

SB

119

<TARGET><BILL>SB 119</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
119</SUBJECT><COMM>SFIN27</COMM></TARGET>

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/15/11

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: _____

Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 119

SB 119-ATHLETIC TRAINER LICENSING

"An Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers."

and recommends:

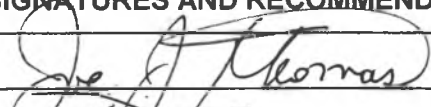
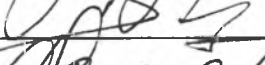

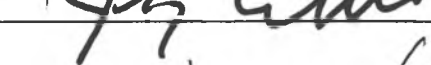


- be replaced with CS _____ (_____) Same Title New Title
- adopt previous CS SB 119 (LAC) Same Title New Title
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Education Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LEG
CED	LAW
COR	LWF
CRT	MVA
EED	DNR
DEC	DPS
DFG	REV
GOV	DOT
DHS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
LED	X			
ADM			X	

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	Thomas	✓			
	ESAI	✓			
	Brian			✓	
	ELLIS	✓			
CO-CHAIR: 	Hoffman	✓			
CO-CHAIR: 	Stedman			✓	

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

cost # codes

Bill Version

CSSB119

Fiscal Note Number

Publish Date

Identifier (file name) SB119CS(L&C)-DOA-OAH-12-01-11

Dept. Affected Administration

Title Athletic Trainer Licensing

Appropriation Centralized Administrative Services

Allocation Office of Administrative Hearings

Sponsor Senators Meyer, McGuire, Ellis, Menard

Requester Senate Finance

OMB Component Number 2771

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	FY13 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY13 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY13	FY13					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants, Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE		(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002	Federal Receipts						
1003	GF Match						
1004	GF						
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)						
1037	GF/MH (UGF)						
1178	temp code (UGF)						
TOTAL		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS							
Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

CHANGE IN REVENUES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY12) operating costs 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required;
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY13) costs 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Update to new fiscal note form.

Prepared by Terry L. Thurbon, Chief Administrative Law Judge
Division Office of Administrative Hearings

Approved by John Cramer, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Administration

Phone 465-1886
Date/Time 12/01/2011 4:07 p.m.
Date 12/1/2011

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB119

Analysis

This bill provides for regulation and licensure of athletic trainers by the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development under a new chapter in AS title 8. Under AS 44.64.030(a)(6), the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) conducts hearings in licensing matters, including disciplinary actions, arising under AS Title 8, and in some cases provides administrative law judges to serve as mediators in the cases. OAH does not anticipate that addition of this licensure category would increase the office's caseload or the cost of providing hearings for this function beyond OAH's capacity to handle the cases at currently approved staffing levels. The cost to OAH of performing the services would be recovered from the department through interagency receipts, based on the time commitment required for hearings and mediations.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version CSSB 119 (L&C)
 Fiscal Note Number _____
 () Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name) SB119-DCCED-CBPL-12-09-11 Dept. Affected DCCED
 Title Athletic Trainer Licensing Appropriation Corps, Bus & Professional Licensing
 Allocation Corps, Bus & Professional Licensing
 Sponsor Senator Meyer
 Requester Senate Finance OMB Component Number 2360

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	FY13 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY13 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY13	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Services	38.8	0.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Commodities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants, Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	38.8	0.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8

FUND SOURCE		(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002	Federal Receipts						
1003	GF Match						
1004	GF						
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)						
1037	GF/MH (UGF)						
1156	Rcpt Svcs (DGF)	38.8		1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
TOTAL		38.8	0.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8

POSITIONS							
Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

CHANGE IN REVENUES	38.8		1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY12) operating costs 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required;
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY13) costs 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

This fiscal note is the same as passed out of Senate Labor Committee updated on new form for 2012 Legislative Session.

Prepared by Don Habeger, Director
 Division Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
 Approved by Susan K. Bell, Commissioner
Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Phone 465-2538
 Date/Time 12/15/11 10:00 AM
 Date 12/30/2011

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB 119 (L&C)

Analysis

SB 119 creates a new program within the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development for the professional licensing of Athletic Trainers.

This fiscal note includes Services costs for printing of applications, communications, advertising, legal fees, and the initial IT costs to configure, program, and implement the licensing program.

Under AS 08.01.065, this program will be required to cover its costs with licensing fees. The initial biennial licensing fee will be around \$900 with subsequent licensing fees around \$80.



STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sean Parnell, Governor
Susan K. Bell, Commissioner
Don Habeger, Director

Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Stedman, Co-Chair
Senator Hoffman, Co-Chair
Senate Finance Committee

DATE: February 7, 2012

FROM: Don Habeger, Division Director
Corporations, Business and Professional
Licensing

RE: Department Response to Questions regarding
SB 119: Athletic Trainer Licensing

In response to the Committee's questions on SB 119: Athletic Trainer Licensing, the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing offers the following information:

- 1) What are the initial fees for other occupational license groups that do not have a board?
 - To look at all professions is a daunting task as some of our professions are decades old and initial fee information would take a great deal of time to try and research. However, the Pawnbroker license is a new program that is the result of the passage of SB 292 in 2010. The cost of this license when first issued (and continues to be) is \$500. This is further broken down to a \$100 Application Fee and a \$400 License Fee.
- 2) What are the penalties if there is a complaint or a revoked license?
 - If the division needed to impose a penalty on a licensee we would first consult the program chapter within Title 8 to see if the program had specified penalty language. If the program chapter did not have specific language addressing the issue the division would fall back to centralized licensing statutes in which "impose a civil fine not to exceed \$5000" is seen. Currently SB 119 does not specify penalty language so the division would rely on its general licensing statute if the Athletic Trainer Program be implemented.
- 3) What would you anticipate as being the process for an investigation or revoking a license?
 - Generally the following is the investigative pathway: The division is made aware of a possible violation by a licensee through the public complaint process. The division takes an initial complaint and determines if they have jurisdiction over the issue and there is merit to the complaint: this is our "Intake" stage. If the answer to initial review is 'yes', then the issue is moved into "Complaint" status for additional work to determine whether or not it is likely a violation. Once established that it is likely a violation has occurred, then the case reaches its "Investigation" stage where all supporting evidence is gathered and the division is in the best position to prove our case.
 - In all cases compliance with statute and regulation by a licensee is the goal. To obtain compliance, a number of tools may be employed. One tool is a Consent Agreement, with which the division and the licensee may settle the issue prior to a hearing process. This tool leads to compliance and is generally less costly to the division, licensee and profession. If an agreement cannot be reached by the parties then the division proceeds to tool number two, which is a formal Allegation through the Department of Law. This process generally leads to a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge and is more time intensive and costly. If

after a hearing the Law Judge determines a violation has been committed, they recommend to a board or the department sanctions, including suspension/revocation. Generally, these are adopted by the board or the department.

- 4) Testimony during the hearing made reference to a \$25 licensing fee for state licensed nutritionist.
 - It is true that at the end of FY11 there were five licensed Nutritionists. It is also true that current licensing fees for a Nutritionist is \$50 per biennial licensing cycle (\$25 per year). The division believes, however, a broader context to these facts is warranted to provide the Committee the best information from which to compare program costs. This additional information is below.
 - The Division issues a biennial license to both Nutritionists and Dietitians. This program, established by Chapter 38 of Title 8, reports 185 licenses at year end FY11. As the division has biennial licensing cycles, it also watches program costs on a corresponding biennial cycle. The last two fiscal years for Dietitian and Nutritionist include program expenses of \$22,120. The division does not believe licensing Athletic Trainers, should SB 119 pass the Legislature, would have program costs equal to licensing 185 Dietitians and Nutritionists, but if they had to pass these same costs on to Athletic Trainers, the biennial licensing fee for the reported 40 licensees would become approximately \$550. To also add perspective to the issue of licensing fees, the division points out that Dietitians and Nutritionist paid a licensing fee of \$200 during the FY08-09 licensing cycle.

Alaska State Legislature



Interim:
716 West 4th Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 269-0199

Session:
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-4945

Senator Kevin Meyer
Senate District O

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR SB 119

"An Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers"

SB 119 would amend current statutes to establish licensing and regulation of athletic trainers in the State of Alaska.

Athletic Trainers are certified, health care professionals who practice in the field of sports medicine. This profession plays a significant role in the management, prevention, recognition and rehabilitation of injured athletes under the supervision of a licensed physician. As people become increasingly more active, athletic trainers are a vital resource in administering immediate emergency care as well as injury prevention and treatment programs.

The National Athletic Trainer's Association (NATA), which was founded in 1950, is the professional membership association for certified athletic trainers. According to NATA, Alaska is one of the few states that do not currently license athletic trainers. Should SB 119 pass, athletic trainers would be required to have a license to practice in the State of Alaska.

