13. Muscle performance (including strength, power, and endurance)		
14. Neuromotor development & sensory integration		
15. Orthotic, protective and supportive devices		
16. Pain		
17. Posture		
18. Prosthetic requirements		
19. Range of motion		
20. Reflex integrity		
21. Self-care and home management (including ADL and IADL)		
22. Sensory Integration (including proprioception & kinesthesia)		
23. Ventilation, respiration & circulation		

IV. Clinical Science Interventions: Physical Therapist coursework Shall include content areas A. – D.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Syllabus Reference
<i>A. Cardiopulmonary Intervention</i>			
<i>B. Integumentary Intervention</i>			
<i>C. Musculoskeletal Intervention</i>			
<i>D. Neuromuscular Intervention</i>			
<i>E.</i>			
<i>F.</i>			
<i>G.</i>			
<i>H.</i>			
<i>I.</i>			
<i>J.</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

NOTE: Within the credit hours assigned in *IV. Clinical Science Interventions* shown ABOVE, indicate on the Intervention Content Area Summary BELOW, content for which there is evidence of at least seven (7) of the ten (10) items.

INTERVENTION CONTENT AREA SUMMARY

Adapted from: *Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapists*. Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; 1996, p. 30.

Intervention Content Areas: (listed alphabetically) include, but are not limited to, the following (1. – 10.): Shall show evidence of at least seven items.	Present = √ Absent = O	Transcript/Syllabus Reference
<i>1. Airway clearance techniques</i>		
<i>2. Debridement and wound care</i>		
<i>3. Electrotherapeutic modalities</i>		
<i>4. Functional training in community and work (job, school, or play) reintegration (including IADL, work hardening, and work conditioning)</i>		
<i>5. Functional training in self-care & home management (including ADL and IADL)</i>		
<i>6. Manual therapy techniques</i>		
<i>7. Patient-related instruction</i>		
<i>8. Physical agents and mechanical modalities</i>		
<i>9. Prescription, application, and as appropriate, fabrication of assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices and equipment</i>		
<i>10. Therapeutic exercise (including aerobic conditioning)</i>		
<i>11.</i>		
<i>12.</i>		

V. Clinical Education	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Syllabus Reference
Clinical Internships = 800 total hours	a. Part time hours: _____ b. Full time hours: _____	a. _____ b. _____	a. _____ b. _____

SUBTOTAL: _____

NOTE: Clinical Education must include no less than 800 hours TOTAL of Physical Therapist-Supervised application of Physical Therapy theory, examination, evaluation, and intervention. The MAXIMUM number of Clinical Education credits = 23 (converted) semester credit hours.

VI. Related Professional Coursework: Shall include three content areas minimum.	Credit Hours	Transcript Reference	Syllabus Reference
<i>A. Professional Ethics</i>			
<i>B. Administration</i>			
<i>C. Community Health</i>			
<i>D. Research</i>			
<i>E. Educational Techniques</i>			
<i>F. Medical Terminology</i>			
<i>G. Communication (related to client/patient care)</i>			
<i>H. Legal Aspects of Physical Therapy Practice</i>			
<i>I. Psychosocial Aspects in Physical Therapy Practice</i>			
<i>J. Current Issues in Physical Therapy Practice</i>			
<i>K.</i>			

SUBTOTAL: _____

TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDITS (60 minimum) = _____
TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CREDITS (80 minimum) = _____
TOTAL CREDITS (140 minimum) = _____

NOTE: Substantially equivalent means an individual has satisfied or exceeded the minimum number of credits required in general and professional education needed for a United States baccalaureate degree in physical therapy. However, the coursework completed may not be identical in all respects to a United States baccalaureate degree in physical therapy, but required content areas are evident. Deficiencies may be noted in coursework, but not in essential areas of professional education or of such magnitude that the education is not deemed to be at the entry-level of preparation for practice in the United States.