

APTA Wisconsin Candidate Questions

Name and Credentials:

Susan Griffin, PT, DPT, MS
Registered Parliamentarian

Education:

BS in physical therapy, UW Madison
MS in motor control and biomechanics UW Milwaukee
Doctor of Physical Therapy, Marymount University

Employer and Position:

Advocate Aurora, staff physical therapist

PRESIDENT

1. Please describe previous leadership experiences that qualify you to serve as APTA Wisconsin President.
 1. My most recent leadership experience is serving as the current president of APTA Wisconsin for the past 2 years. Prior to that, I served 6 years on the APTA Board as Speaker of the APTA House of Delegates.
2. Please describe your overall leadership philosophy and associated skill set that qualifies you to serve as APTA Wisconsin President.
 1. My philosophy is that everyone has something meaningful to contribute, and that chapter leadership makes the best decisions when all ideas are heard and thoughtfully considered. My role as president is to make sure everyone has the background information needed to prepare for meetings, and to ensure all feel welcome sharing their thoughts and opinions during discussions. My skills as a registered parliamentarian and former House speaker are brought to bear to ensure the will of the majority is carried out while the voices of the minority are heard.
3. What do you believe are the most pressing concerns currently facing APTA Wisconsin and describe potential strategies to take on these challenges?
 1. Administrative burden: To improve patient outcomes, therapist job satisfaction, and the bottom line, therapists need to spend as much time in direct patient care as possible. APTA Wisconsin plans to re-introduce legislation to limit commercial insurers from imposing prior authorization until after 12 therapy visits per episode of care.
 2. Patient access to physical therapy: APTA Wisconsin plans to provide education to individual therapists and to health care systems on how to facilitate patients to access PT directly. We are going to reach out to insurers

whose policies require a physician referral to PT, and also educate patients on when and how to seek physical therapy care directly.

3. **Secure the future of APTA Wisconsin:** Paraphrased, the mission of APTA Wisconsin is to meet the PT needs of people in Wisconsin, inspire and support members, and promote PT practice, education, and research. The more PTs, PTAs, and students we have working together, the more successful we will be. We plan to reach out to students, early career individuals, and recently-lapsed members to highlight the value of membership, and encourage them to stay engaged with APTA Wisconsin.
4. Describe what APTA Wisconsin's role should be in advancing APTA's key initiatives and vision?
 1. The 4 pillars of the APTA Strategic Plan are Member Value, Sustainable Profession, Demand and Access, and Quality of Care. I've addressed the first 3 areas above in question #3. APTA Wisconsin is addressing Quality of Care in a number of ways. One is by developing a Pain and Addiction toolkit (<https://aptawi.org/opioid-toolkit/>) to help PTs and PTAs provide care and resources to patients struggling with substance use disorder. Another is through the top-notch in-person educational programs provided twice a year at state conferences, and throughout the year at district meetings. A third is through a webinar series of case-based presentations and discussions of actual patients. APTA Wisconsin aims to provide continuing education opportunities in a variety of venues to meet the needs of all students, PTAs, and PTs in the state.