Information from :
 Shannon Leftwich, MA, ATC | BOC | Director of Credentialing Services
 (402) 559-0091 x114 direct | (877) 262-3926 toll-free | (402) 561-0598 fax
 1415 Harney St, Ste 200, Omaha, NE 68102

StateAbbr	State	Application Fee	Renewal Fee	License Cycle	Effective Date of Law
AK	Alaska				
AL	Alabama	\$175.00	\$75.00	annual	1993
AR	Arkansas	\$125.00	\$50.00	annual	4/13/95
AZ	Arizona	\$250.00	\$125.00	annual	
CA	California				
CO	Colorado	\$257.00		annual	2009
CT	Connecticut	\$190.00	\$200.00	annual?	
DE	Delaware	\$103.00		biennial	
FL	Florida	\$230.00	\$205.00	biennial	11/17/96
GA	Georgia	\$50.00	\$100.00	biennial	1977
HI	Hawaii				
IA	Iowa	\$120.00	\$160.00	biennial	1994
ID	Idaho	\$120.00	\$80.00	annual	7/1/89
IL	Illinois	\$200.00	\$100.00	annual	1/29/96
IN	Indiana	\$55.00	\$50.00	biennial	12/6/94
KS	Kansas	\$80.00	\$67.00	annual	1996
KY	Kentucky	\$100.00	\$50.00	triennial	1999
LA	Louisiana	\$125.00	\$100.00	annual	
MA	Massachusetts	\$147.00	\$68.00	biennial	1994
MD	Maryland	\$200.00	\$176.00	annual?	
ME	Maine	\$221.00	\$175.00	annual	1995
MI	Michigan	\$275.00	\$200.00	?	2006
MN	Minnesota	\$50.00	\$100.00	annual	1996
MO	Missouri	\$100.00	\$100.00	biennial	1998
MS	Mississippi	\$100.00	\$50.00	annual	1997
MT	Montana	\$250.00	\$250.00	annual	
NC	North Carolina	\$100.00	\$50.00	annual	1997
ND	North Dakota	\$100.00	\$50.00	annual	2000
NE	Nebraska	\$117.00	\$117.00	annual	
NH	New Hampshire	\$170.00	\$110.00	biennial	
NJ	New Jersey	\$180.00	\$80.00	biennial	1999
NM	New Mexico	\$290.00	\$165.00	annual	1994
NV	Nevada	\$300.00	\$150.00	annual	
NY	New York	\$158.00	\$50.00	triennial	1996
OH	Ohio	\$100.00	\$80.00	biennial	

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 1415 Harney St, Ste 200, Omaha, NE 68102

StateAbbr	State	Application Fee	Renewal Fee	License Cycle	Effective Date of Law
OK	Oklahoma	\$125.00	\$55.00	annual	
OR	Oregon	\$550.00	\$450.00	biennial	1999
PA	Pennsylvania	\$20.00	\$37.00	biennial	
RI	Rhode Island	\$62.50	\$62.50	biennial	1993
SC	South Carolina		\$40.00	biennial	
SD	South Dakota	\$100.00	\$50.00	annual	
TN	Tennessee	\$270.00	\$120.00	biennial	
TX	Texas	\$169.00	\$260.00	biennial	1994
UT	Utah	\$70.00	\$47.00	biennial	
VA	Virginia	\$130.00	\$135.00	biennial	
VT	Vermont	\$100.00		biennial	2000
WA	Washington	\$175.00	\$200.00	annual	2008
WI	Wisconsin	\$75.00	\$75.00	biennial	
WV	West Virginia				2010
WY	Wyoming	\$600.00		triennial	2009



ATHLETIC TRAINING EDUCATION OVERVIEW

This document provides a brief overview of the education and credentialing process for entry-level athletic trainers. Athletic Training programs typically fall into three categories: a baccalaureate degree in Athletic Training; a baccalaureate degree with a major in athletic training; or graduate-level program with a major in athletic training. Academic programs are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The minimum entry point into the profession of Athletic Training is at the baccalaureate level; by 2014-2015, all accredited education programs in Athletic Training will lead to a degree in Athletic Training. Upon completion of a CAATE-accredited Athletic Training education program, students become eligible to obtain national certification granted by the NATA Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC).

