

# Title 61.5

## Physical Therapists, Examining Committee for

### Article

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# Article 61.5-01

## General Administration

### Chapter

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## ARTICLE 61.5-01

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

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#### CHAPTER 61.5-01-01 ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMITTEE

Section	
61.5-01-01-01	Organization of the State Examining Committee for Physical Therapists

##### **61.5-01-01-01. Organization of the state examining committee for physical therapists.**

1. **History.** The state examining committee for physical therapists was created in 1959 to assist the state board of medical examiners in the examination and registration of physical therapists in North Dakota. While it operated as a separate committee, it was by law an advisory committee to the state board of medical examiners. The forty-sixth legislative assembly in 1979 revamped most of North Dakota Century Code chapter 43-26 on physical therapists, and in the process made the committee a separate entity with complete jurisdiction over the examination and registration of physical therapists.
2. **Committee membership.** The committee consists of six persons appointed by the governor. Three committee members must be registered physical therapists, two members must be licensed physicians, and one member must be a nonhealth care professional. Committee terms are to be staggered and are for five years. Possible nominations to the committee will be solicited by the committee's secretary, who may be the executive officer, from all registered physical therapists in the state at the time notices for registration renewal are sent out.
3. **Meetings.** The committee shall hold at least one annual meeting, and such other meetings as may be called by the president. Any committee member who fails to attend two consecutive annual meetings shall have been deemed to have resigned unless the member has reasons satisfactory to the committee for being unable to attend.
4. **Compensation.** Committee members shall receive expenses from committee funds for each day or a portion thereof spent in committee work as provided for other state officers in North Dakota Century Code chapter 44-08.

5. **Executive officer.** The committee shall designate an executive officer, who does not have to be a committee member, but who must be a North Dakota licensed physical therapist, and shall compensate any person it hires to administer the committee's duties.

The committee's executive officer is:

Ms. Lynn G. Kubousek  
P.O. Box 69  
Grafton, ND 58237  
(701) 352-0125

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective August 1, 1983; April 1, 1988; April 1, 1992; February 1, 1993; July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 28-32-02.1

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 28-32-02.1, 43-26-05

## CHAPTER 61.5-01-02 DEFINITIONS

Section  
61.5-01-02-01            Definitions

**61.5-01-02-01. Definitions.** Unless specifically stated otherwise, the following definitions are applicable throughout this title:

1. "A school of physical therapy or a program of physical therapist assistant training" is a nationally accredited program approved by the committee.
2. "Committee" means the North Dakota state examining committee for physical therapists.
3. "Consultation by means of telecommunications" means that a physical therapist renders professional or expert opinion or advice to another physical therapist or health care provider via telecommunications or computer technology from a distant location. It includes the transfer of data or exchange of educational or related information by means of audio, video, or data communications. The physical therapist may use telehealth technology as a vehicle for providing only services that are legally or professionally authorized. The patient's written or verbal consent will be obtained and documented prior to such consultation. All records used or resulting from a consultation by means of telecommunications are part of a patient's record and are subject to applicable confidentiality requirements.
4. "Direct supervision" means the physical therapist is physically present on the premises and immediately available for direction and supervision. The physical therapist will have direct contact with the patient during each visit. Telecommunications does not meet the requirement for direct supervision.
5. "National examination" or "examination" means the examination adopted by the federation of state boards of physical therapy.
6. "Onsite supervision" means the supervising physical therapist is continuously onsite and present in the department or facility where services are provided, is immediately available to the person being supervised, and maintains continued involvement in appropriate aspects of each treatment session in which supportive personnel are involved in components of care.
7. "Physical therapist" means a person who applies physical therapy.
8. "Physical therapist assistant" means a health care worker who assists the physical therapist in the provision of physical therapy. The physical therapist assistant must be a graduate of a physical therapist assistant

associate degree program accredited by an agency recognized by the secretary of the United States department of education or the council on postsecondary accreditation. The physical therapist assistant must be licensed to practice in North Dakota.

