



IDFPR
Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation
Division of Professional Regulation

Qualifications for Licensure: Physical Therapist Assistant (160)

**Effective: 03/2026
Revised: N/NNNN**

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Important:

The qualifications for an Illinois physical therapist assistant license are provided in 68 Illinois Administrative Code 1340.30 and 1340.50. Part 1340 is referred to as [the physical therapy rules](#).

LICENSE QUALIFICATIONS

- Graduation from a physical therapist assistant program that meets the requirements of Section 1340.20 of the physical therapy rules.
- Graduates of a physical therapist assistant program outside the United States or its territories must have their education program evaluated by The Foreign Credentialing Commission of Physical Therapy, Inc. (FCCPT) To be accepted, FCCPT must issue a report verifying that the physical therapy education program is equivalent to an approved curriculum in the United States. Additionally, certification of passage of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for graduates whose first language is not English, except for endorsement applicants who have practiced as a licensed physical therapist assistant in the U.S. or its territories for 3 years preceding their endorsement application.
- Successful completion of a competency examination as provided in 1340.40 of the physical therapy rules. The Division has determined that the approved examination is the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy for physical therapist assistants.
- Individuals applying for a license by endorsement must be actively licensed as a physical therapist assistant in the United States or its territories.
- Individuals may qualify for licensure by endorsement based on having practiced without discipline for 10 consecutive years as a licensed physical therapist assistant in the United States or its territories.

Please apply for licensure with the Division of Professional Regulation using the [CORE licensing system](#).