ENTRY-LEVEL EDUCATION

Entry-level athletic training education uses a competency-based approach in both the classroom and clinical settings. Using a medical-based education model, Athletic Training students are educated to provide comprehensive preventive services and care in six domains of clinical practice: prevention; clinical evaluation and diagnosis; immediate care; treatment, rehabilitation and reconditioning; organization and administration; and professional responsibility. The educational requirements for CAATE-accredited Athletic Training Education Programs include not only cognitive (knowledge) and psychomotor (skill) content, but also a broad scope of foundational behaviors of professional practice, as well as a comprehensive clinical learning requirement that is embodied in the clinical proficiencies (professional, practice-oriented outcomes) as identified in the *Athletic Training Educational Competencies and Clinical Proficiencies*.

Students must receive formal instruction in the following specific subjects

Basic and Applied Sciences	Professional Content
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human anatomy • Human physiology • Biology • Statistics and research design • Rehabilitation • Exercise Physiology • Kinesiology/Biomechanics • Chemistry* • Physics* <p><i>*Recommended but not required by some ATEP</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Management and Injury Prevention • Pathology of Injuries and Illnesses • Orthopedic Clinical Examination and Diagnosis • Medical Conditions and Disabilities • Acute Care of Injuries and Illnesses • Therapeutic Modalities • Conditioning, Rehabilitative Exercise & Pharmacology • Psychosocial Intervention and Referral • Nutritional Aspects of Injuries & Illnesses • Health Care Administration

CLINICAL EDUCATION

Students are required to participate in a minimum of two years of academic clinical education. Through these experiences, students gain clinical experiences associated with a variety of different patient populations defined but not limited to: gender, varying levels of risk, utilization of protective equipment, and general medical conditions (e.g. diabetes, asthma) that address the continuum of care.

Clinical experiences provide students with opportunities to practice, under the direct supervision of qualified Clinical Instructors (i.e., Certified Athletic Trainer [ATC®] or other credentialed health care professionals).

THE ATC® CREDENTIAL

The ATC® credential and the BOC requirements are currently recognized by 46 states for eligibility and/or regulation of the practice of athletic trainers. The credibility of the BOC program and the ATC® credential it awards are supported by three pillars: (1) the BOC certification examination; (2) the BOC Standards of Professional Practice, and Disciplinary Guidelines and Procedures; and (3) continuing competence (education) requirements.

BOC certification is recognized by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies and is the only accredited certification program for athletic trainers. To be certified, an individual must demonstrate that he/she is an athletic trainer capable of performing the required duties without threat of harm to the public. The BOC traditionally conducts annual examination development meetings during which certified athletic trainers and recognized experts in the science of athletic training develop, review and validate examination items and problems. The knowledge, skills, and abilities required for competent performance as an entry-level athletic trainer fall into three categories:

1. Understanding, applying, and analyzing;
2. Knowledge and decision-making;
3. Special performance abilities.

BOC certified athletic trainers are educated, trained and evaluated in six major practice domains:

1. Prevention
2. Clinical Evaluation and Diagnosis
3. Immediate Care
4. Treatment, Rehabilitation and Reconditioning
5. Organization and Administration
6. Professional Responsibility

For more information regarding the educational, certification, and licensure requirements for athletic trainers visit:

The National Athletic Trainers' Association – www.nata.org

The National Athletic Trainers' Association Education Council – www.nataec.org

The Board of Certification – www.bocatc.org

The Commission on the Accreditation of Athletic Training Education Programs – www.caate.net

Athletic Trainers

Significant Points

- A bachelor's degree is usually the minimum requirement, but many athletic trainers hold a master's or doctoral degree.
- Long hours, sometimes including nights and weekends, are common.
- Job prospects should be good in the healthcare industry and in high schools, but competition is expected for positions with professional and college sports teams.

Nature of the Work

Athletic trainers help prevent and treat injuries for people of all ages. Their patients and clients include everyone from professional athletes to industrial workers. Recognized by the American Medical Association as allied health professionals, athletic trainers specialize in the prevention, diagnosis, assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation of muscle and bone injuries and illnesses. Athletic trainers, as one of the first healthcare providers on the scene when injuries occur, must be able to recognize, evaluate, and assess injuries and provide immediate care when needed. Athletic trainers should not be confused with fitness trainers or personal trainers, who are not healthcare workers, but rather train people to become physically fit. (Fitness workers are discussed elsewhere in the Handbook.)

