



January 9, 2017

HOW WILL THE NEW COURSEWORK TOOL (CWT6) AFFECT YOUR EVALUATION? (Revised – Effective September 15th, 2016)

USCIS requirements for issuance of the healthcare worker's certificate (Type I Certificate) implemented by Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy (FCCPT) in September of 2016 overlapped with and overruled some of the CWT6 requirements developed by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) for licensure, posted on the FCCPT website earlier in the year.

The following guidelines apply to applicants who have applied for or will apply for the [Comprehensive Credentials Review \(Type 1 Review\)](#) or the [Educational Credentials Review](#), both of which include a credentials evaluation using the CWT. Please read the information below, and if you have any additional questions, [Contact Us](#).

1. If you apply for a service (including re-evaluations), ON or AFTER January 1, 2017:

- a. For **immigration** purposes, your Type 1 Review will be completed using the CWT6. Please note that USCIS requires the following in order for an applicant to be issued a Healthcare Worker Certificate:
 - Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Degree, AND
 - A minimum of 234 total semester credits (general + professional education)
 - Equivalency on CWT6
- b. For **licensure** purposes, if the state where you are applying requires the current version of the CWT, or if you have not selected a recipient jurisdiction, FCCPT will complete the evaluation using the CWT6. If you are seeking licensure only, you must meet the following requirements:
 - A minimum of 170 total semester credits (general + professional education).
 - For Type 1 Review applicants, you must submit the [Type 1 for Licensure Only form](#) to be evaluated using the jurisdiction's requirements and not the USCIS requirements stated above. The Type 1 for Licensure Only form can only be submitted for a state that requires the Type 1 Review for licensure (*refer to the [Type 1 Review](#) page on the FCCPT website for a list of jurisdictions that require the Type 1 for licensure*).
 - If the state where you are applying for licensure accepts/requires a previous version of the CWT (e.g., CWT 2, 3, 4, or 5), FCCPT will complete an evaluation using both the CWT6 and the appropriate version of the CWT accepted/required by the state.

2. If your review began BEFORE January 1, 2017, but the review has not been completed (*service 'In Review' on January 1, 2017*):

- a. For **immigration** purposes, FCCPT will complete Type 1 Reviews using the CWT6 and the 2017 requirements stated above.
- b. For **licensure** purposes, (*including Type 1 for Licensure Only*) FCCPT will complete credentials evaluations on the CWT5, and then prepare a report of the evaluation based on the appropriate version of the CWT accepted/required by the state.



3. If your review was completed BEFORE January 1, 2017:

- a. If your review found your education 'Substantially Equivalent' prior to January 1, 2017, there is no effect on your previous review.
- b. If you need an additional report for a state that does NOT require the most current version of the CWT, you can apply for a Duplicate Report
- c. If you need an additional report for a state that requires the most current version of the CWT, you will need to apply and pay for a [Re-evaluation](#) in order for FCCPT to convert your previous results to the CWT6. This also applies to applicants requesting an Included Report for a jurisdiction that requires the most current tool, and the service was completed prior to January 1, 2017, on a previous tool.
- d. If your Type 1 Review (for *immigration* purposes) found your education 'Not Substantially Equivalent' on CWT 5 prior to January 1, 2017, subsequent re-evaluations must be completed on the CWT6, to meet the current USCIS requirements at the time of re-evaluation.

Remember that states/jurisdictions have the authority to set individual jurisdictional requirements:

- *Jurisdictions may require conversion to the more current tool as they deem appropriate.*