9. "Physical therapy" means the art and science of a health specialty concerned with the prevention of disability and the physical rehabilitation for congenital or acquired disabilities resulting from, or secondary to, injury or disease. The practice of physical therapy means the practice of the health specialty, and encompasses physical therapy evaluation, treatment planning, instruction, and consultative services, including:
  - a. Performing and interpreting tests and measurements as an aid to physical therapy treatment.
  - b. Planning initial and subsequent treatment programs on the basis of test findings.
  - c. Administering treatment by therapeutic exercise, neurodevelopmental procedures, therapeutic massage, mechanical devices, and therapeutic agents which employ the physical, chemical, and other properties of air, water, heat, cold, electricity, sound, and radiant energy for the purpose of correcting or alleviating any physical or mental condition, or preventing the development of any physical or mental disability.
10. "Physical therapy aide" means a person trained under the direction of a physical therapist who performs designated and supervised routine tasks related to physical therapy.
11. "Student" is an individual who is currently engaged in the fulfillment of a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant educational program approved by the committee.
12. "Supportive personnel" are persons other than registered physical therapists who function in a physical therapy setting and assist with physical therapy care.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective April 1, 1992; December 1, 1994; July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-01, 43-26-04, 43-26-06, 43-26-07, 43-26-10, 43-26-11(12)

# Article 61.5-02

## Examination, Registration, and Fees

### Chapter

[61.5-02-01](#) Examinations

[61.5-02-02](#) Registration

[61.5-02-03](#) Fees

## ARTICLE 61.5-02

### EXAMINATION, REGISTRATION, AND FEES

Chapter	
61.5-02-01	Examinations
61.5-02-02	Registration
61.5-02-03	Fees

#### CHAPTER 61.5-02-01 EXAMINATIONS

Section	
61.5-02-01-01	Frequency of Examinations
61.5-02-01-02	Location of Examinations
61.5-02-01-03	Repeating Examinations
61.5-02-01-04	Eligibility to Take Examination

**61.5-02-01-01. Frequency of examinations.** Computer-based examinations are available by appointment at designated sites in North Dakota.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05

**61.5-02-01-02. Location of examinations.** The committee shall designate testing site locations within North Dakota. Other testing sites are available in the United States, United States territories, and Canada.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-06

**61.5-02-01-03. Repeating examinations.** An applicant who fails an examination may repeat the examination, but must pay another examination fee each time the examination is repeated. An applicant may write the examination a maximum of four times within one calendar year. After the fourth time, an applicant must wait one calendar year and show evidence of remediation approved by the committee before again taking the examination.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective April 1, 1992; July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-06

**61.5-02-01-04. Eligibility to take examination.** An applicant must have graduated from an approved program prior to writing the examination.

**History:** Effective April 1, 1992; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-06

## CHAPTER 61.5-02-02 REGISTRATION

Section	
61.5-02-02-01	General Registration Requirements for Graduates of Approved Curricula
61.5-02-02-02	Types of Registration
61.5-02-02-03	Registration Requirements for Graduates of Foreign Curricula [Repealed]
61.5-02-02-04	Types of Registration [Repealed]
61.5-02-02-05	Renewal of Registration
61.5-02-02-06	Exceptions to Registration
61.5-02-02-07	Registration Refused, Revoked, Suspended, or Restricted

**61.5-02-02-01. General registration requirements for graduates of approved curricula.** The following requirements apply to all applicants for registration who are graduates of physical therapy or physical therapist assistant curricula approved by the committee:

1. A completed application form.
2. Payment of the appropriate fees as set by the committee.
3. An official transcript giving evidence of graduation from a curricula approved by the committee.
4. Passing scores on the national examination.
5. Completion of the juris prudence examination.
6. At the committee's discretion, an interview with the committee or designees thereof.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-06

### **61.5-02-02-02. Types of registration.**

1. Official registration.
  - a. By examination, general registration requirements must be met.
  - b. By endorsement, United States jurisdiction.
    - (1) General registration requirements must be met.
    - (2) Verification of registration in good standing from the jurisdictions in which the applicant has been registered.

- (3) Copy of scores on the national examination transmitted by a score transfer service approved by the committee.
- (4) If the applicant has not practiced physical therapy for three or more years, the applicant must take or retake the national examination.

2. Foreign-educated applicant.

a. By examination.

