



Association Profile

January 2026



APTA Strategic Framework for 2030



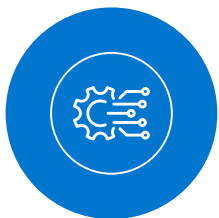
Advancing Our Payment

Increase economic opportunities for PTs and PTAs to advance the profession as an integral outcomes-driven component of the U.S. health system.



Empowering Our Members

Deliver a high-impact member experience that is relevant across career stages and settings.



Evolving Our Practice

Accelerate the transformation of practice models and services to better serve society and the profession.

Outcomes

- PTs and PTAs receive increased payment for physical therapist services.
- APTA is recognized as the professional home for PTs and PTAs.
- Society benefits from greater access to high-quality physical therapist services.

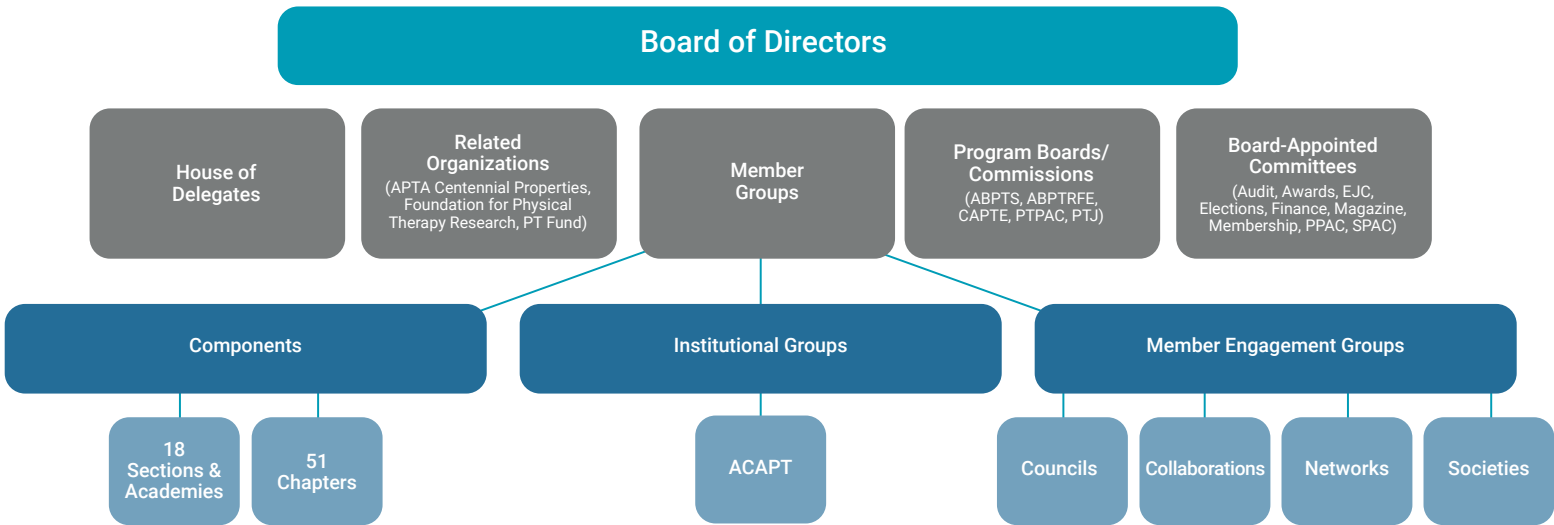
Quick Facts

APTA is a voluntary individual membership professional organization representing 100,000 member physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and students of physical therapy.

Founded	Headquarters	Nonprofit Status	Membership
1921	3030 Potomac Ave. Alexandria, Virginia	501(c)(6)	100,000 Members

Association Structure

The APTA Board of Directors is the governing authority for the association and as such has the corporate duties of care, loyalty, and obedience. It is the fiduciary for the association and manages the affairs of the association pursuant to law and APTA’s bylaws. The chart below provides a high-level overview of the association structure.



APTA Staff

APTA has approximately 151 staff led by the CEO, with seven additional senior team members. There are four units, each with its own departments. The lead of each serves on our leadership team.

