



LAWS OF ALASKA

1997

Source

CSSB 91(STA) am

Chapter No.

47

AN ACT

Relating to the regulation of physical therapists, physical therapy assistants, occupational therapists, and occupational therapy assistants; extending the termination date of the State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board; and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

Approved by the Governor: May 27, 1997

Actual Effective Date: July 1, 1997

AN ACT

1 Relating to the regulation of physical therapists, physical therapy assistants, occupational
2 therapists, and occupational therapy assistants; extending the termination date of the State
3 Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board; and providing for an effective date.

4

5 * **Section 1.** AS 08.03.010(c)(16) is amended to read:

6 (16) State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board
7 (AS 08.84.010) -- June 30, 2001 [1997];

8 * **Sec. 2.** AS 08.84.030(b)(1) is amended to read:

9 (b) To be eligible for licensure by the board as an occupational therapist or
10 occupational therapy assistant, an applicant, unless a graduate of a foreign school of
11 occupational therapy located outside the United States, shall

12 (1) have successfully completed a curriculum of occupational therapy
13 approved by the Committee of Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the

Chapter 47

1 American Medical Association or [, AND] the American Occupational Therapy
2 Association [APPROPRIATE TO THE LICENSE BEING SOUGHT];

3 (2) submit proof of successful completion and supervised field work
4 approved by the board

5 (A) for an occupational therapist, a minimum of six months of
6 supervised field work;

7 (B) for an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two
8 months of supervised field work;

9 (3) pass, to the satisfaction of the board, an examination prepared by
10 a national testing service approved by the board or an examination recognized by the
11 American Occupational Therapy Association to determine the applicant's fitness for
12 practice as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant, or be entitled
13 to licensure without examination under AS 08.84.060; and

14 (4) meet qualifications for licensure established in regulations adopted
15 by the board under AS 08.84.010(b).

16 * Sec. 3. AS 08.84.032 is amended to read:

17 **Sec. 08.84.032. Foreign-trained applicants.** (a) To be eligible for licensure
18 by the board as a physical therapist or physical therapy assistant, an applicant who is
19 a graduate of a school of physical therapy that is located outside of the United States
20 shall

21 (1) have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, a resident course
22 of study and professional instruction equivalent to that provided by a school approved
23 by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical
24 Association or the American Physical Therapy Association, and furnish documentary
25 evidence of compliance with this paragraph, translated, if necessary, into the English
26 language by a person verifying the accuracy of the translations;

27 (2) have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, an internship under
28 the continuous direction and immediate supervision of a physical therapist in an
29 institution that ordinarily provides physical therapy and is approved by the board, for
30 that period of time specified by the board, and furnish documentary evidence of
31 compliance with this paragraph;

1 (3) pass an examination recognized by the board that measures the
2 competence of the applicant in the English language [ORAL EXAMINATION
3 ADMINISTERED BY A MEMBER OF THE BOARD];

4 (4) have met applicable requirements under the federal Immigration and
5 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), unless a United States citizen;

6 (5) pass the examination administered by the board under
7 AS 08.84.030(a)(2); and

8 (6) pay the fee required under AS 08.84.050.

9 (b) To be eligible for licensure by the board as an occupational therapist or
10 occupational therapy assistant, an applicant who is a graduate of a school of
11 occupational therapy that is located outside of the United States shall

12 (1) have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, a resident course
13 of study and professional instruction equivalent to that provided by a curriculum
14 approved by the Committee of Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the
15 American Medical Association or [AND] the American Occupational Therapy
16 Association, and have furnished documentary evidence of compliance with this
17 paragraph, translated, if necessary, into the English language by a person verifying the
18 accuracy of the translations;

19 (2) have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, supervised field
20 work equivalent to that required under AS 08.84.030(b);

21 (3) pass an examination recognized by the board that measures the
22 competence of the applicant in the English language;

23 (4) have met applicable requirements under 8 U.S.C. 1101 - 1503
24 (Immigration and Nationality Act) unless a United States citizen;

25 (5) [(4)] pass an examination administered or approved by the board
26 under AS 08.84.030; and

27 (6) [(5)] pay the fee required under AS 08.84.050.

28 * Sec. 4. AS 08.84.065(a) is amended to read:

29 (a) The board may issue a nonrenewable temporary permit to an applicant for
30 licensure by acceptance of credentials or by examination who

31 (1) meets the requirements of

Chapter 47

- 1 (A) AS 08.84.030(a)(1) or (b)(1); or
2 (B) AS 08.84.032(a)(2) and (4) or (b)(2) and (4) [(b)(2) AND
3 (3)]; and
4 (2) pays the required fee.

5 * Sec. 5. AS 08.84.150(b) is amended to read:

6 (b) A person may not provide services that the person describes as
7 occupational therapy without being licensed under this chapter unless the person is

8 (1) a student in an accredited occupational therapy program or in a
9 supervised field work program;

10 (2) a graduate of a foreign school of occupational therapy fulfilling the
11 internship requirement of AS 08.84.032, and then only unless under the continuous
12 direction and immediate supervision of an occupational therapist;

13 (3) an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant employed
14 by the United States Government while in the discharge of official duties;

15 (4) granted a limited permit under AS 08.84.075;

16 (5) licensed under this title and uses occupational therapy skills in the
17 practice of the profession for which the license is issued; or

18 (6) employed as a teacher or teacher's aide by an educational institution
19 and is required to use occupational therapy skills during the course of employment, if

20 (A) the occupational therapy skills are used under a program
21 implemented by the employer and developed by a licensed occupational
22 therapist;

23 (B) the employer maintains direct supervision of the person's
24 use of occupational therapy skills; and

25 (C) the person does not represent to

26 (i) be an occupational therapist or occupational therapy
27 assistant; and

28 (ii) practice occupational therapy.

29 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect July 1, 1997.