Athletic trainers try to prevent injuries by educating people on how to reduce their risk for injuries and by advising them on the proper use of equipment, exercises to improve balance and strength, and home exercises and therapy programs. They also help apply protective or injury-preventive devices such as tape, bandages, and braces.

Athletic trainers may work under the direction of a licensed physician, and in cooperation with other healthcare providers. The extent of the direction ranges from discussing specific injuries and treatment options with a physician to performing evaluations and treatments as directed by a physician. Some athletic trainers meet with the team physician or consulting physician once or twice a week; others interact with a physician every day. Athletic trainers often have administrative responsibilities. These may include regular meetings with an athletic director, physician practice manager, or other administrative officer to deal with budgets, purchasing, policy implementation, and other business-related issues.

Work environment. The industry and individual employer are significant in determining the work environment of athletic trainers. Many athletic trainers work indoors most of the time; others, especially those in some sports-related jobs, spend much of their time working outdoors. The job also might require standing for long periods, working with medical equipment or machinery, and being able to walk, run, kneel, stoop, or crawl. Travel may be required.

Schedules vary by work setting. Athletic trainers in nonsports settings generally have an established schedule—usually about 40 to 50 hours per week—with nights and weekends off. Athletic

trainers working in hospitals and clinics may spend part of their time working at other locations doing outreach services. The most common outreach programs include conducting athletic training services and speaking at high schools, colleges, and commercial businesses.

Athletic trainers in sports settings have schedules that are longer and more variable. These athletic trainers must be present for team practices and competitions, which often are on evenings and weekends, and their schedules can change on short notice when games and practices have to be rescheduled. In high schools, athletic trainers who also teach may work 60 to 70 hours a week, or more. In National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I colleges and universities, athletic trainers generally work with one team; when that team's sport is in season, working at least 50 to 60 hours a week is common. Athletic trainers in smaller colleges and universities often work with several teams and have teaching responsibilities. During the off-season, a 40-hour to 50-hour work week may be normal in most settings. Athletic trainers for professional sports teams generally work the most hours per week. During training camps, practices, and competitions, they may be required to work up to 12 hours a day.

There is some stress involved with being an athletic trainer. The work of athletic trainers requires frequent interaction with others. They consult with physicians as well as have frequent contact with athletes and patients to discuss and administer treatments, rehabilitation programs, injury-preventive practices, and other health-related issues. Athletic trainers are responsible for their clients' health, and sometimes have to make quick decisions that could affect the health or career of their clients. Athletics trainers also can be affected by the pressure to win that is typical of competitive sports teams.

Training, Other Qualifications, and Advancement

A bachelor's degree is usually the minimum requirement, but many athletic trainers hold a master's or doctoral degree. In 2009, 47 States required athletic trainers to be licensed or hold some form of registration.

Education and training. A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is required for almost all jobs as



Athletic trainers apply protective devices such as tape, bandages, and braces.

Projections data from the National Employment Matrix

Occupational Title	SOC Code	Employment, 2008	Projected Employment, 2018	Change, 2008-2018	
				Number	Percent
Athletic trainers.....	29-9091	16,300	22,400	6,000	37

(NOTE) Data in this table are rounded. See the discussion of the employment projections table in the *Handbook* introductory chapter on *Occupational Information Included in the Handbook*.

an athletic trainer. In 2009, there were about 350 accredited undergraduate programs nationwide. Students in these programs are educated both in the classroom and in clinical settings. Formal education includes many science and health-related courses, such as human anatomy, physiology, nutrition, and biomechanics.

According to the National Athletic Trainers' Association, almost 70 percent of athletic trainers have a master's degree or higher. Athletic trainers may need a master's or higher degree to be eligible for some positions, especially those in colleges and universities, and to increase their advancement opportunities. Because some positions in high schools involve teaching along with athletic trainer responsibilities, a teaching certificate or license could be required.

Licensure and certification. In 2009, 47 States required athletic trainers to be licensed or registered; this requires certification from the Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC). For BOC certification, athletic trainers need a bachelor's or master's degree from an accredited athletic training program and must pass a rigorous examination. To retain certification, credential holders must continue taking medical-related courses and adhere to the BOC standards of practice. In Alaska, California, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia where licensure is not required, certification is voluntary but may be helpful for those seeking jobs and advancement.

