

NEWS BRIEF

Changes to Direct Access – Effective July 1, 2023

During the 2023 General Assembly Session, legislation was passed to amend current [Va. Code § 54.1-3482](#) to remove certain timeframes for practitioner referrals for direct access, as well as to clarify the performance of dry needling without referral for qualified practitioners. The legislation includes provisions related to physical therapy services provided without referral or supervision to infants and toddlers with individualized services plans under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 1431 et seq.) and to students with disabilities who require physical therapy services pursuant to § 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

These legislative changes become effective July 1, 2023. The full text of these changes can be found here: [HB2359/SB1005](#).

Please note that the Board has updated the [Direct Access Patient Attestation and Medical Release Form](#) to reflect changes in the statutory language.

Want to Know More about the Physical Therapy Workforce in Virginia?

Using updated survey information collected during the 2022 renewal cycle, the Board recently approved the 2022 Workforce Reports for each profession. To access these reports, please click on the links below:

[Virginia's Physical Therapist Workforce: 2022](#)
[Virginia's Physical Therapist Assistant Workforce: 2022](#)

To access more information from DHP's Healthcare Workforce Data Center, please [click here](#).

Practitioner Resources: Physical Therapy Compact

The Physical Therapy Compact is an agreement between member states to improve access to physical therapy services for the public by increasing the mobility of eligible physical therapy providers to work in multiple states through a system of "Compact privileges." Currently, 34 states are members of the Compact, including Virginia.

To learn more about the Compact, including state requirements, cost, eligibility, and benefits of obtaining a privilege, visit:
www.ptcompact.org.

