



# Program Director Newsletter



## Why are your graduates asking for additional documentation?

The Coursework Evaluation Tool version 6 (CWT6©) was adopted as of January 1, 2018, and reflects the current entry level requirements for a U.S. Graduate. This tool equates the educational content to the entry level Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT). There are a number of additional required content areas in the CWT6, as was noted in a previous Newsletter. There are also a number of items which were optional in the earlier versions of the CWT, which are now required content. Because these were previously optional items there may not have been documentation of this content in school syllabi or course descriptions. Graduates of your programs may therefore be asking for additional documents to be sent to supplement your official syllabi from earlier years.



### Re-evaluation based upon additional information:

If FCCPT determines that either:

- 1) All of the necessary information was not submitted by an issuing institution prior to the start of the review process, or
- 2) The information originally sent was incomplete or incorrect, then the applicant may request to have additional information sent to FCCPT from the appropriate issuing institution and apply for a Re-evaluation.

Additional information can include curriculum/course descriptions for courses on transcripts, evidence of missing courses from transcripts, clinical education certificates that include the number of hours in the internship, licensure documents, etc.

### Important:

All additional documentation must come directly from the issuing institution and not from the applicant.

FCCPT will only accept pre-existing documents from the school. FCCPT will not

accept letters indicating content has been taught or documents prepared specifically for FCCPT purposes.

If a more detailed syllabus is being submitted for Re-evaluation, it must meet the following criteria:

- 1) The syllabus is the syllabus that was in use at the time of the applicant's attendance;
- 2) The syllabus must include the entire PT curriculum; and
- 3) The syllabus must include a full bibliography of textbooks used in each class.

If the information was not provided at the time of the initial evaluation, it must be accompanied by a letter of explanation as to why the information was not sent with the original set of documents. The letter must be signed and sealed by the appropriate person at the university or college.

If the new documents fail to meet the criteria, they will not be used in the Re-evaluation process.

Volume 18, Issue 1

March 2018

### Special points of interest:

- Call Center  
703-684-8406
- Help Desk  
help@fccpt.org

### Did You Know?

- FCCPT is the only agency recognized by all 53 jurisdictions.
- FCCPT was the first to offer advising and pre-approval service (PLAN).
- FCCPT bundles some services to reduce costs to applicants.
- FCCPT is the only PT credentialing agency to use a consensus model for review. A minimum of four experts review each set of documents to determine evidence in content.



The FCCPT is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support protection of the public through the evaluation and authentication of credentials and provision of related services in an ethical manner.



## Certifying Clinical Education Hours

Note: Graduates must have evidence of 1050 hours of clinical education to meet the requirements of CWT6.

Clinical education must include; full time physical therapist-supervised application of physical therapy theory, examination, evaluation, and intervention.

The applicant must have a minimum of two full-time clinical educational experiences.

The applicant must have experiences with a variety of patient populations, diagnoses, and acuity levels.

If graduates are not able to complete the minimum of 1050 hours of clinical education within the curriculum, there are a few options for them to use.

1. The school may arrange for a clinical externship as an elective.
2. The student may complete a supervised clinical practice approved by the Licensure Board.
3. The student may complete Post Graduate Clinical Work Experience.

In May 2016 the FSBPT - Board of Directors approved the "Framework for Considering the Non-CAPTE Graduates Experiences for Licensure".

Based on the Framework, the credential review agencies may consider clinical, direct patient care, work experience that meets certain criteria towards the CWT6 required

1050 clinical education hours. There are a number of parameters and limitations included in the Framework to ensure that the practice experience meets a minimal level of quality.

The following are the post-graduate clinical experience hours requirements for physical therapists:

- ◆ Completed an average of at least 20 hours per week for a minimum of 1,000 hours.
- ◆ Completed 1,000 hours in direct patient care.
- ◆ Completed the hours within the most recent three years preceding the application.
- ◆ Completed the hours within a hospital, rehabilitation center, or other facility that employed a minimum staff of at least three (including the applicant) practicing PTs during the applicant's clinical experience hours.
- ◆ PTs employed at the facility with the applicant must have been available for consultation.
- ◆ At least one of the PTs employed at the facility with the applicant must have at least two years experience practicing as a PT.
- ◆ Verification that the applicant was eligible to practice in the country in which the experience was completed.
- ◆ Verification that the applicant has had no disciplinary action against any professional license held for at least two years.
- ◆ Notarized verification of the work experience provided by a supervisor

such as the department head of the physical therapy practice or the director/head of the facility.

4. Additionally, any university externship conducted under the supervision of a university PT program, credentialed residency or fellowship would be an acceptable option to meet a deficit of clinical education hours. In order to accept an externship, FCCPT must receive an official transcript with a grade, a certificate with the total hours, where the placement was completed, who supervised.

PT Programs may be asked to provide a certificate of clinical internship if the placements and types of patients are not clear from the transcripts and syllabi.

*...In the Hands of  
The World's Finest...*

## Type 1 Comprehensive Credentials Review Requirements for Obtaining a Healthcare Worker Certificate for Visa Purposes

To apply for a Type 1 service for visa purposes all applicants must:

1. Hold an entry level degree in physical therapy/physiotherapy. This must be a minimum of a Bachelor's degree.
2. Additionally, hold a Master's degree or higher.
3. Meet the requirements for TOEFL as described on the FCCPT website.
4. Meet the requirements for educational equivalency using the most current CWT6, and a minimum of 210 semester credits.

Note: For state licensure only the minimum credits is 170.

### Why FCCPT?

1. The FCCPT is the only credentialing agency recognized by all 53 U.S. licensure authorities for the delivery of the educational credentials review.
  - a. Other agencies only provide the CWT for the state requirement.
  - b. In 2020 the CWT6 review will be a requirement of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) to sit for the National Physical Therapy Exam (NPTE).
2. The FCCPT is also recognized by USCIS for the issuance of the Healthcare Worker Certificate for Visa purposes.
3. FCCPT is the only agency which provides a review in the most current Coursework Evaluation Tool (CWT6<sup>©</sup>) and an additional report for the state if the state accepts the review based on year of graduation.
  4. The dual review does take longer, staff is working to decrease this time frame, but in the future the applicants will not need to pay the other agencies for a re-evaluation to the CWT6.

**Please share this newsletter with your students and graduates.**



**FCCPT is the only PT credentialing agency to use a consensus model for review. A minimum of four experts review each set of documents to determine evidence in content.**

