



**NATABOC:
Accredited
by the
National
Commission
for Certifying
Agencies**

certification update

Online!

a publication of the nata board of certification, inc.

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The world and our lives have undeniably changed over the last 6 months. Everyone can point to some aspect of their life and identify change. Many of these changes are good and more importantly, necessary. Some require difficult adjustments in our lives. Others inconvenience us personally but are for the improvement of our society in general. Each of us has looked at what is best for our future and we have made the changes.

Every organization is faces difficult changes as it moves forward. Some change is forced upon an organization. Other change is made proactively. Change, as we have all experienced, can often be difficult. As any group explores its future it must consider many factors. Focus is important so that the organization remains alert in a dynamic environment; it must be able to take a good look at itself, an even better look at its stakeholders (anyone who is affected by the actions of the organization) and create a focused environment, one that adequately addresses the objectives of the organization. At the same time it must remain capable of making adjustments, as difficult as this may be, in a world that is constantly changing. This is the primary task of the Board of Directors of an organization. The Board takes an honest look in the mirror, reviews a lot of information, engages in some tough discussions, and undertakes definitive decision-making. The Directors of the Board of Certification (BOC) remain committed to this process. At our mid-year board meeting we completed this process, although in reality the process is never finished.

As a Board we are faced with protecting the public through the development and administration of the certification examination, assuring the continued competence of the certificate holder through continuing education requirements, and a process of discipline. Adding to the challenge of protecting the public are the many changes the profession of athletic training is undergoing. Educational reform, changing workplace venues, state regulation, and reimbursement are just a few of these changes.

To adequately address change and more importantly to remain ahead of the curve, the Board revisited the strategic objectives for the organization. The first step was to look at ourselves (the Board/organization) in the mirror. To answer the questions; "What have we done well? What have we not done well? What must we do in the future?" We truly feel that this process enabled us to develop three strategic objectives that will effectively allow us to remain focused to serving the public and you, the credential holder.

Examiner
Training Program
[Click Here!](#)

For that special
Certified Athletic
Trainer!
A suggestion
from the
NATABOC
[Click Here!](#)

NATABOC Role
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Order yours
today!
[Click Here!](#)

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Having strategic objectives is extremely important but as important is having strategic *plans*. These strategic plans provide the BOC staff, committees, and board with a blueprint to build a successful organization. The second part of our process was to develop these plans. First in small groups and then as a whole, we hammered out definitive plans that address what needs to be done, who will do it, and when will it be done?

While all of this sounds great, the work is not yet done. There is a piece to this process that never ends. And it is the hardest piece of for an individual or a group to accomplish. It is accountability. Now accountability is one of the great business buzzwords of our time. What does it really mean? Most simplistically it means being responsible. Doing what you said you were going to do and doing it. Sounds easy. There has to be a catch.

Well, there is a catch in accountability. The hardest part of accountability is having the guts to actually hold yourself accountable. Even harder is to hold others accountable. For a Board to hold itself accountable, the members must trust one another. Trust that they can agree and disagree. Trust that they can air their opinions. Trust that at the end of the day, they have the guts to be accountable. As a Board we are committed to this piece and look forward to the constant challenges it offers.

Accountability does not stop with the internal processes of the Board. Accountability belongs to every member of the public that the board protects. . It is the right and responsibility of every certified athletic trainer to hold this Board accountable. Please voice your opinions. Provide us feedback. Hold us to the highest standards. Exercise your rights and responsibilities. After all, if we look back on the last 6 months, we realize how fortunate we are to have these rights. We realize that to not exercise them is a tremendous waste.

Jeff Ryan, ATC, PT
President, NATABOC
215-762-1229
jeffryan1@comcast.net

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Taking Action - Protecting the Public and Your Credential

Meeting the Challenges of Athletic Trainer Certification

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“ONE IN THREE HAS LIED ON THEIR CURRICULUM VITAE...”

Don't assume – check credentials before you hire

In an article in *FT.com* it was reported that **one in three** job seekers tell lies in their curriculum vitae in the belief that potential employers never check details of job applications. ...the most common areas for stretching the truth were **qualifications**, leisure interests and **work experience**, the survey of 1,000 employees found...(<http://ftcareerpoint.ft.com> – [Candidates stretch the truth on CVs - 8/30/2001](#))

Employers, state regulators, supervisors, program directors and consumers alike need to be assured that the individual providing athletic training service is in fact BOC certified. Before you hire anyone; staff, graduate assistant, clinician or clinical supervisor, make sure you verify their credentials with the BOC.

During the first quarter of 2002 the BOC verified the status of 532 individuals for state regulatory purposes. In these cases, the state regulations require specific forms be completed and verified by the BOC directly. Many organizations use employment services to verify an individual's status. If you need only a verbal verification of someone's status you can call the BOC at 877.262.3926. If you require **written** verification of an individual's current status with the BOC, you must submit a written request accompanied by a \$15.00 fee.

If you supervise individuals who work in a regulated state, you also need to check their status with the State. In many cases, you can do this via their web sites. Check the BOC web site www.nataboc.org/atc/lic. The BOC site will link you directly to the verification database where available. During the first half of 2002 the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee has had over a dozen cases of athletic trainers who have been found guilty of practicing athletic training without being state licensed.

