

MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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**Chapter Med 20**

**CERTIFICATE TO PRACTICE PHYSICAL THERAPY;  
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE  
TO ALL CANDIDATES**

Med 20.01	General requirements	Med 20.04	Temporary permit
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Med 20.03	Certificate by reciprocity		

**History:** Chapter 20 as it existed on July 31, 1970 was repealed and a new chapter Med 20 was created, Register, July, 1970, No. 175, eff. 8-1-70.

**Med 20.01 General requirements.** (1) **PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS.** An applicant for registration to practice physical therapy must present satisfactory evidence that he is at least 20 years of age, of good moral character, and holds a diploma from a recognized high school or can present evidence of an equivalent education.

(2) **PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS.** An applicant for registration to practice physical therapy in this state must present satisfactory evidence of graduation from a school of physical therapy with standards of education and training substantially equivalent to that of the university of Wisconsin.

*Note:* (The board approves and recognizes those schools of physical therapy which are approved by the American Physical Therapy Association from 1928 to 1936 and by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association beginning in 1936.)

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1970, No. 175, eff. 8-1-70.

**Med 20.02 Certificate by examination.** (1) An applicant for license by examination is required to meet the preliminary requirements, the professional requirements, and successfully pass the licensing examination. He must also submit an application on the form prescribed and provided by the board, together with the following documents:

(a) Notarized photostatic or photographic copies of the following:

1. High school diploma, transcript of high school credits, or evidence of equivalent education.
2. Professional diploma, degree, certificate, or letter of certification.
3. Birth certificate or other authenticated document providing age.
4. Marriage certificate and/or other satisfactory evidence of discrepancies in spelling or change in names appearing on the documents.

(b) Unmounted, recent photograph of applicant with an affidavit on the reverse side made by the applicant and the photographer that the photo is that of the applicant and that his signature appears on the reverse side of the photo. The photographer's affidavit must be notarized. Date photo was taken must appear on reverse side of photo. Photo must not be smaller than passport size.

(c) Recommendations from 2 licensed physicians as to the moral and professional character of the applicant, forms for which are provided on application blank.

(d) Fee of \$25 to be made payable to the medical examining board.

(e) Certificate of professional education, form for which is provided on application blank. The school seal is required. If there is no school seal, certificate of professional education must be notarized by school signing the certificate.

(f) Complete transcript or transcripts of pre-professional and professional credits each bearing the seal of school of issuance. Transcripts are to be sent directly to the secretary of the physical therapy examining committee from the school of issuance.

(2) The examination shall be both scientific and practical and shall be conducted by an examining council of 3 physical therapists selected by the medical examining board. The applicant shall present himself for examination at the first board meeting at which examinations are held following the submission of his application.

(3) Examinations must be written in ink and applicants are advised to bring fountain pens for their own convenience.

(4) Conditions may be removed within one year without additional charge. This likewise pertains to outright failures. A general average of 75% is required for passing. 70% is required in each subject for passing. One grade below 70 constitutes a condition; more than one mark below 70 requires rewriting the entire examination.

(5) Examinations are conducted only in the English language, and are both written and oral.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1970, No. 175, eff. 8-1-70.

**Med 20.03 Certificate by reciprocity.** (1) Any physical therapist holding a license from a State or foreign country in which the requirements for license are equivalent to those of Wisconsin may be issued a certificate of registration in physical therapy by reciprocity.

(2) Application must be submitted on forms provided by the board together with:

(a) Notarized photostatic or photographic copies of the following:

1. High school diploma, transcript of high school credits, or evidence of equivalent education.
2. Professional diploma, degree, certificate, or letter of certification.
3. Birth certificate or other authenticated document providing age.
4. Marriage certificate and/or other satisfactory evidence of discrepancies in spelling or change in names appearing on the documents.
5. License in the state from which the applicant is seeking reciprocity.

(b) Unmounted, recent photograph of applicant with an affidavit on the reverse side made by the applicant and the photographer that the photo is that of the applicant and that his signature appears on

the reverse side of the photo. The photographer's affidavit must be notarized. Date photo was taken must appear on reverse side of photo. Photo must not be smaller than passport size.

(c) Recommendations from 2 licensed physicians as to the moral and professional character of the applicant, forms for which are provided on application blank.

(d) Fee of \$25 to be made payable to the medical examining board.

(e) Certificate of professional education, form for which is provided on application blank. The school seal is required. If there is no school seal, certificate of professional education must be notarized by school signing the certificate.

(f) Complete transcript or transcripts of pre-professional and professional credits each bearing the seal of school of issuance. Transcripts are to be sent directly to the secretary of the physical therapy examining council from the school of issuance.

(g) Certificate of secretary of the state board issuing original license, form for which is provided on application blank. The applicant must send his completed application form together with his photo to the state board issuing original license for comparison and completion of certificate.

(3) All applicants are required to appear before the council while in executive session, at which time an oral examination is given.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1970, No. 175, eff. 8-1-70.

**Med 20.04 Temporary permit.** (1) The board may issue without examination, a temporary permit to practice physical therapy for a period not exceeding 6 months to any person who meets the qualifications of this section, and upon showing that he has been assigned to this state on a temporary basis to assist in a medical emergency.

(2) Applications must be submitted on forms prescribed and provided by the board, and should be made directly to the secretary of the board, together with:

(a) A notarized statement from the organization or individual who wishes to employ the applicant or who wishes the applicant's assistance.

(b) Other documents required at the discretion of the secretary of the board to prove the applicant's qualifications.

(c) Fee of \$2.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1970, No. 175, eff. 8-1-70.

**Med 20.05 Annual registration.** The annual registration fee shall be not more than \$10 per year to be set by the board and shall be separate from the application fee. Registration certificate expires on December 31st of each year and is payable for the whole or portion of each year.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1970, No. 175, eff. 8-1-70.