FAQ

The practice act says that if a patient is seeing a PTA they need to be seen by the primary PT every 7-10 visits. Does this mean that the appointments needs to be solely performed by the PT or is a co-treatment between PT and PTA acceptable?

In some cases, supervising PT’s will usually treat a patient seen by a PTA once every 6 visits. Now, whether the PT has the PTA present (co-treat) during this visit is up to the supervising PT as they may modify the treatment plan and demonstrate to the PTA the changes in the plan of care.

How do I know if a course is approved in Utah?

Please contact the course sponsor or instructor. If they have applied for credit in the State of Utah, they will have that information. If they are unsure, they likely did not. You can apply for individual credit on the UPTA website. UPTA, APTA, and FSBT all have approved courses. Here is some information from DOPL:

In addition to courses sponsored by UPTA and APTA, courses may be approved by, or under the sponsorship of any of the following: accredited universities or colleges, or professional associations, societies, or organizations whose program objectives relate to the practice of physical therapy.

Do all hours have to be live?

Up to 10 hours of the CE requirement may be recognized for clinical reading or in-service directly related to physical therapy practice. Up to half the number of contact hours required may be completed in internet or distance related learning courses that include an examination and issuance of a certificate. Half the number of contact hours of the CE requirement may be completed by teaching in a college or university and teaching CE courses in the field of physical therapy.

Who do we talk to about a complaint about a fellow healthcare profession? i.e. Chiropractors, Athletic Trainers, etc.

The UPTA does not have authority over any professions. Concerns about the practice of a health care professional should be reported to DOPL.

I heard that live webinars can count as in person CEU’s because we have to login and be present for the course. Is this true or do they count as online credits only?

Online courses count as online courses. To have CEU credit count as a live course, an individual must attend the course in person and on-site.
Why have you not tried to get the co pays for patients dropped back to the same as for primary care?

I just wanted to see if the UPTA has some sort of resource for starting a new clinic? I am considering starting a cash based clinic but really wanted to do this the right and efficient way. So if there are any resources that you could share with me that would be great.

Is there a way to find out what CEU I already have determining how many more I need?

You will need to keep records on the courses and hours you have attended. Utah does not have a system that tracks hours or receives information from course providers.

Is there a site that will tell you what companies UPTA will recognize for CEUs? We do not keep a list of companies that are approved for CEUs. We review each course individually. We do have a list of courses that have been approved. These are on our website under the Learn tab.

I would like to become a continuing education provider in UT. How do I do this?

If you have a course you would like to offer CEU credits for, you can submit the course to the UPTA for approval. We don't currently recognize “providers and review each course individually.

How long before the date of the course should we have the application in?

The application process can take between 2-4 weeks. You should plan to submit your materials 4 weeks in advance. However, we can approve courses that are past so you can apply at any time.

I recently moved to Utah and want to update my mailing address with the UPTA. I have updated my address with the APTA.

UPTA membership records come from APTA. If you have updated your membership with APTA your records with UPTA will be automatically updated.

Does the UPTA have any recourses for clinicians that would like to start a private practice? My practice is going to be a small private pay/out of network practice. LANCE

I know that UT has passed the "direct access" practice act, yet certain payers still require a "referral" before they can access PT. Do you have a list of Payers that allow Direct Access and those payers that DO NOT?
We do not currently keep a list of the payers and their policies. However, each company is required to comply with state laws.

I just had a question concerning something that I read on your website. I was searching the requirements for CEUs when I came across the option of personal study being counted towards CEUs. I was wondering if one could explain to me how I might count those hours of study or show validity of them if I were to be audited. What counts when it comes to study and such?

This is a great question and we do not have a specific answer. Here is what is listed in the practice act:
(J) a maximum of ten contact hours for personal or group study of a scholarly peer-reviewed journal article;
Please contact DOPL for clarification on how to document this for CEU credit within a 2 year reporting cycle.

I have a course that I would like to take for the next license certification period (2017-2019) but the course is technically during the 2015-2017 period. The course date is April 21-23, 2017. Since it is close to the next certification period for 2017-2019, could I count this course CEUs for the 2017-2019 period?

All coursework completed within a reporting cycle is valid on during that reporting period unless the completion date occurs in the new reporting cycle. You can carry 10 hours over to the next cycle.

This website states 3 hours are required of ethics education, and it is "common knowledge", yet I just noticed in DOPL’s rules the following: "(a) A physical therapist shall be required to complete not fewer than 40 contact hours of continuing education of which a minimum of two contact hours must be completed in ethics/law." (From the link on your page) Why the discrepancy, and what should we really be following? Oral law or the actual rule?

The ethics hours were changed in Dec 2016 from 3 to 2 hours (see italics after PT practice act on DOPL website), and this is how it reads in the current practice act. However, in the applications and forms column on the DOPL website, it states: NOTE: PT's are required to complete at least 40 contact hours of CE. PTA's are required to complete at least 20 contact hours of CE. At least 3 of the total number of contact hours of CE must be in topics relating to ethics.

Yes, there is a discrepancy and it needs to be clarified.

Can we carry hours over to the next year?
10 hours can be carried over to the next cycle.

Do we get CEU credit for taking a student?
Yes- according to the Utah State Practice act rules: (located at http://www.dopl.utah.gov/laws/R156-24b.pdf)

R156-24b-303b. Continuing Education. Sub section 2.b.ii.E:

“a maximum of ten percent of the number of contact hours required for renewal for supervision of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant student in an accredited college program and the licensee shall receive one contact hour of credit for every 80 hours of clinical instruction;”