Other qualifications. Because all athletic trainers deal directly with a variety of people, they need good social and communication skills. They should be able to manage difficult situations and the stress associated with them, such as when disagreements arise with coaches, patients, clients, or parents regarding suggested treatment. Athletic trainers also should be organized, be able to manage time wisely, be inquisitive, and have a strong desire to help people.

Advancement. There are a few ways for athletic trainers to advance. Some athletic trainers advance by switching teams or sports to gain additional responsibility or pay. Assistant athletic trainers may become head athletic trainers and, eventually, athletic directors or physician, hospital or clinic practice administrators where they assume a management role. Some athletic trainers move into sales and marketing positions, using their expertise to sell medical and athletic equipment.

Employment

Athletic trainers held about 16,300 jobs in 2008 and are found in every part of the country. Most athletic trainer jobs are related to sports, although an increasing number also work in nonsports settings. About 39 percent were found in public and private educational services, primarily in colleges, universities, and high schools. Another 38 percent of athletic trainers worked in healthcare, including jobs in hospitals, offices of physicians, and offices of other health practitioners. About 13 percent

worked in fitness and recreational sports centers. Around 5 percent work in spectator sports.

Job Outlook

Employment is projected to grow much faster than average. Job prospects should be good in the healthcare industry and in high schools, but competition is expected for positions with professional and college sports teams.

Employment change. Employment of athletic trainers is projected to grow 37 percent from 2008 to 2018, much faster than the average for all occupations, because of their role in preventing injuries and reducing healthcare costs. Job growth will be concentrated in the healthcare industry, including hospitals and offices of health practitioners. Fitness and recreation sports centers also will provide new jobs, as these establishments grow and continue to need additional athletic trainers to provide support for their clients. Growth in positions with sports teams will be somewhat slower, however, as most professional sports clubs and colleges and universities already have complete athletic training staffs.

The demand for healthcare, with an emphasis on preventive care, should grow as the population ages and as a way to reduce healthcare costs. Increased licensure requirements and regulation has led to a greater acceptance of athletic trainers as qualified healthcare providers. As a result, third-party reimbursement is expected to continue to grow for athletic training services. Athletic trainers will benefit from this expansion because they provide a cost-effective way to increase the number of health professionals in an office or other setting.

In some States, there are efforts underway to have an athletic trainer in every high school to work with student-athletes, which may lead to growth in the number of athletic trainers employed in high schools. In addition, as more young athletes specialize in certain sports, there is increasing demand for athletic trainers to deal with repetitive stress injuries.

As athletic trainers continue to expand their services, more employers are expected to use these workers to reduce healthcare costs by preventing work-related injuries. Athletic trainers can help prevent injuries and provide immediate treatment for many injuries that do occur. For example, some athletic trainers may be hired to increase the fitness and performance of police and firefighters.

Job prospects. Job prospects should be good for athletic trainers in the healthcare industry and in high schools. Those looking for a position with a professional or college sports team may face competition.

Because of relatively low turnover, the settings with the best job prospects will be the ones that are expected to have the most job growth, primarily positions in the healthcare and fitness and recreational sports centers industries. Additional job opportunities may arise in elementary and secondary schools as more

positions are created. Some of these positions also will require teaching responsibilities.

There are relatively few positions for professional and collegiate sports teams in comparison to the number of applicants. Turnover among professional sports team athletic trainers is also limited. Many athletic trainers prefer to continue to work with the same coaches, administrators, and players when a good working relationship already exists.

There also are opportunities for athletic trainers to join the military, although they would not be classified as an athletic trainer. Enlisted soldiers and officers who are athletic trainers are usually placed in another program, such as health educator or training specialist, in which their skills are useful. (For information on military careers, see the *Handbook* statement on job opportunities in the Armed Forces.)

This occupation is expected to continue to change over the next decade, including more administrative responsibilities, adapting to new technology, and working with larger populations, and jobseekers must be prepared to adapt to these changes.

Earnings

Most athletic trainers work in full-time positions, and typically receive benefits. The salary of an athletic trainer depends on experience and job responsibilities, and varies by job setting. Median annual wages for athletic trainers were \$39,640 in May 2008. The middle 50 percent earned between \$32,070 and \$49,250. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$23,450, while the top 10 percent earned more than \$60,960.

Many employers pay for some of the continuing education required for athletic trainers to remain certified, although the amount covered varies from employer to employer.

