

LAW GOVERNING PHYSICAL THERAPY IN MARYLAND

Article 43, Sections 565 to 575, Inclusive.

1947 Supp., sec. 531. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 531.

565. Physical Therapy is defined for the purpose of this sub-title as the treatment of human injuries, diseases, or disabilities by means of the healing properties of exercise, massage, ultra-violet rays, mechanical devices, heat, cold air, light, water, and electricity, but not by means of Roentgen rays, radium, surgery or drugs.

1947 Supp., sec. 532. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 532.

566. A Physical Therapist is defined for the purpose of this sub-title as one who:

(a) Treats human diseases, injuries or disabilities by Physical Therapy;

(b) Treats only patients diagnosed and referred by licensed medical doctors;

(c) Treats for fees; and

(d) Meets those requirements regarding experience and training in Physical Therapy as set forth in this sub-title.

1947 Supp., sec. 533. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 533
1949, ch. 569, sec. 533.

567. On June 1, 1949, the term of each member of the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners then in office shall terminate, and on said date the Governor shall appoint five (5) persons who shall be known as the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners. Each person appointed to said Board shall be licensed to practice medicine under the laws of this State. One of the appointments shall be for a term of one (1) year, one for a term of two (2) years, one for a term of three (3) years, one for a term of four (4) years, and one for a term of five (5) years; thereafter, appointments shall be for terms of five (5) years. Vacancies shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term. All appointments shall be made from lists of names of qualified persons submitted to the Governor by the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, and shall contain not less than three (3) names for each appointment to be made. For the transaction of business, the concurrence of at least three (3) members of the Board shall be necessary. Members of the Board shall be entitled to receive such compensation as it may determine from time to time, not to exceed Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per day for each day they are engaged in transacting the business of the Board. The members shall receive also their necessary traveling expenses. The Board shall elect annually one of its members as Chairman, and shall also elect annually a

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Secretary, who need not be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall receive such compensation as may be provided in the budget; and the compensation of the members, the Secretary and all expenses of the Board shall be paid from its receipts. The Board shall have the authority to obtain information which it may require in the field of physical therapy and, for that purpose, may secure the advice of experts and consultants to be paid out of the funds of the Board.

1947 Supp., sec. 534. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 534.

568. Annually after January 1, 1948, or more often if the Board shall deem it necessary, the said Board shall hold an examination for applicants for licenses to practice Physical Therapy in this State. Notice of time and place of such examination shall be given by one or more announcements in a daily newspaper published in the City of Baltimore and by such other methods as the said Board may see fit to use.

1947 Supp., sec. 535. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 535.

569. The said Board is empowered to pass upon the qualifications of applicants for licenses and shall make such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with this sub-title, as are necessary for the examination and licensing of applicants, and for suspension or revocation of licenses.

1947 Supp., sec. 536. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 536.

570. The said Board shall be and is hereby empowered, after due notice and hearing, to suspend or revoke any licenses issued, under the provisions of this sub-title, to anyone who does or attempts to do any act, or holds himself or herself as being authorized to do any act as a Physical Therapist not expressly conferred herein upon such licensee, or for any violations of this sub-title.

1947 Supp., sec. 537. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 537.

571. (A) Without Examination: Any person practicing Physical Therapy in the State of Maryland on June 1, 1947 shall be entitled to be licensed as a Physical Therapist if: (1) he or she is a member of the Maryland State Registry of Physical Therapists, or Maryland State Physical Therapy Society, Inc., or (2) if: (a) he or she produces statements from three (3) active, reputable licensed doctors of medicine certifying that he or she is of good moral character and has treated patients under the direction and supervision of the certifying doctor of medicine for a period of not less than two years in the State of Maryland prior to the application for license, or if: (b) he or she produces satisfactory evidence to the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, of experience and training in Physical Therapy for a period of not less than one year in an approved hospital. No applications for licenses without examination shall be accepted after January 1, 1948, unless the applicant shall be engaged in the military service of the United States or any of its allies, in which case such application shall be accepted at any time within six (6) months after honorable discharge from such military service.

