ABPTS Specialist Certification Deferment Guidelines

Once you defer, if you are interested in sitting for next year’s examination and qualify as a reapplicant (ie, if you were not a reapplicant for the current examination cycle), you would be responsible for submitting an online reapplication and a reapplication fee of $170. The reapplication is an abbreviated version of the full application, and for the most part involves you affirming that the demographic and contact information that is currently within the application system is still accurate. If all other elements of your current application were approved, the only new information requested of reapplicants is new license verification information (if expired), and your work experience and direct patient care hour documentation since the time of your last application.

The online reapplication submission system will reopen in late June, and the reapplication deadline is August 31 each year. The examination fee for reapplicants remains the same for all examinees at $810 (member rate), which again would be due by November 30. If you have already paid this year’s examination fee you will be refunded 80% of that fee, which will be processed within a 6-8 week timeframe.

If you do not qualify as a reapplicant for next year’s examination cycle, please be aware that you will be subject to the same application requirements and associated fees as an initial applicant to the process.

If you have any additional questions about the deferment process, please contact the specialist certification staff at 800/999-APTA (2782), ext 8520, or at spec-cert@apta.org.