

CHAPTER 802  
DISCIPLINE FOR PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AND PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS

[Prior to 3/6/02, see 645—200.10(272C) and 645—202.8(272C)]  
[Prior to 9/18/24, see Professional Licensure Division[645] Ch 202]

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 7/1/29

**481—802.1(148A) Definitions.**

“*Board*” means the board of physical and occupational therapy.

“*Discipline*” means any sanction the board may impose upon licensees.

“*Licensee*” means a person licensed to practice in Iowa pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 148A and 481—Chapters 800 through 808.

[ARC 7980C, IAB 5/15/24, effective 7/1/24; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 9/18/24]

**481—802.2(272C) Grounds for discipline.** The board may impose any of the disciplinary sanctions provided in 481—Chapter 504 when the board determines that any of the acts or offenses listed in such rule or in Iowa Code section 147.55 have occurred:

**802.2(1)** Professional incompetency. Professional incompetency includes but is not limited to:

*a.* A substantial lack of knowledge or ability to discharge professional obligations within the scope of practice.

*b.* A substantial deviation from the standards of learning or skill ordinarily possessed and applied by other physical therapists or physical therapist assistants in the state of Iowa acting in the same or similar circumstances.

*c.* A failure to exercise the degree of care that is ordinarily exercised by the average physical therapist or physical therapist assistant acting in the same or similar circumstances.

*d.* Failure to conform to the minimal standard of acceptable and prevailing practice of the licensed physical therapist or licensed physical therapist assistant in this state.

*e.* Mental or physical inability reasonably related to and adversely affecting the licensee’s ability to practice in a safe and competent manner.

*f.* Being adjudged mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction.

**802.2(2)** Knowingly making misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations in the practice of physical therapy or engaging in unethical conduct or practice harmful or detrimental to the public. Proof of actual injury need not be established.

**802.2(3)** Violation of a regulation, rule or law of this state, another state, or the United States that relates to the practice of physical therapy, including but not limited to the code of ethics found in rule 481—801.1(148A,272C).

**802.2(4)** Failure of a licensee or an applicant for licensure in this state to report any voluntary agreements restricting the individual’s practice of physical therapy in another state, district, territory or country.

**802.2(5)** Knowingly aiding, assisting or advising a person to unlawfully practice physical therapy.

**802.2(6)** Representing oneself as a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant when one’s license has been suspended or revoked, or when the license is on inactive status.

[ARC 7980C, IAB 5/15/24, effective 7/1/24; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 9/18/24]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 147, 148A and 272C.

[Filed 2/13/02, Notice 10/3/01—published 3/6/02, effective 4/10/02]

[Filed 11/26/03, Notice 9/17/03—published 12/24/03, effective 1/28/04]

[Filed 8/22/05, Notice 6/22/05—published 9/14/05, effective 10/19/05]

[Filed 11/19/05, Notice 9/14/05—published 12/21/05, effective 1/25/06]

[Filed 2/17/06, Notice 12/21/05—published 3/15/06, effective 4/19/06]

[Filed 11/30/07, Notice 9/26/07—published 12/19/07, effective 1/23/08]

[Filed 11/26/08, Notice 9/24/08—published 12/17/08, effective 1/21/09]

[Filed ARC 9328B (Notice ARC 9156B, IAB 10/20/10), IAB 1/12/11, effective 2/16/11]

[Filed ARC 0094C (Notice ARC 9972B, IAB 1/11/12), IAB 4/18/12, effective 5/23/12]

[Filed ARC 5758C (Notice ARC 5456C, IAB 2/24/21), IAB 7/14/21, effective 8/18/21]

[Filed ARC 7980C (Notice ARC 7547C, IAB 1/24/24), IAB 5/15/24, effective 7/1/24]

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 9/18/24]