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(B) By Examination: (1) Every person other than those covered by 571 (A) above, of good moral character, who has completed physical therapy training prior to June 1, 1947 or who is attending a course in physical therapy on June 1, 1947, may make application for examination for license providing that he or she produce evidence satisfactory to the Maryland State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners of his or her graduation from a school, college, hospital or university which has a complete and acceptable course in physical therapy, and which is accredited by the Maryland State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

(2) Persons who shall enter physical therapy training after June 1, 1947, shall be required to meet one of the following educational requirements in order to be eligible to take the examination for license in the State of Maryland:

(a) Graduation from an accredited school of nursing plus an accredited course in Physical Therapy of not less than 9 months; or

(b) Graduation from an accredited school of physical education plus an accredited course in Physical Therapy of not less than 9 months; or

(c) Completion of three years of college with science courses plus an accredited course in Physical Therapy of not less than 9 months; or

(d) Graduation from a high school plus a four (4) year college course with a major in Physical Therapy; or

(e) Graduation in Medical Technology with B. S. degree plus an accredited course in Physical Therapy of not less than 9 months.

(C) Any Physical Therapist licensed or registered in any other State which has heretofore or which will hereafter establish such licensing or registering requirements by a legally constituted board with standards approved by the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners of Maryland, and whose qualifications are equal to those of this State, in the discretion of said Board, may be eligible to receive a license as a Physical Therapist in this State without examination.

1947 Supp., sec. 538. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 538.
1949, ch. 569, sec. 538. 1951, ch. 246.

572. All persons licensed as physical therapists under the provisions of this sub-title shall, as a condition precedent to granting of such license, pay to the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, a fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) which shall accompany the application for the license. Said fee shall be retained by the Board, whether or not the license is issued. All licenses heretofore issued under the provisions of this sub-title shall expire on January 1, 1950, and shall be renewed by application to the Board, upon payment of a renewal fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00), and shall be granted unless the licensee improperly or unlawfully obtained the license in the first instance or since its issuance, has committed a substantial violation of any of the provisions of this sub-title.

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Each license issued or renewed after June 1, 1951 shall be renewed annually upon payment of a renewal fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00). Any licensee who fails to make application for renewal of his or her license within three months of its expiration, accompanied by the required renewal fee, shall be refused a renewal until he or she shall have successfully passed the examination as set forth in Section 571 (B) of this sub-title and paid the Ten Dollars (\$10.00) fee hereinbefore set forth for such examination.

1947 Supp., sec. 539. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 539.

573. All persons licensed as Physical Therapists under the provisions of this sub-title, and no others, shall be known as Physical Therapists and shall be entitled to use the abbreviation "P. T." or any other words, letters or symbols which indicate that the person using the same is a licensed Physical Therapist and authorized to practice as such in this State. The State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners shall send to the State Board of Health the name and address of each person licensed as a Physical Therapist.

1947 Supp., sec. 540. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 540.

574. **Penalty:** Subject to the provisions of this sub-title, no person shall practice as a Physical Therapist as defined herein, nor use the abbreviation "P. T." or any other words, letters or symbols approved by the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners indicating that he or she is a licensed Physical Therapist in this State unless licensed as herein provided. Any person violating any provision of this sub-title shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). The State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners shall cause to be presented to the State's Attorney of Baltimore City or of the County wherein any violation occurs, evidence of such violation and may incur any necessary expense in the performance of such duty; such expense to be paid out of the receipts of said Board.

1947 Supp., sec. 541. 1947, ch. 906, sec. 541.

575. All laws or parts of laws inconsistent herewith are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency, but nothing herein contained shall be construed to amend the laws relating to the practice of chiropractic, osteopathy, dentistry, chiropody, nursing, optometry, medicine and surgery or to prohibit chiropractors from practicing physical therapy in their practice as chiropractors; nor to the practice of beauty culture, hair dressing or in the operation of health clubs, in non-medical treatments, except as specifically provided in this sub-title, provided, that nothing in this sub-title shall be construed as to prohibit or prevent the advertising of health clubs as health clubs, nor shall any action be taken under the authority of this sub-title to accomplish such a result.