



Physical Therapy Interstate Licensure Compact:

- ✓ **Improve Consumer Access**
- ✓ **Promote Public Safety**
- ✓ **Retain State Authority**
- ✓ **Improve Licensure Portability**

What is the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact?

The Physical Therapy Licensure Compact (PTLC) is a state-based solution to the challenges of interstate licensure portability for physical therapists (PTs) and physical therapist assistants (PTAs). It will improve patient access to physical therapy services by giving eligible licensees in participating states a faster, less expensive alternative to traditional licensure.

What Impact Does the PTLC have on Current Scope of Practice?

The PTLC is separate legislation from the Physical Therapy Practice Act and does not change the scope of practice of PTs and PTAs. Any PT or PTA must abide by the practice act in the state where he/she is practicing.

Why is the PTLC needed?

The PTLC is needed to meet workforce needs, provide greater consumer access to physical therapy care, and address licensure portability issues for military spouses that are PTs and PTAs. By creating a streamlined mechanism for licensed PTs and PTAs to practice across state lines, the Compact will help connect consumers with the physical therapy services they need.

How does the PTLC positively impact military spouses?

Military spouses move A LOT and all moves are not planned with advanced notice. These moves often result in un- and underemployment of military spouses. In the PTLC, a military spouse is given the option to use the home-of-record, permanent change of station, or state where currently residing as the home state. This increased flexibility allows three chances to get a PTLC member state. The PTLC means the military spouse will not incur long delays waiting for licensure and can resume working almost immediately after a duty-required move.

How will the PTLC work?

Eligible PTs and PTAs in PTLC states will have the option of obtaining a “Compact Privilege” in other participating states. To do so, the licensee participant must:

- Hold one valid, current, unrestricted license in his or her primary state of residence (home state)
- Be free of disciplinary action for at least two years

The PTLC Commission will verify eligibility, accept and remit any fees to the state, and finally notify the state of the licensee’s authorization to practice in the remote state- receiving the Compact Privilege.

Is there any expected opposition to the PTLC?

Both the professional association and the regulatory board support the PTLC. The impact on other professions is minimal as the current scope of practice for PTs and PTAs is unchanged.