VARIANCE

Pursuant to the authority granted in 68 Illinois Administrative Code § 1340.70, I hereby grant physical therapists licensed pursuant to the Illinois Physical Therapy Act (hereinafter “IPTA”), a variance from 68 Illinois Administrative Code § 1340.61(b)(3)(E)(i) which states, in part, that licensees may earn a maximum of 50% of their continuing education through web-based courses.

This Variance is granted based upon the particular facts surrounding the Illinois Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamations issued on March 09, 2020, April 1, 2020, April 30, 2020, May 29, 2020, June 26, 2020 and again on July 24, 2020.

In order to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Department has become aware that opportunities for in-person continuing education courses have been extinguished in order to ensure that public health is not endangered. As a result, licensees may not be able to complete their continuing education requirements for renewal on September 30, 2020. This Variance shall be permitted to allow a physical therapist licensed under the IPTA to complete all their continuing education through self-study methods, such as web-based courses for their renewal on September 30, 2020. This Variance shall only apply to physical therapists licensed under the IPTA. This Variance will expire on September 30, 2020.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned rules, this Variance is in no way intended to waive or modify any other statute, rule, or regulation concerning renewal requirements under the IPTA. Physical therapists licensed under the IPTA must comply with all additional rules and regulations contained in the IPTA and applicable administrative rules for renewal.

I have determined that the provisions from which this variance is granted are not statutorily mandated; no party will be injured by the granting of this variance; and the rules from which this variance is granted would, in this particular case, be unreasonable.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois
Deborah Hagan, SECRETARY, by

Cecilia Abundis, Acting Director  
Division of Professional Regulation

July 30, 2020