

Candidate Information

Legislative Director

Abigail Skallerud, PT, DPT

Abigail Skallerud, PT, DPT is an outpatient orthopaedic and neurological physical therapist at Probility Physical Therapy in Canton, MI. She graduated from Wayne State University with her Doctorate in Physical Therapy in 2020. Last year, she served as the Student Liaison for the Michigan Delegation at the APTA House of Delegates. She also holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan.

Candidate Statement:

When I changed careers to pursue physical therapy, I saw the need to find ways to integrate my love for current events and policy creation into advocating for my new profession. Some of the biggest challenges our profession faces is in the realm of legislative advocacy. There is a disconnect between the members of our profession and their potential impact on policy development, and between legislators, the public and what impact our profession has on the health care status of our state. As Legislative Director, I hope to foster these connections through encouraging member engagement in the political process, improving the visibility of our profession and promoting our profession's goals through legislation passage. A few ways I envision doing this is by: 1) disseminating key legislative bills into briefing synopses for our members to draw key impact points from to better understand professional impact; 2) working to revamp our professional marketing message to better promote and educate on the breadth of our profession to legislators; and 3) developing networking events to engage both our student and professional members while fostering legislative relationships, similar to our established Advocacy Day. I would be honored to serve as the Legislative Director for APTA Michigan and help our profession thrive. I believe that political traction comes from the power of numbers. Let's grow the power of our voices together.