

Scope of Practice Resources

According to the PT Compact model statute, the practice of physical therapy occurs where the patient is located during the patient/client encounter. This means physical therapists (PTs) and physical therapist assistants (PTAs) must follow the state's laws and rules where the patient is located.

The resources below demonstrate some main similarities and differences in physical therapy laws across different states. These lists are not complete or very detailed, and the Physical Therapy Compact Commission does not guarantee that the information in the links is always current. **The best source on up-to-date laws and rules regarding physical therapy practice is each state's licensing board. It is the responsibility of the compact privilege holder to learn and follow all the laws and rules in the state where they practice. For the most current information regarding physical therapy scope of practice, always check the state licensing board's website.**

Topic	Resource
Supervision Levels by Setting	Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Jurisdiction Licensure Reference Guide: Supervision Levels by Setting
Supervision Ratios	Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Jurisdiction Licensure Reference Guide: PT Supervision Ratios
Role of Unlicensed Personnel	Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Jurisdiction Licensure Reference Guide: Role of Unlicensed Personnel
Referral Requirements	Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Jurisdiction Licensure Reference Guide: Referral Requirements
Direct Access	Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Jurisdiction Licensure Reference Guide: Direct Access
Dry needling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Physical Therapy Association (members only access) • Integrative Dry Needling
Telehealth	Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy: Telehealth Policy Recommendations

(Revised 8/8/2025)