

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
HEALTH REGULATION AND LICENSING ADMINISTRATION**

BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY  
AUTHORITY FOR GUIDANCE

April 10, 2024  
DATE OF POLICY

24-001  
POLICY NO.

**POLICY STATEMENT**

**LIVE, INTERACTIVE CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) COURSES IN REAL-TIME  
TO COUNT AS IN-PERSON CES TOWARD FULFILLMENT OF IN-PERSON, FACE-  
TO-FACE, CE REQUIREMENT**

In light of *the former* Public Emergency the Board of Physical Therapy (Board) *had adopted* Policy Statement 21-002 *suspending the requirement for a specified number of CEs to be In-Person Face-to-Face CEs.* (See Policy Statement 21-002). However, *the Board now issues this new policy statement, **Policy Statement No. 24-001**, and offers this guidance related to the continuing education (CE) required to maintain physical therapy and physical therapist assistant (PTA) licenses in the District.*

Section 6706.4 of Title 17 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR) requires that, to qualify for the licensure renewal, a physical therapist (PT) must complete forty (40) hours of physical therapy CEs during the two (2) years of the licensure term but no more than twenty (20) hours may be obtained online through internet courses. 17 DCMR § 6706.4(a). Similarly, 17 DCMR § 8206.4 requires that a PTA must complete thirty (30) hours of physical therapy CEs during the licensure term and no more than half of the required CEs may be obtained from online courses, home study, or any distance education. 17 DCMR § 8206.5.

Given that the former Public Health Emergency due to Covid 19 has ended, the **Board has voted to reinstate the requirement for In-person CEs** (pursuant to the regulations in sections 6706.4(a), and 8206.5 of Title 17, DCMR, cited, above) *with the following important policy modification: **CEs obtained on a platform that is LIVE, synchronous, interactive, and in REAL TIME will count as In-person CEs toward fulfillment of the In-person, face-to-face requirement.***

Accordingly, PTs and PTAs may fulfill their In-person CE requirement with remote CE programs **IF they are obtained via live, real-time, interactive, synchronous courses (live, interactive webinars, for example).** (While the implication of this guidance may be obvious, the Board nevertheless also advises licensees that customary, In-person, face-to-face educational programs that are completed will also be accepted.)

Board of Physical Therapy

Policy Statement 24-001: Continuing Education (CE) Requirement – Live, Real Time, Synchronous, Interactive CEs to Count toward Fulfillment of In-Person CE Requirement

Note that this policy statement is effective with this current renewal cycle and going forward.

Further, licensees are advised that all other CE requirements continue to be effective, such as the two (2) hours of LGBTQ continuing education and ten (10) percent of the required total consisting of public health priority subjects, which may be found in the Public Notice at [https://dchealth.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doh/page\\_content/attachments/DC%20Health%20Public%20Notice%20Regarding%20Public%20Health%20Topics%20for%20CE.pdf](https://dchealth.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doh/page_content/attachments/DC%20Health%20Public%20Notice%20Regarding%20Public%20Health%20Topics%20for%20CE.pdf).

All inquiries pertaining to the practice of physical therapy, including the continuing education requirements, may be directed to the Board's Health Licensing Specialist, at [dcbopt@dc.gov](mailto:dcbopt@dc.gov)