

INITIAL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Council for Allied Health Professions

This document outlines the criteria for registration as a physiotherapist with the Council for Allied Health Professions.

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1. Introduction

This document outlines the requirements for initial registration with the Council for Allied Health Professions as a physical therapist/physiotherapist. While this document provides an overview of the criteria used to review an initial registration, each application will be independently assessed based on its own merits.

2. General Requirements

2.1. Application

All applicants must submit an electronic [Health Professional Initial Registration Application](#). All supplemental documentation should be uploaded and attached to the application, with the exception of the [Certificate of Professional Education Form](#) (COPE) and evidence of professional standing from all jurisdictions of licensure. Please review [Allied Health Initial Registration Checklist](#) for a list of required documentation.

2.2. Fees

The fee for initial registration as a physiotherapist is \$165. Using the link provided on the application form, payment must be made via credit card after the submission of the electronic application.

2.3. Eligibility to Work

Applicants for initial registration must be eligible to work in Bermuda. Documentation showing eligibility to work must be attached to the application and can include:

- Bermuda or BOTC passport copy with stamp
- Letter of Employment/Job Offer Letter
- Spousal letter
- Valid Work Permit
- Permanent Residency Card

2.4. Proof of Identification

Proof of identification includes a **notarized** copy of a valid passport or birth certificate. If your name has changed and differs from the name on your supporting documentation, notarized name change certification documentation must be provided (i.e. marriage certificate).

2.5. Proof of True Likeness

A digital head shot photo must be attached to your application. You can take the photo yourself if the image of likeness is clear.

2.6. Resume/Curriculum Vitae

A copy of the applicant's resume, or C.V. must be attached to the application and reflect the most up-to-date information.

2.7. References

Two letters of reference are required and must be attached to your application for registration. All references must be current (dated within the last 12 months), on an official letterhead and signed by the referee. References must be from your most recent previous employers/supervisors (most current and discipline specific).

3. Education Requirements

To register as a physiotherapist, applicants must have a degree in physical therapy or an equivalent degree. The degree must be from an academic institution accredited by one of the following organizations and must meet the minimum requirement for licensure in the jurisdiction of study at the time of graduation:

- Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) in the US;
- Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada (PEAC);
- Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) in the UK;
- An equivalent accrediting body.

If the academic institution is not accredited or approved by one of the above bodies (or by a similar national organization of the country of training or other national body governing the profession deemed by the Board to represent a comparable standard) or the standards are significantly different from the above, the Board will request that the applicant submit a UK ENIC Statement of Comparability (enic.org.uk).

All applicants must have the institution where their professional qualifications were obtained complete the [Certificate of Professional Education Form](#) and email it directly to professions@healthcouncil.bm.

A **notarized** copy of the applicant's professional degree must also be attached to the application.

4. Experience Requirements

Applicants for initial registration must fulfill the entry-level practical training requirements set by the regulatory authority in the jurisdiction where they were trained.

Physiotherapists employed in a private practice in which they are the only physiotherapists must have a minimum of five (5) years of post-graduate clinical physiotherapy work experience, of which two (2) years must be in the clinical expertise of the practice area.

In addition, the physiotherapist must be able to show proof that they have continuing education specific to the discipline they are practicing in. For example, to be approved for a sole charge position in Orthopedics, a registered physiotherapist must have five (5) years post-graduate experience and continue education units in that field. This must be confirmed by the applicant's curriculum vitae and references.

5. Examination Requirements

All applicants are required to successfully complete a national board examination in physical therapy, or an equivalent assessment, as specified by the regulatory authority in their jurisdiction of training.

6. Overseas Licensure

Evidence pertaining to your professional standing in any jurisdiction in which you are licensed or registered is required. A letter or form attesting to your professional standing must be submitted directly to professions@healthcouncil.bm by the relevant statutory authority.

The Council for Allied Health has discretionary authority to evaluate and recognize foreign licensure for allied health professionals, including physiotherapists. The Council for Allied Health Professions aims to balance inclusivity for qualified international practitioners with the need to uphold professional standards and public safety.