The faculty strive to prepare students for success on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) upon graduation. However, success on the NPTE is ultimately the responsibility of the student, requiring diligent preparation during his/her education at FGCU, and upon graduation. Although preparation through the use of practice exams cannot guarantee success on the NPTE, the faculty believe that early and continuous exposure to practice exams similar in style and content to the NPTE allows students the opportunity for self-evaluation of knowledge strengths/weaknesses, and reinforcement of learning.

To encourage adequate preparation and practice, all students will sit for practice exams during the following courses and participate in a Licensure Examination Preparation Course during PT Practice VI. The Practice Exams will occur in:

- PT Practice III
- PT Practice IV
- PT Practice V

Using the Academic Version of the *Practice Exam and Assessment Tool (PEAT)* and the *PTEXAM: Online Advantage*, students will gain practice in taking a full-length board exam. The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) offers the PEAT and provides the test taker sub-section scoring information as well as rationale for the answers to each question. Students can take the exam twice during a thirty day period for a set fee. Information on PEAT can be found at [www.fsbpt.org](http://www.fsbpt.org). *PTEXAM: Online Advantage* is offered by Scorebuilders and provides the test-taker with sub-section scoring information, a comparison to all individuals who have taken the practice exam, as well as rationale for the answers to each question. Information on PTEXAM: Online Advantage can be found at [http://www.scorebuilders.com/products.html](http://www.scorebuilders.com/products.html).

All PEAT and PTEXAM testing will be done on campus in a supervised setting. Students will be notified of dates at least two weeks in advance of scheduled testing. Students are responsible for all costs associated with these practice exams and review course and must remit funds to the department prior to the testing date to be eligible to sit for the scheduled test and exam review course. Completion of ALL exams/courses is required. Failure to complete as required will result in failure of the associated PT Practice Course as identified above.
Students must earn the following minimum scores by the end of the semester in which the course is offered:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Minimum score</th>
<th>Exam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT Practice II</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>PEAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT Practice IV</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>PT Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT Practice V</td>
<td>70%**</td>
<td>PEAT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** A score of 70% on the practice test in the last semester of the program meets the criteria for graduation. However, a score in the range of 70-80% is considered low and the faculty judge individuals with scores in this range to be at risk for not successfully passing the NPTE on the first attempt.

Students who do not achieve the minimal grade during the designated course will receive an “I” grade for the course. Students must discuss with his/her advisor a plan to remediate the unsuccessful exam attempts during the first week of the next semester and satisfy the minimal pass score within that semester to receive a successful grade in the course and progress in the curriculum. The “I” will convert to an “F” if the requirement is not satisfied and the course will need to be repeated during the next time the course is offered.

Students who do not meet the specific score will be allowed to re-take the exam on campus in a supervised setting. Students in clinical placements outside the area will be allowed to retake the exam under supervision of a pre-approved proctor. Approval must be obtained in advance from the Program Director and Director of Clinical Education.

A student who fails to sit for the required practice exam during any of the courses listed or does not submit proof of his/her scores to the appropriate parties in the time frame noted, will receive a grade of “I” for that course. The student will not be permitted to enroll in or will be administratively dropped from the next PT Practice or Clinical Education course in the series until this requirement has been met. This may result in the student being unable to progress in the program and delay completion of the program of study. The student’s faculty advisor will be notified of the student’s failure to comply with this requirement and the student may be placed on Professional Behaviors Probation.