AMENDMENT TO THE RULES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to sections 207, 6504, 6507, 6738, 6739, 6740, and 6742-a of the Education Law and Chapter 511 of the Laws of 2022

- 1. Section 77.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended to read as follows:
- Section 77.4 Professional study for physical therapy assistants.

To meet the professional education requirements for [certification] licensure, the applicant shall present evidence of:

- (a) completion of a two-year college program for physical therapist assistants [registered] <u>licensed</u> by the department or accredited by a national accreditation agency which is satisfactory to the department; or(b) ...
- 2. Section 77.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended to read as follows:

There shall be no experience required beyond that required as a component of an educational program for physical therapist assistants [registered] <u>licensed</u> by the department.

3. Section 77.10 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended to read as follows:

Section 77.10. Continuing education for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants

- (a) ...
- (b) Applicability of requirements.

- (1) Each licensed physical therapist and [certified] <u>licensed</u> physical therapist assistant, required under article 136 of the Education Law to register with the department to practice in New York State, shall comply with the mandatory continuing education requirements as prescribed in subdivision (c) of this section, except those licensees exempt from the requirement or who obtain an adjustment to the requirement pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subdivision or who are subject to a different requirement pursuant to this section.
 - (2) Exemptions and adjustments to the requirement.
- (i) Exemptions. The following licensees shall be exempt from the continuing education requirements, as prescribed in subdivision (c) of this section:
- (a) licensees for the triennial registration period during which they are first licensed to practice as a physical therapist or [certified] <u>licensed</u> physical therapist assistant in New York State; and
- (b) licensed physical therapists or [certified] <u>licensed</u> physical therapist assistants who are not engaged in the practice of physical therapy, as evidenced by not being registered to practice in New York State, except as otherwise prescribed in subdivision (e) of this section to meet the requirements for the resumption of practice in New York State.
 - (ii) ...
 - (c) Mandatory continuing education requirement.
 - (1) General requirement.
- (i) During each triennial registration period, meaning a registration period of three years' duration, an applicant for registration shall complete at least 36 hours of

continuing education, acceptable to the department, as defined in paragraph (2) of this subdivision. Any licensed physical therapist or [certified] <u>licensed</u> physical therapist assistant whose first registration date following September 1, 2009 occurs less than three years from that date, but on or after January 1, 2010, shall complete continuing education hours on a prorated basis at the rate of one-half hour of acceptable formal continuing education per month for the period beginning January 1, 2010 up to the first registration date thereafter. Such continuing education shall be completed during the period beginning September 1, 2009 and ending before the first day of the new registration period.

- (ii) ...
- (2) ...
- (d) Renewal of registration. At each re-registration, licensed physical therapists and [certified] <u>licensed</u> physical therapist assistants shall certify to the department that they have either complied with the continuing education requirements, as prescribed in this section, or are subject to an exemption or adjustment to such continuing education requirements, as prescribed in subdivision (b) of this section.
 - (e)...
 - (f)...
 - (g)...
 - (h)...
 - (i) Sponsor approval
- (1) To be approved by the department, sponsors of continuing education to licensed physical therapists and [certified] <u>licensed</u> physical therapist assistants in the

form of courses of learning or self-study programs shall meet the requirements of either paragraph (2) or (3) of this subdivision.

- (2) ...
- (3) ...
- (j) Fees.
- (1) ...
- (2) ...
- (3) Organizations desiring to offer continuing education to licensed physical therapists and/or [certified] <u>licensed</u> physical therapist assistants based upon a department review, pursuant to paragraph (i)(3) of this section, shall submit an application fee of \$900 with the application requesting the issuance of a permit from the department to become an approved sponsor of a formal continuing education program. A fee of \$900 shall accompany an application for a three-year renewal of the permit.