- (1) A completed application form.
- (2) Payment of the appropriate fees as set by the committee.
- (3) Verification of documents by an agency recognized by the committee.
  - (a) Satisfactory evidence that the applicant's education is substantially equivalent to the requirements of physical therapists educated in a physical therapy education program approved by the committee.
  - (b) Graduated from a physical therapist education program that prepares the applicant to engage without restrictions in the practice of physical therapy.
  - (c) Proof that the applicant's school of physical therapy education is recognized by its own ministry of education.
  - (d) Pass the board-approved English proficiency examination if the applicant's native language is not English.
- (4) Passing scores on the national examination.
- (5) Completion of juris prudence examination.
- (6) At the committee's discretion, an interview with the committee or designees thereof.
- (7) Completion of a six-month preceptorship under the direct supervision of a physical therapist, registered and actively practicing in North Dakota.

b. By endorsement from another United States jurisdiction.

- (1) A completed application form.

- (2) Payment of the appropriate fees as set by the committee.
- (3) Verification of documents by an agency recognized by the committee.
  - (a) Satisfactory evidence that the applicant's education is substantially equivalent to the requirements of physical therapists educated in a physical therapy education program approved by the committee.
  - (b) Graduated from a physical therapist education program that prepares the applicant to engage without restrictions in the practice of physical therapy.
  - (c) Proof that the applicant's school of physical therapy education is recognized by its own ministry of education.
  - (d) Pass the board-approved English proficiency examination if the applicant's native language is not English.
- (4) Copy of passing scores on the national examination received by a score transfer service approved by the committee.
- (5) Completion of juris prudence examination.
- (6) Verification of registration in good standing from the jurisdictions in which the applicant has been registered.
- (7) At the committee's discretion, an interview with the committee or designees thereof.
- (8) Completion of a six-month preceptorship under the direct supervision of a physical therapist, registered and actively practicing in North Dakota.
- (9) If the applicant has not practiced physical therapy for three or more years, the applicant must take or retake the national examination.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective April 1, 1992; December 1, 1994; July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-01, 43-26-04, 43-26-06, 43-26-07, 43-26-10, 43-26-11(12)

**61.5-02-02-03. Registration requirements for graduates of foreign curricula.** Repealed effective July 1, 2004.

**61.5-02-02-04. Types of registration.** Repealed effective July 1, 2004.

**61.5-02-02-05. Renewal of registration.**

1. Registrations shall be renewed annually by January thirty-first.
2. If a registrant fails to receive the renewal notice, it is the responsibility of the registrant to contact the committee before the January thirty-first deadline.
3. Any registrant who fails to make application for renewal of registration by January thirty-first will, at the committee's discretion, pay a late renewal fee as prescribed in section 61.5-02-03-01.
4. A registration expires if not renewed by January thirty-first.
5. If a registration has expired for more than a year, the registrant is not eligible for renewal, but must apply for registration. However, registrants whose registrations have lapsed and who have been unregistered for more than one year but less than three years from the last renewal may not be required to take the national examination, provided the continuing education requirements have been met.
6. All licensed physical therapists may be required to file with the committee a notarized statement indicating they have read these administrative rules.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective April 1, 1992; December 1, 1994; July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-01, 43-26-09, 43-26-11(12)

**61.5-02-02-06. Exceptions to registration.**

1. The following persons are exempt from North Dakota physical therapy registration requirements when engaged in the following activities:
  - a. A person in a professional education program approved by the board who is pursuing a course of study leading to a degree as a physical therapist and who is satisfying supervised clinical education requirements related to the person's physical therapy education while under onsite supervision of a licensed physical therapist.
  - b. A physical therapist who is practicing in the United States armed services, United States public health service, or veterans administration pursuant to federal regulation for state licensure of health care providers.

