

Statutes and Regulations **Athletic Trainers**

March 2023



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY,
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

***DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING***

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CHAPTER 07.
ATHLETIC TRAINERS

Section

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Sec. 08.07.010. License required. (a) An individual may not practice or offer to practice athletic training, or allow another person to offer athletic training by the individual, in the state without being licensed under this chapter, unless the individual is

(1) a student in an accredited athletic trainer program who is practicing athletic training under the supervision of an athletic trainer or a person licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy under AS 08.64;

(2) licensed, certified, or registered as an athletic trainer in another state and is present in the state for not more than 90 days in a calendar year for a specific athletic event or series of athletic events with an individual or group not based in the state; or

(3) in the military service of the United States or as an employee of the federal government performing athletic training services within the scope of the individual's official duties.

(b) This section does not prohibit a person licensed under another chapter of this title from performing functions defined as athletic training if those functions are within the scope of that person's license and the person does not use a title listed in (d) of this section.

(c) Nothing in this chapter requires licensing of a coach or fitness trainer who

(1) does not use a title listed in (d) of this section; and

(2) is acting within the scope of the person's duties as a coach or fitness trainer.

(d) Unless licensed under this chapter or exempted under (a)(2) or (3) of this section, an individual may not use the titles "athletic trainer," "licensed athletic trainer," "certified athletic trainer," "athletic trainer certified," "A.T.," "A.T.L.," "C.A.T.," "A.T.C.," or any combination of those terms to indicate that the individual is a licensed athletic trainer.

Sec. 08.07.020. Qualifications for license; fee; renewal. (a) The department shall issue an athletic trainer license to an individual who

(1) applies to the department on a form provided by the department;

(2) meets the requirements established in regulation by the department;

(3) pays the fees established by the department; and

(4) provides proof of certification by the Board of Certification, Inc., or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department.

(b) An athletic trainer license may be renewed upon proof of certification by the Board of Certification, Inc., or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department and as provided in AS 08.01.100.

Sec. 08.07.030. Scope of practice of athletic trainers. (a) An athletic trainer may practice athletic training only under the direction of a person licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy under AS 08.64. In this subsection, "direction" means the physician authorizes a procedure by a verbal order if the physician is present or by written order, telecommunication, or athletic training treatment plans, protocols, or standing orders established by the physician if the physician is not present.

(b) An athletic trainer shall immediately refer an athlete to an appropriate licensed health care professional if the athletic trainer determines that athletic training is contraindicated or the symptoms or conditions present require treatment outside the scope of practice of an athletic trainer.

(c) The practice of an athletic trainer includes

(1) the treatment of an athlete for an athletic injury or illness prevention;

(2) the clinical evaluation and assessment of an athlete for an athletic injury or illness sustained or exacerbated while participating in an athletic or sport-related exercise or activity;

(3) the immediate care and treatment of an athlete for an athletic injury or illness sustained or exacerbated while participating in an athletic or sport-related exercise or activity; and

(4) the rehabilitation and reconditioning of an athlete from an athletic injury or illness sustained or exacerbated while participating in an athletic or sport-related exercise or activity.

(d) In this section, "health care professional" has the meaning given to "health care provider" in AS 09.65.300.

Sec. 08.07.040. Regulations. After consulting the professional standards issued by the Board of Certification, Inc., the board's successor, or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department, the department shall adopt regulations to protect the public, ensure quality patient care, and regulate the licensing of athletic trainers that include

(1) minimum standards for licensure as an athletic trainer;

- (2) minimum standards of care for practice as an athletic trainer; and
- (3) continuing education requirements.

Sec. 08.07.090. Definitions. In this chapter,

(1) "athlete" means an individual who participates in an athletic or sport-related exercise or activity, including interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, semiprofessional, and professional sports activities;

(2) "athletic injury or illness" means an injury or illness sustained or exacerbated through participation in an activity, exercise, recreation, sport, or game requiring physical strength, range of motion, flexibility, body awareness and control, speed, stamina, or agility of a type sustained in association with sports participation as part of an educational institution, professional sports club, amateur sports club, recreational sports club, or organization;

(3) "athletic trainer" means an individual who is licensed under AS 08.07.020 to practice athletic training in this state;

(4) "athletic training" means injury and illness prevention and the evaluation, assessment, immediate care, treatment, rehabilitation, and reconditioning of an athletic injury or illness.