Units	Leadership	Business & Administration	Professional Affairs	Public Affairs
Departments	Legal People + Culture Governance	Finance Strategic Affairs Information Technology Membership	Advancement Accreditation Professional Development Practice and Research	Government Affairs Health Policy and Payment Communications



Empowering Our Members to Thrive

Every day, APTA works to support the people who move this profession forward. We listen to what matters most, offer trusted guidance, and create opportunities for members to thrive and make an impact in their communities. We deliver on that commitment in the following ways:

We Advance the Profession

- Legislative, regulatory, and payment advocacy
- Industry trends and reports
- Media relations
- Public relations

We Share Knowledge

- PTJ: Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Journal
- APTA Magazine
- APTA Combined Sections Meeting
- APTA Leadership Congress
- APTA Learning Center
- APTA clinical practice guidelines

We Support Our Members

- Financial literacy and student debt education resources
- APTA Health Benefits Marketplace
- Membership benefits and discounts
- Accreditation of residency and fellowship programs

We Set Professional Standards/Competencies

- Code of Ethics
- Board-certified specialization
- Accreditation of PT and PTA programs
- Accreditation of residency and fellowship programs
- Certificate programs
- APTA Certified Clinical Instructor Program
- APTA practice advisories

We Build Community

- APTA Engage volunteer portal
- Welcoming and belonging initiatives
- APTA specialty sections and academies
- APTA Community: APTA's online platform for members

We Increase Awareness

- ChoosePT
- Find a PT
- PT Moves Me

The Physical Therapy Profession

312,000+ Physical Therapists

There are 312,199 licensed physical therapists nationwide, with approximately 91 physical therapists per 100,000 people.

132,000+ Physical Therapist Assistants

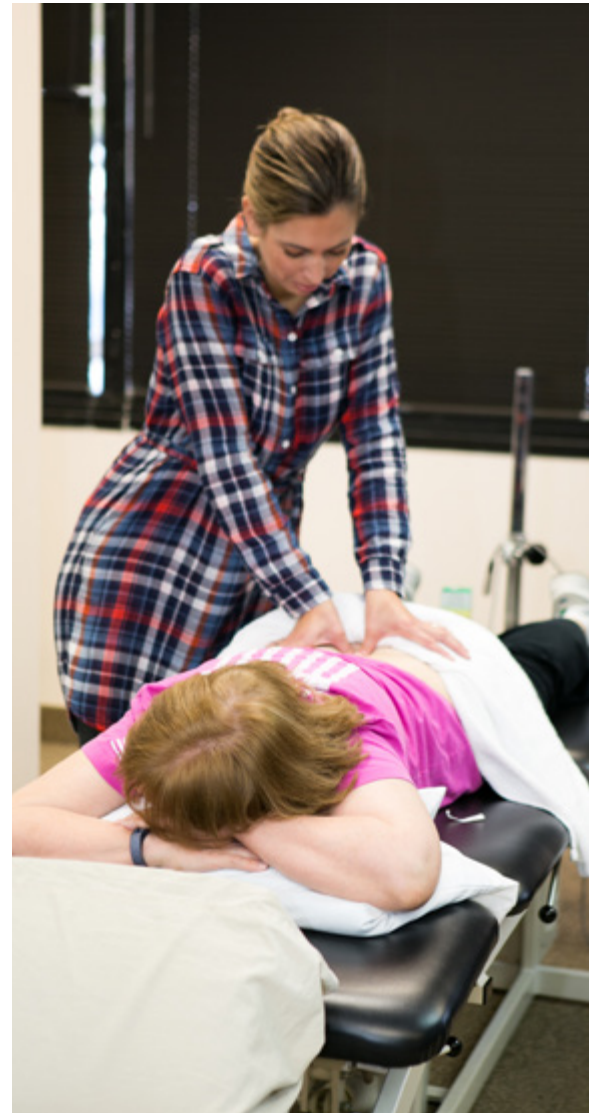
There are 132,105 physical therapist assistants nationwide working under physical therapist direction and supervision, with approximately 39 physical therapist assistants per 100,000 people.

50,000+ PT and PTA Students

There are more than 300 accredited and candidacy physical therapist student programs with 39,303 students enrolled in 2025. Programs are typically three years in length (following undergraduate education), with graduates receiving a doctor of physical therapy degree. There are 390 accredited and candidacy physical therapist assistant student programs, with 10,393 students enrolled in 2025. Programs are typically two years in length, with graduates receiving a physical therapist assistant associate degree.