- c. A physical therapist who is licensed in another jurisdiction of the United States or a foreign-educated physical therapist credentialed in another country if that person is performing physical therapy in connection with teaching or participating in an educational seminar of no more than sixty days in a calendar year.
    - d. A physical therapist who is licensed in another jurisdiction of the United States if that person is providing consultation by means of telecommunication to a physical therapist licensed under North Dakota Century Code chapter 43-26.
  2. If aides or students provide physical therapy services other than under direct supervision of a registered physical therapist, they are in violation of North Dakota Century Code chapter 43-26.
  3. Upon application to the committee, a physical therapist currently registered in good standing in another state or jurisdiction, and who is not subject to any pending disciplinary proceeding, may practice physical therapy in North Dakota without obtaining registration from the committee provided the practice is limited to no more than thirty full or partial days per year. The one-year period starts on the date the written application is approved by the committee. Prior to any such limited practice, the physical therapist must apply to the committee, using forms provided by the committee, and pay an application fee of twenty-five dollars. The application must include:
    - a. Verified documentation from the appropriate registration authority identifying the requirements for registration in that jurisdiction, confirming that the physical therapist is registered and in good standing in that jurisdiction, and confirming that the physical therapist is not subject to any pending disciplinary proceedings.
    - b. The dates, locations, and scope of practice the physical therapist intends to perform in North Dakota.
    - c. The purpose of the physical therapist's limited North Dakota practice and the physical therapist's employer.
    - d. Other information required by the committee.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-08, 43-51-05, 43-51-06

**61.5-02-02-07. Registration refused, revoked, suspended, or restricted.**

1. The committee may refuse, suspend, restrict, or revoke a registration on the grounds stated in North Dakota Century Code section 43-26-11.

2. The committee may refuse to grant registration to any applicant who begins practice as a physical therapist or as a physical therapist assistant prior to being registered to practice in North Dakota.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-11

**CHAPTER 61.5-02-03  
FEES**

Section  
61.5-02-03-01            Fees

**61.5-02-03-01. Fees.**

1. Application fee - not refundable - \$150.00.
2. Annual renewal fee - \$60.00 for physical therapist and \$40.00 for physical therapist assistant.
3. Late renewal fee - \$50.00.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-06, 43-26-08, 43-26-09, 43-26-10

# Article 61.5-03

## Continuing Education

### Chapter

[61.5-03-01](#) Continuing Education Requirement

[61.5-03-02](#) Courses and Credit Standards

[61.5-03-03](#) Verification of Compliance

## ARTICLE 61.5-03

### CONTINUING EDUCATION

Chapter	
61.5-03-01	Continuing Education Requirement
61.5-03-02	Courses and Credit Standards
61.5-03-03	Verification of Compliance

#### CHAPTER 61.5-03-01 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

Section	
61.5-03-01-01	Continuing Education Requirement
61.5-03-01-02	Hours, Effective Date, and Requirements

**61.5-03-01-01. Continuing education requirement.** The committee shall establish, and revise as it deems necessary, rules and regulations to require some form or system of continuing education as a requirement for registration or reregistration as a physical therapist or a physical therapist assistant.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective April 1, 1992.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-09

**61.5-03-01-02. Hours, effective date, and requirements.** Effective January 31, 1992, all physical therapists and physical therapist assistants must obtain twenty-five contact hours of continuing education every two years to be eligible for registration or reregistration. One contact hour equals sixty minutes of instruction. There may be no carryover of credit hours to the next reporting period. The committee shall determine reporting groups, methods, and deadlines.

**History:** Effective April 1, 1992.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-09

## CHAPTER 61.5-03-02 COURSES AND CREDIT STANDARDS

Section	
61.5-03-02-01	Course Content
61.5-03-02-02	Credit Standards

**61.5-03-02-01. Course content.** Twenty-five contact hours are required every two years. At least fifteen of the required hours must be clinically related, five of which may be cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Nonclinical courses must relate to a therapist's job responsibilities. All continuing education courses related to physical therapy sponsored by the American physical therapy association, state physical therapy associations, medical institutions, or educational institutions are automatically approved. Any continuing education courses planned, sponsored, or cosponsored by the arthritis foundation, the American heart association, or other similar national or state health organizations, which meet the credit standards of section 61.5-03-02-02, are automatically approved. Any postsecondary coursework taken at an accredited educational institution will be automatically approved, provided the coursework meets the credit standards.

