

APTA Washington Update: Key Areas of Focus for the 2025 House of Delegates

This year is shaping up to be busy for the **APTA House of Delegates (HOD)**, with **38 bylaw amendments and motion concepts** already on the docket—and more expected. To help you stay informed, we've summarized the main categories of motions and examples from the 2025 proposals.

👉 For the complete list of motions, please log in to your APTA account and visit the [APTA Communities page](#).

1. Advocacy and Legislation

These motions target **policy and legislative issues** that impact the profession and patient access. Areas of focus include:

- Strategies to improve **reimbursement rates** for physical therapy services.
- Legislative actions to **enhance patient access**.
- Public awareness campaigns promoting the role of physical therapists in healthcare.

✅ **Motion Concept:** APTA's Paramount and Overarching Priority Is to [Improve Payment for Physical Therapist and Physical Therapist Assistant Services](#).

✅ **Motion concept:** Recognizing the [Doctor of Physical Therapy \(DPT\)](#) as the terminal degree for the profession.

2. Education

Proposals in this area focus on **enhancing physical therapy education and lifelong learning**. Expect motions related to:

- Changes in entry-level educational requirements.
- Development of new certification programs or specialties.
- Adjustments to continuing education requirements for licensure renewal.

✅ **Motion concept:** [Transforming PT Education](#) to better align with future practice needs.

3. Professional Practice

Motions in this category often focus on **ethics, practice standards, and the evolving role of physical therapists and assistants**. Discussions could include:

- Proposing new ethical guidelines or revising existing ones.
- Defining the scope of practice, particularly in emerging areas.

✔ **Example:** The APTA Board of Directors will submit a [Revised Code of Ethics](#) for adoption.

✔ **Motion Concept:** Recognizing [Primary Care as a Specialization](#) within the profession.

4. Research and Evidence-Based Practice

Delegates will discuss motions aimed at strengthening the **evidence base and integration of research** into clinical practice, including:

- Increasing **funding for research** initiatives.
- Enhancing the use of **evidence-based guidelines** in practice and education.

✔ **Motion concept:** [Amending the APTA's position on evidence-based practice](#).

5. Membership and Organizational Structure

These motions address **APTA membership policies** and internal governance. Topics may include:

- Changes to **dues, benefits, or membership categories** (e.g., student or retired members).
- Adjustments to the structure of the **Board of Directors** or delegate representation.

✔ **Motion concept:** Adding [PTA representation](#) to the APTA Board of Directors.

6. Diversity and Inclusion

Motions in this category promote **equity, diversity, and culturally competent care**. Discussions could involve:

- Strategies to **recruit and retain** diverse professionals.
- Addressing **health disparities** and integrating social determinants of health into practice.

✔ **Motion Concept:** [Resolution Statement on Social Determinants of Health \(SDOH\)](#) in physical therapy practice, advocacy, education, and research.

7. Technology and Innovation

These motions explore how **emerging technologies** can enhance physical therapy practice and education, including:

- Expanding **telehealth services**.
- Integrating **virtual reality, AI, or other innovations** into care delivery and training.

✔ **Motion concept:** [Amending Telehealth](#) policies to reflect current practices.

 **Your Feedback Matters**

The motions and amendments being discussed will directly influence the profession's future. If you have feedback or suggestions, please share them with us before the **main motion language deadline on April 30**.

 **Contact us at** delegates@apta.org

Together, we can shape the future of physical therapy!

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