



BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of)	
)	
)	Docket No. 26-HA00005
Michelle R. Cranford, P.T.)	
Application for Licensure)	

ORDER GRANTING LICENSE

NOW on this 10th day of October 2025, comes on for hearing the application of Michelle Cranford for a license to practice physical therapy in Kansas. Abebe Abebe, M.D. chairs the proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (Board). The members present and deciding the matter act as the presiding officer and are authorized to decide this matter. Caitlin A. Kremer, Associate Litigation Counsel appears on behalf of Disciplinary Panel No. 40 (DP #40). Michelle R. Cranford, P.T. (Applicant) appears in person and is pro se. Dr. Balderson, Dr. Bradbury, Dr. DeGrado, Dr. Kuhlmann, and Dr. Sweet, who serve on DP #40, are recused from deciding this matter.

The Board makes the following findings of facts and law:

1. On September 3, 2024, Applicant applied for a license to practice in Kansas as a physical therapist.
2. On August 26, 2025, her application was deemed complete and filed.

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3. Applicant is licensed as a physical therapist in Arkansas and has maintained an active license there since 2001.
4. The Physical Therapy Council and DP #40 recommended that before licensure, Applicant should again take and pass the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) and complete 205 hours of supervised clinical mentoring.
5. K.S.A. 65-2906(b)(3) governs the Board's authority to license physical therapists in Kansas.
6. K.S.A. 65-2906(b)(3) requires that before an applicant for a P.T. license is granted, the applicant shall "pass an examination required by the Board appropriate to test the applicant's knowledge and of the basic and clinical sciences" and otherwise meet the qualifications of the physical therapy act.
7. K.S.A. 65-2901(b) defines a physical therapist to include a person who successfully meets the requirements of K.S.A. 65-2906.
8. The qualifications for a PT license listed in K.S.A. 65-2906 do not include undergoing a mentoring program, and the Board is without legal authority to impose qualifications for licensure not found in statute despite Applicant's lack of current active practice.
9. Applicant already took and passed the NPTE. The Board declines to require her to retake the exam a second time.

WHEREFORE, Applicant's license to practice physical therapy in Kansas is GRANTED effective on the file-stamped date of this order.

FOR THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS

Susan Gile

Susan Gile
Executive Director

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing **Order Granting License** was served this 10th day of November 2025 by depositing the same in the United States Mail, first-class postage prepaid, and via email, addressed to:

Michelle Cranford, P.T.

CONFIDENTIAL

Applicant

and a copy hand delivered to the office of:

Caitlin A. Kremer, Associate Litigation Counsel
Kansas State Board of Healing Arts
800 SW Jackson, Suite 700
Topeka, Kansas 66612
caitlin.kremer@ks.gov

and the original filed with the office of the Executive Director.



Staff Signature

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