**History:** Effective April 1, 1992.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-09

**61.5-03-02-02. Credit standards.** The following credit standards apply to any continuing education course that is intended to meet the continuing education requirements for physical therapists or physical therapist assistants:

1. The educational activities must have significant intellectual or practical content dealing primarily with matters directly related to the practice of physical therapy or to the professional responsibility or ethical obligations of the participants.
2. Each person making a presentation at a continuing education course must be qualified by practical or academic experience to teach the subject the person covers.
3. Participants shall attend educational activities in a classroom or other setting suitable for the activity. Video, motion picture, or sound presentations may be used.
4. Credit may not be given for entertainment or recreational activities or programs, employment orientation sessions, holding an office or serving as an organizational delegate, meeting for the purpose of making policy, or noneducational association meetings.
5. Credit may not be given for meals, keynote speeches, introductory or preliminary sessions, postsession activities, and similar events associated with continuing education programs.

6. A person teaching an approved continuing education course must be awarded additional credit for preparation time not to exceed a ratio of five to one between preparation time and presentation time respectively. Presentation time counts as contact hours for continuing education purposes. This credit may be taken for only one course annually.
7. Coursework may be acquired through self-study, provided that the coursework is accompanied by appropriate written materials.

**History:** Effective April 1, 1992; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-09

**CHAPTER 61.5-03-03  
VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE**

Section  
61.5-03-03-01                      Verification of Compliance

**61.5-03-03-01. Verification of compliance.**

1. At the January license renewal deadline immediately following their two-year continuing education cycle, registrants shall provide a signed and notarized statement provided by the committee listing the continuing education courses taken and indicating compliance with the required twenty-five hours of continuing education. The committee, in its discretion, may require additional evidence necessary from a registrant to verify compliance.
2. The committee shall periodically select a sample of the registered physical therapists and may request evidence of the continuing education to which they have attested. Documentation may come directly from the registrant or from state or national organizations that maintain those types of records.
3. A person who claims extenuating circumstances in not being able to meet the continuing education requirements shall petition the committee for consideration of those special conditions.
4. As of January 31, 1992, registrants registering in North Dakota for the first time from other states or countries who do not have twenty-five hours of continuing education credits within the last two years will be required to complete thirteen hours of continuing education within a year of their initial registration in North Dakota, and will thereafter be on the two-year continuing education cycle provided in these rules.

**History:** Effective April 1, 1992; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-05, 43-26-09

# Article 61.5-04

## Violations

Chapter

[61.5-04-01](#) Violations

## ARTICLE 61.5-04

### VIOLATIONS

Chapter  
61.5-04-01      Violations

#### CHAPTER 61.5-04-01 VIOLATIONS

Section  
61.5-04-01-01      Violations

**61.5-04-01-01. Violations.** Complaints and problems about alleged violations of North Dakota Century Code chapter 43-26 shall be forwarded to the committee for its consideration. The committee shall review and, if necessary, investigate all complaints and allegations that come before it concerning North Dakota Century Code chapter 43-26 violations. The committee may seek the advice and assistance of legal counsel in this review and investigation process. The committee may direct its executive officer, or other personnel, to act either directly, on its behalf, or to assist others, in filing complaints of North Dakota Century Code chapter 43-26 violations with state's attorneys, and to provide assistance and information as required by state's attorneys. The committee may seek the advice of legal counsel concerning the use of injunctions as a means of preventing or stopping North Dakota Century Code chapter 43-26 violations, and may direct legal counsel, on its behalf, to use such remedies.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1980; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-13

# Article 61.5-05

## Supervision of Supportive Personnel

Chapter

[61.5-05-01](#) Supervision of Supportive Personnel

## ARTICLE 61.5-05

### SUPERVISION OF SUPPORTIVE PERSONNEL

Chapter	
61.5-05-01	Supervision of Supportive Personnel

### CHAPTER 61.5-05-01 SUPERVISION OF SUPPORTIVE PERSONNEL

Section	
61.5-05-01-01	Delegation of Responsibility
61.5-05-01-02	Physical Therapist Assistants
61.5-05-01-03	Athletic Trainers [Repealed]
61.5-05-01-04	Physical Therapy Aides
61.5-05-01-05	Supervision Ratios
61.5-05-01-06	Supportive Personnel Identification

**61.5-05-01-01. Delegation of responsibility.** When a physical therapist delegates patient care responsibilities to physical therapist assistants or other supportive personnel, the physical therapist holds responsibility for supervision of the physical therapy program. Physical therapists shall not delegate to a less qualified person any activity that requires the unique skills, knowledge, and judgment of the physical therapist. The primary responsibility for physical therapy care rendered by supportive personnel rests with the supervising physical therapist. Adequate supervision requires, at a minimum, that the supervising physical therapist perform the following activities:

1. Designate or establish channels of written and oral communication.
2. Interpret available information concerning the individual under care.
3. Provide initial evaluation.
4. Develop plan of care, including short-term and long-term goals.
5. Select and delegate appropriate tasks for plan of care.
6. Assess competence of supportive personnel to perform assigned tasks.
7. Direct and supervise supportive personnel in delegated tasks.
8. Identify and document precautions, goals, anticipated progress, and plans for reevaluation.

