

1 (225 ILCS 90/14.1 new)

2 Sec. 14.1. Continuing education renewal requirements.

3 The Department shall promulgate rules concerning continuing
4 education for persons licensed under this Act that require 40
5 hours of continuing education per license renewal cycle for a
6 physical therapist and 20 hours of continuing education per
7 license renewal cycle for a physical therapist assistant. In
8 establishing these rules, the Department shall consider
9 education required for the 2 categories of licensees to
10 maintain current knowledge and understanding of their
11 respective scope of practice, professional ethics, and
12 standards of care, as described in this Act, and in material
13 provided by relevant professional associations. The
14 Department shall also consider the educational requirements
15 for board certification in physical therapy specialty areas,
16 requirements for advanced clinical or academic degrees
17 related to physical therapy, requirements for attaining
18 advanced skills specific to particular practice environments
19 and patient populations, and the educational needs related to
20 special interest groups within the professions. These rules
21 shall assure that licensees are given the opportunity to
22 participate in those programs sponsored by or through their
23 professional associations, hospitals, or employers and which
24 are relevant to their practice. These rules shall also
25 address variances for illness or hardship. Each licensee is
26 responsible for maintaining records of completion of
27 continuing education and shall be prepared to produce the
28 records when requested by the Department.

29 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
30 becoming law."