Related Occupations

Other American Medical Association allied health professionals include:

- Chiropractors
- Emergency medical technicians and paramedics
- Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses
- Massage therapists
- Occupational therapists
- Physical therapists
- Physician assistants
- Physicians and surgeons
- Podiatrists
- Recreational therapists
- Registered nurses
- Respiratory therapists

Sources of Additional Information

For further information on careers in athletic training, contact:

➤ National Athletic Trainers' Association, 2952 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 200, Dallas, TX 75247. Internet: <http://www.nata.org>

For further information on certification, contact:

➤ Board of Certification, Inc., 1415 Harney St., Suite 200, Omaha, NE 68102. Internet: <http://www.bocatc.org>

The Occupational Information Network (O*NET) provides information on a wide range of occupational characteristics. Links to O*NET appear at the end of the Internet version of this occupational statement, accessible at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/ocos294.htm>



April 1, 2011

Alaska Athletic Trainers Association
PO Box 872710
Wasilla, AK 99687

Honorable Senator Meyer,

On behalf of the Alaska Athletic Trainers Association, I would like to thank you for the sponsorship of Senate Bill 119 for the licensure of athletic trainers in Alaska. We are honored to have your leadership in support of this important legislation.

The Alaska Athletic Trainers Association is requesting the licensure of athletic trainers in Alaska. Forty-seven states have some form of athletic training regulation verifying the knowledge, skills and abilities required for competent performance of athletic training. Senate Bill 119 works with the pending youth sports concussion legislation to provide comprehensive and high quality athletic training in Alaska.

You can see by the letters of support that this legislation has the support of many medical professionals such as physicians and physician's assistants. It is supported by athletic directors, coaches and school administrators.

The Alaska Athletic Trainers Association will dedicate the time and energy needed to make this a successful legislative process. Again, we thank you for your leadership role in our Senate Bill and your support of our licensing efforts.

Sincerely,

Brenda Shelden
President of the Alaska Athletic Trainers Association



September, 2011

Alaska Athletic Trainers Association
PO Box 872710
Wasilla, AK 99687

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I support the role of the athletic trainer in Alaska and sign this document in support of licensure.



 (Signature)



 (Title)

Bette Fenn

 (Print Name)

907-786-4046

 (Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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Ann LeKeyser
(Signature)

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner
(Title) Assoc Director, SHCC

Georgia DeKeyser
(Print Name)

907-786-4048
(Phone Number)

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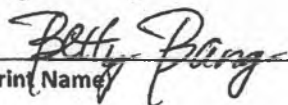
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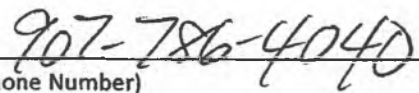
(Signature)



(Title)

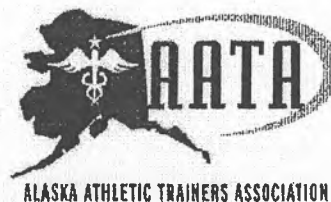


(Print Name)



(Phone Number)

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I support the role of the athletic trainer in Alaska and sign this document in support of licensure.

Laura Romberg, ANP
 (Signature)

ANP
 (Title)

Laura Romberg
 (Print Name)

786-4040
 (Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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Theresa Schmitz-Waite ANP
 (Signature) (Title)

Theresa Schmitz-Waite
(Print Name)

786-4040
(Phone Number)

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I support the role of the athletic trainer in Alaska and sign this document in support of licensure.

Chris Hall, MD
(Signature)

Orthopedic Surgeon, MD
(Title)

Elisha Powell, MD
(Print Name)

907-279-2663
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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Richard H. McEvoy
(Signature)

MD. Orthopedic Surgeon
(Title)

Richard McEvoy
(Print Name)

907 261 7125
(Phone Number)

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Thomas P. Vastell M.D.
(Signature)

GAA Team PHYSICIAN
(Title)

Thomas P. Vastell M.D.
(Print Name)

907 530 9679
(Phone Number)

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Leslie P. Dean
(Signature)

MD
(Title)

LESLIE P. DEAN
(Print Name)

907-563-3145
(Phone Number)

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Megan Zaporzan
(Signature)

PA-C
(Title)

Gregg Zaporzan
(Print Name)

907 830-3668
(Phone Number)

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[Handwritten Signature]
(Signature)

Head Team Physician UAA
at Alaska Aces
(Title)

Jerry S. Moore
(Print Name)

907-279-2663
(Phone Number)