9. Reevaluate, adjust plan of care when necessary, perform final evaluation, and establish followup plan of care.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1994.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-09, 43-26-11

**61.5-05-01-02. Physical therapist assistants.** The physical therapist assistant shall perform specific physical therapy duties under the supervision of a physical therapist who is properly credentialed in the jurisdiction in which the physical therapist assistant practices.

1. Performance of service in general.
  - a. The physical therapist assistant may initiate or alter a treatment program only with prior evaluation by, and approval of, the supervising physical therapist.
  - b. The physical therapist assistant, with prior approval by the supervising physical therapist, may adjust the specific treatment procedure in accordance with changes in the patient's status.
  - c. The physical therapist assistant may interpret data only within the scope of the physical therapist assistant's education.
  - d. The physical therapist assistant may respond to inquiries regarding a patient's status to appropriate parties within the protocol established by the supervising physical therapist.
  - e. The physical therapist assistant shall refer inquiries regarding patient prognosis to a supervising physical therapist.
  - f. Documentation other than the initial note and the discharge summary can be written by a physical therapist assistant.
2. Service in home health, long-term care, and school settings.
  - a. A qualified physical therapist must be accessible by communication to the physical therapist assistant at all times while the physical therapist assistant is treating the patient.
  - b. An initial visit must be made by a qualified physical therapist for evaluation of the patient and establishment of a plan of care.
  - c. A joint visit by the physical therapist and physical therapist assistant or a conference between the physical therapist and physical therapist assistant must be made prior to or on the first

physical therapist assistant visit to the patient. The physical therapist must complete the initial evaluation.

- d. At least once every sixth physical therapist assistant visit or at least once every thirty calendar days, whichever occurs first, the physical therapist must visit the patient. Following each onsite visit by a physical therapist, the medical/education record must reflect a documented conference with the physical therapist assistant outlining treatment goals and program modification. The physical therapist must make the final visit to terminate the plan of care.
  - e. A supervisory onsite visit must include:
    - (1) An onsite functional assessment.
    - (2) Review of activities with appropriate revisions or termination of plan of care.
    - (3) Assessment of utilization of outside resources.
3. Service in hospitals or other clinical settings require constant onsite supervision.
    - a. All duties must conform with section 61.5-05-01-01.
    - b. A joint treatment with the physical therapist and physical therapist assistant or after a direct treatment by the physical therapist with a conference between the physical therapist and physical therapist assistant must occur at least once per week.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1994; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-09, 43-26-11

**61.5-05-01-03. Athletic trainers.** Repealed effective July 1, 2004.

**61.5-05-01-04. Physical therapy aides.** The physical therapy aide may assist the physical therapist in the following activities:

1. Carry out established procedures for the care of equipment and supplies.
2. Prepare, maintain, and clean up treatment areas and maintain a supportive area.
3. Transport patients, records, equipment, and supplies in accordance with established policies and procedures.
4. Assemble and disassemble equipment and accessories.

5. Under the direct supervision of a physical therapist, assist in preparation for and perform routine tasks as assigned.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1994; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-09, 43-26-11

**61.5-05-01-05. Supervision ratios.** A physical therapist, at any one time, may supervise a maximum of three supportive personnel if no more than two are physical therapist assistants.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1994; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-09, 43-26-11

**61.5-05-01-06. Supportive personnel identification.** All supportive personnel shall wear an identification badge identifying them as a physical therapist assistant or physical therapy aide, or as appropriate. Supportive personnel shall not use any term that implies they are licensed physical therapists.

**History:** Effective December 1, 1994; amended effective July 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-26-10

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-26-09, 43-26-11