**CHAPTER 78.
ATHLETIC TRAINERS.**

Article

- 1. Licensing (12 AAC 78.100)**
- 2. License Renewal and Maintenance of Current Certification (12 AAC 78.200 – 12 AAC 78.210)**
- 3. Athletic Trainer Standards of Practice (12 AAC 78.300)**
- 4. General Provisions (12 AAC 78.900)**

**ARTICLE 1.
LICENSING.**

Section

100. Application for athletic trainer license

12 AAC 78.100. APPLICATION FOR ATHLETIC TRAINER LICENSE. An applicant for licensure as an athletic trainer must submit

- (1) a completed application on a form provided by the department;
- (2) the applicable fees established in 12 AAC 02.395;
- (3) proof of the applicant's certification as an athletic trainer as required in AS 08.07.020, sent directly to the department from
 - (A) the Board of Certification, Inc.; or
 - (B) another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department; and
- (4) verification of the applicant's licensure status sent directly to the department from each jurisdiction where the applicant is or was previously licensed to practice athletic training; each verification must include
 - (A) an explanation of any disciplinary actions taken against the licensee; and
 - (B) documentation of
 - (i) any violation of the *BOC Standards of Professional Practice*, adopted by reference in 12 AAC 78.300(b); and
 - (ii) any conviction, unresolved pending action, or adverse decision based upon a complaint, investigation, review procedure, or other disciplinary proceeding that the jurisdiction or a federal or state law enforcement agency undertakes, that relates to the applicant's criminal or fraudulent activity, malpractice, or negligent care, and that adversely reflects on the applicant's ability or competence to practice athletic training.

Authority: AS 08.07.010 AS 08.07.020 AS 08.07.040

**ARTICLE 2.
LICENSE RENEWAL AND MAINTENANCE OF CURRENT CERTIFICATION.**

Section

200. License renewal

210. Maintenance of current certification

12 AAC 78.200. LICENSE RENEWAL. (a) An individual must renew an athletic trainer license biennially on or before August 31 of odd-numbered years. The department will furnish a renewal reminder to each currently licensed athletic trainer at least 30 days before the renewal date at the address and in the manner that the licensee requests. Failure to receive a renewal reminder does not relieve a licensee from the responsibility of renewing a license on time.

- (b) An applicant for renewal of an athletic trainer license must
- (1) complete the renewal application on a form provided by the department;
 - (2) pay the license renewal fee established in 12 AAC 02.395; and
 - (3) provide proof of the applicant's certification as an athletic trainer as required in AS 08.07.020, sent directly to the department from
 - (A) the Board of Certification, Inc.; or
 - (B) another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department.

Authority: AS 08.01.100 AS 08.07.020 AS 08.07.040

12 AAC 78.210. MAINTENANCE OF CURRENT CERTIFICATION. A licensee under this chapter shall maintain current certification with the Board of Certification, Inc. or with another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department.

Authority: AS 08.07.020 AS 08.07.040

**ARTICLE 3.
ATHLETIC TRAINER STANDARDS OF PRACTICE.**

Section

300. Athletic trainer standards

12 AAC 78.300. ATHLETIC TRAINER STANDARDS. (a) While engaging in athletic training, an individual licensed under AS 08.07.020 shall display or carry proof of the licensee's current license.

(b) An individual licensed under AS 08.07.020 shall comply with the ethical standards in the Board of Certification, Inc.'s *BOC Standards of Professional Practice*, dated January 1, 2006 and adopted by reference.

(c) An individual licensed under AS 08.07.020 or an individual licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy under AS 08.64 may supervise at the same time not more than five student athletic trainers described in AS 08.07.010(a)(1).

(d) An individual licensed under AS 08.07.020 shall inform the department not later than 30 days after any disciplinary action taken by the Board of Certification, Inc., by another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department, or by any jurisdiction in which the individual holds a license to practice athletic training. If the licensee fails to provide timely notification in accordance with this subsection, the department may impose disciplinary action, including probation, suspension of the individual's license, or revocation of the individual's license.

Authority: AS 08.07.020 AS 08.07.040

Editor's note: A copy of the *BOC Standards of Professional Practice*, adopted by reference in 12 AAC 78.300(b), is available for inspection at the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, 333 Willoughby Avenue, Juneau, Alaska or may be obtained from the Board of Certification, Inc., 1415 Harney Street, Suite 200, Omaha, NE 68102; website at <http://www.bocac.org>.

**ARTICLE 4.
GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

Section

900. Definition.

12 AAC 78.900. DEFINITION. In AS 08.07 and this chapter, "department" means the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

Authority: AS 08.07.040