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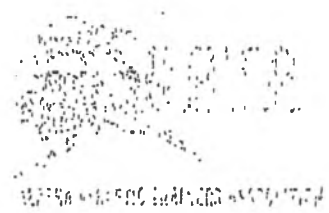
C Jerry Little
(Signature)

MD
(Title)

C JERRY LITTLE
(Print Name)

907 5621234
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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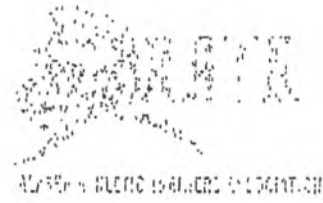
Johanna Underwood
(Signature)

Physician Assistant
(Title)

Johanna Underwood
(Print Name)

907-457-3711
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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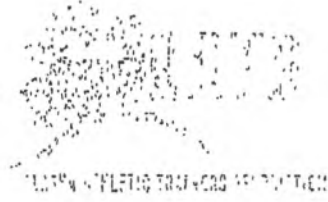
J. Alan - Grout
(Signature)

Physical Therapist
(Title)

MARINA ADAM - MARUITO
(Print Name)

(907) 378-2000
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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Herdi J Ritchie
(Signature)

AACTA
(Title)

Herdi J Ritchie
(Print Name)

452-3657
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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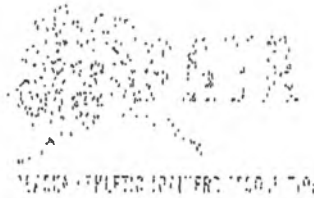
Victoria L. Ketchum
(Signature)

Certified Athletic Trainer
(Title)

Victoria L. KETCHUM
(Print Name)

907 474 4848 (H)
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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I support the role of the athletic trainer in Alaska and sign this document in support of licensure.

Mary Hopkins
(Signature)

Occupational Therapist
(Title)

Mary Hopkins
(Print Name)

907-488-1772
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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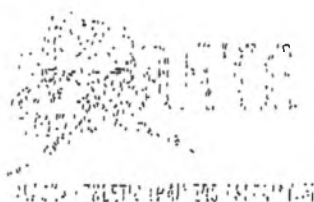
Holly Proell
(Signature)

Physical Therapist
(Title)

Holly Proell
(Print Name)

(907) 455-6623
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



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- The language of the bill states that anyone calling themselves *an athletic trainer* must be licensed by the state of Alaska Division of Occupational Licensing.
- The requirements for licensure are exactly the same as those required by the Board of Certification. The BOC is the postgraduate certification program for the National Athletic Trainers Association. The state of Alaska will not add to the already rigorous requirements of the BOC.
- The fees imposed by the Alaska Division of Occupational Licensing are not cost prohibitive.
- Alaska is one of only 3 states that does not license athletic trainers.
- Presently, athletic trainers are not covered by the Alaska Statute 09.65.300 *Immunity for Providing Free Health Care Services* (Alaska's version of the *Good Samaritan Law*). This prevents athletic trainers from volunteering their services at schools, community or nonprofit events.

I support the role of the athletic trainer in Alaska and sign this document in support of licensure.

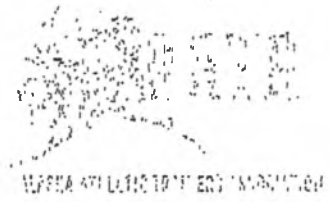
Sandra Dauenhauer
(Signature)

Speech/Language Pathologist
(Title)

SANDRA DAUENHAUER
(Print Name)

479-0042
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061



September, 2011

Alaska Athletic Trainers Association
PO Box 872710
Wasilla, AK 99687

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Cheryl Sackett
(Signature)

Physical Therapist
(Title)

Cheryl Sackett
(Print Name)

907-388-5047
(Phone Number)

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Judy Bogard
(Signature)

Physical Therapist
(Title)

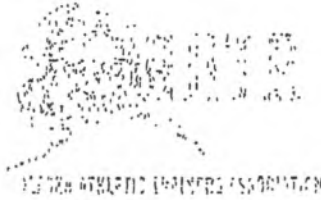
Judy Bogard
(Print Name)

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Kim Dugas
(Signature)

Occupational Therapist
(Title)

Kim Dugas
(Print Name)

(253)691-7984
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J. Ostnes P.T.
(Signature)

Physical Therapist
(Title)

Jennifer S. Ostnes
(Print Name)

907-458-5670 (work)
(Phone Number)

Please fax this document to: (907)586-1061