

**TITLE 16
LEGISLATIVE RULE
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**

**SERIES 9
APPLICATION FOR WAIVER OF INITIAL LICENSING FEES
FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS**

§16-9-1. General.

- 1.1. Scope. -- This rule establishes procedures for waiving the initial licensing fee for low income individuals and military personnel and their spouses.
- 1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §30-1-23, W. Va. Code §30-20-5, and W. Va. Code §30-20A-2.
- 1.3. Filing Date. -- April 1, 2020
- 1.4. Effective Date. -- June 1, 2020
- 1.5. Sunset Provision. -- This rule shall terminate and have no further force or effect on June 1, 2025.

§16-9-2. Definitions.

- 2.1. "Board" means the West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy.
- 2.2. "BOPT-LIW" means the Board of Physical Therapy low income waiver form used to request a waiver of the initial licensing fee for low income individuals, as authorized in W.Va. Code §30-1-23;
- 2.3. "Initial license" means an individual applying for a physical therapy, physical therapy assistant, or athletic trainer license in West Virginia for the first time;
- 2.4 "Local labor market" means every county in West Virginia, and any county outside of West Virginia if any portion of that county is within 50 miles of the border of West Virginia, pursuant to W.Va. Code §21-1C-2;
- 2.5. "Low-income individual" means an individual in the local labor market, whose household adjusted gross income is below 130 percent of the federal poverty line. This term also includes any person enrolled in a state or federal public assistance program including, but not limited to, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, Medicaid, or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
- 2.6. "Military families" means any person who serves as an active member of the armed forces of the United States, the National Guard, or a reserve component as described in 38 U. S. C. §101, honorably discharged veterans of those forces, and their spouses. This term also includes surviving spouses of deceased service members who have not remarried; and
- 2.7. "BOPT-MFW" means the Board of Physical Therapy Military Family Waiver form used to request a waiver of the initial licensing fee for military service members and their spouses as described in W. Va. Code §30-1-23.

§16-9-3. Application for Waiver of Initial Licensure Fees.

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3.1. An applicant seeking a low income or military family waiver of the initial licensing fee shall apply for licensure to the Board and provide the required documentation.

3.2. The Board shall provide the applicant with the application form and instructions for necessary documentation to submit with the license application requesting the low income or military family initial licensing fee waiver.

3.3. An applicant shall submit all required documentation to the Board, and upon the submission of a complete application, the Board shall review the application and issue a decision within 30 days of receipt of the completed application.

3.4. The Board may issue a license to an applicant who meets the requirements of W. Va. Code §30-20-1 *et seq.* and W. Va. Code §30-20A-1 *et seq.* and the rules promulgated by the Board, and the Board shall waive the initial licensing fee for an applicant that meets the requirement of “low-income individuals” or “military families” as defined in W.Va. Code §30-1-23.

§16-9-4. Required Documentation for Waiver of Initial Licensure Fees.

4.1. Individuals requesting a low income or military family waiver of initial licensure fees shall submit with the application the initial licensure waiver BOPT-LIW or BOPT-MFW form and the appropriate documentation as specified in this section.

4.2. To establish low income eligibility for the initial licensing fee waiver, an applicant shall submit to the Board evidence that the adjusted gross income of the household of the applicant is below 130% of the federal poverty level by submitting documentation of eligibility for:

4.2.1. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program;

4.2.2. Medicaid;

4.2.3. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; or

4.2.4. A Federal Tax Return.

4.3. To establish military family eligibility for the initial licensing fee waiver, an applicant shall submit to the Board proof of qualifying military service and proof of eligibility as a qualifying spouse or surviving spouse, as follows:

4.3.1. A service member’s DD-214 form;

4.3.2. A service member’s NGB-22 form;

4.3.3. A service member’s DD-1300 form; or

4.3.4. A copy of their current military orders; and

4.3.5. A copy of the marriage certificate with the qualifying service member, where applicable, the death certificate of the service member if the surviving spouse is applying for the military family waiver, and where applicable a notarized affidavit from the surviving spouse verifying the surviving spouse has not remarried.

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4.4. Honorably discharged applicants shall submit a completed application, and a DD-214 form or an NGB-22 form showing the applicant has been an honorably discharged from military service.