34,000+ Board-Certified Specialists

More than 34,000 physical therapists maintain American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties certification in one or more of 11 specialty areas: cardiovascular and pulmonary; clinical electrophysiology; geriatrics; neurology; oncology; orthopaedics; pediatrics; sports; pelvic and women's health; and wound management. Primary care was added as the newest specialty area of practice in 2025. The first primary care board certification examination is anticipated for administration in spring 2028, with application submissions accepted beginning in spring 2027.







Connecting to our Members

APTA's official social media accounts have a combined audience of 390,000+ followers.

-  apta.org
-  [/AmericanPhysicalTherapyAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanPhysicalTherapyAssociation)
-  [@APTA_official](https://twitter.com/APTA_official)
-  [@Official_APTA](https://www.instagram.com/Official_APTA)
-  [/company/american-physical-therapy-association/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/american-physical-therapy-association/)
-  [@APTAvideo](https://www.youtube.com/@APTAvideo)
-  [@Official_APTA](https://www.tiktok.com/@Official_APTA)

Connecting to our Consumers

APTA's official consumer information website serves millions of unique visitors annually.

-  [ChoosePT.com](https://www.choosept.com)
-  [/ChoosePhysicalTherapy](https://www.facebook.com/ChoosePhysicalTherapy)
-  [@Choose_PT](https://twitter.com/Choose_PT)
-  [@ChoosePTvideo](https://www.youtube.com/@ChoosePTvideo)

Partnering for Progress

[Our sections, academies, and state chapters](#) are essential partners in driving progress across our strategic priorities. Each partner organization contributes unique expertise, insights, and reach that help APTA in:

Identifying payment challenges and opportunities at the local and specialty levels, informing state-based advocacy strategies, and amplifying our collective voice.

Fostering community, connection, and leadership development through volunteer opportunities within practice areas and states, ensuring that every PT, PTA, and student finds belonging and value in APTA.

Championing innovation, research, and emerging care models that leverage the expertise of our members across settings and specialties to shape the future of patient care.

Where We Practice

10+ practice settings, including:

- Hospitals and acute care units
- Outpatient and private practice clinics
- Skilled nursing and inpatient rehabilitation facilities
- Home health settings
- Schools and early intervention programs
- Academic and research institutions
- Sports and performance settings
- Community health and wellness programs
- Workplace and occupational health environments
- Government and military settings
- Virtually via telehealth

What We Specialize In

[18 sections and academies with 250+ special interest groups](#), representing areas such as:

Acute Care

Aquatics

Cardiovascular and Pulmonary

Clinical Electrophysiology and Wound Management

Education

Federal

Geriatrics

Hand and Upper Extremity

Home Health

Leadership and Innovation

Neurology

Oncology

Orthopedics

Pediatrics

Pelvic Health

Private Practice

Research

Sports





State Chapters

51 APTA state chapters represent members at the state level, offering local networking, continuing education, and legislative action tailored to your region.

Related Organizations

A related organization is a controlled subsidiary of APTA that is organized as a separate legal entity with its own board of trustees. The trustees provide strategic direction and oversee operations. APTA defines the entity's purpose, provides financial and administrative support, and retains fiduciary oversight.

APTA
Centennial Properties, LLC

FPTR FOUNDATION FOR
PHYSICAL THERAPY
RESEARCH

PT Fund
Physical Therapy
Fund of APTA

Program Boards/Commissions

A commission is a body of appointed individuals delegated independent decision-making authority over a program within APTA for a defined purpose, including achieving compliance and recognition from external entities. A commission, in collaboration with the APTA Board of Directors, maintains accountability, authority, and responsibility for the program, its operations, and its purpose. The APTA Board of Directors retains fiduciary oversight of these programs.

ABPTS
American Board
of Physical Therapy
Specialties

ABPTRFE
American Board of Physical Therapy
Residency & Fellowship Education

CAPTE
Commission on Accreditation
in Physical Therapy Education

PTJ Physical Therapy &
Rehabilitation Journal

PTPAC
Physical Therapy
Political Action
Committee of APTA

Member Engagement Groups

Members participate in Member Engagement Groups through [APTA Community](#).



APTA
Council



APTA
Collaboration



APTA
Network



APTA
Society

Vision Statement for the Physical Therapy Profession

Transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience.

Mission Statement for the Association

Building a community that advances the profession of physical therapy to improve the health of society.

Our Commitment to Belonging

APTA is committed to promoting a community of belonging where all members are valued, respected, and empowered to thrive.