Currently the BOC lists over 25,000 individuals who are certified in good standing. Don't assume someone is representing himself or herself correctly. You make the CALL! (877-262-3926)



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NEW! AND IMPROVED! ON-LINE SELF-ASSESSMENT

The BOC is excited to announce the **new Online Self Assessment**. This tool is designed to assist students in preparing for the BOC examination by providing an assessment of their strengths and weaknesses in the various athletic training domains. The instrument can also be used by certified athletic trainers as a means for determining continuing education needs.

The *Online Self Assessment* is a randomized 75-question multiple-choice exam. The number of questions pertaining to each domain reflects the same percentages of questions contained on the

certification exam. It is also important to note that the questions on the *Online Self Assessment* have been written by content experts from the Exam Development Committee who is responsible for developing the BOC certification exam. The *Online Self Assessment* is offered at \$27.00 per exam.

This latest version of the *Online Self Assessment*, which is provided by The DxR Group, includes several new features. For example, users can choose between a **study mode** and a **test mode**. The study mode allows the student more than one attempt at determining the correct answer. In both the study mode and the test mode, users are provided with a diagnostic report. This report can be very useful for both the student and the program director. It provides the areas of strengths and weaknesses related to the 4th edition *Role Delineation Study*. Subsequently, targeted learning programs can be developed as the student is preparing for the BOC exam.

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MAKING YOUR LIST? CHECKING IT TWICE?

The Top Reason Your CEU Reporting Sheet Will be Returned to You _

- You did not **sign** your CEU reporting sheet
- You did not submit **Proof of CPR certification (front & back copy of signed card must be attached)**
- Your CPR certification was not **current** when your reporting sheet was received.
- You submitted **more than one** CPR recertification in the same calendar year
- You did not provide an **approved provider number** for all approved courses in Category A
- Your reporting sheet is **ILLEGIBLE**
- You submitted an activity that was taken prior to your date of certification.

All reporting sheets and proof of CPR must be sent to BOC in Omaha . The address is:

Board of Certification
Continuing Education Office
4223 So. 143rd Circle
Omaha , NE 68137-4505

Please, DO NOT send any items, other than a copy of your CPR card (front and back) with your reporting form. Keep originals of CPR cards and all other proof of completion information in your CEU file folder.

All CEU reporting documents can be downloaded at www.nataboc.org. The BOC will send a duplicate set of information for \$10.

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THANK YOU! WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU! YOU'RE THE GREATEST!

The Board of Certification and BOC staff want to take this opportunity to thank the 351 individuals listed [here](#). These volunteers currently serve or have served as committee members, task force members, test site administrators and home study reviewers. This list **does not** include the over 3,300 ATC® credential holders that have become qualified examiners. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

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VOTE! IT'S AN ELECTION YEAR

In July of 2003, the terms of two athletic trainer directors, Russ Cagle and David Orr, will expire. The bylaws of the Board of Certification provide that any individual meeting the following qualifications may be considered as a candidate for the position of Athletic Trainer Director.

1. Has been certified as an Athletic Trainer, by the NATABOC, for at least five years prior to election;
2. Does not hold elected or appointed office on a state regulatory board;
3. Does not serve on the NATA, Inc. Board of Directors;
4. Is in good standing with the NATABOC; and
5. Has served for at least one full term on a NATABOC, NATA, or state athletic training committee.

The process for BOC Director elections is as follows:

June 1, 2002 - Call for candidates

~~July 12, 2002~~ July 31, 2003 - Application Deadline *Extended*

Aug.- Sept., 2002 - Nominating Committee screens applications

October, 2002 - Ballots are mailed to all ATC® credential holders

November 2002 - Election results are announced

February 2003 - Directors-elect attend their first BOC Board meeting

Interested candidates must submit an application ([available on the BOC web site](#)), a resume or curriculum vitae and letter of interest to the BOC offices in Omaha no later than July 12, 2002 .

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PANELISTS NEEDED AS PHASE I BEGINS FOR FIFTH BOC ROLE DELINEATION STUDY

As required by the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA) the BOC has begun the process of developing the next Role Delineation Study (RDS). The Role Delineation and Research Committee of the BOC will accept applications from individuals interested in serving as panelists for phase I. The following materials must be submitted electronically (via our web site (www.nataboc.org) by July 31, 2002 :

- a. Resume or vitae
- b. Application form

Download the required forms [here](#).

After July 31, 2002 the Role Delineation Committee will begin the process of selecting expert panelists (see below). Anticipated date of selection and invitation is September 2002.

Expert Panel Selection

The Role Delineation Committee identifies the characteristics for selection of expert panelists. Consideration will be given to assure the broadest representation of credential holders including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Geographic location of practice,
- b. Gender and ethnicity,
- c. Years certified by the BOC,
- d. Practice setting (e.g., High School, College/University, Academic, Clinic, Corporate, Industrial)

The diversity of the panelists and use of psychometric procedures, such as a modified nominal group technique, allow each panelist to provide input based on their area of expertise without undue bias on the final work of the group.

Once selected, panelists will be required to travel and meet in for 2 1/2 days to develop the RDS document. All travel, meals and lodging will be reimbursed by the BOC. The meeting will be held in the late fall of 2002.

Participants will have required pre-meeting preparation (approx. 4-6 hours) consisting of a review of bibliographies and materials related to the meeting process.

During the role delineation study meeting panelists will identify, in concert with psychometricians, the major performance domains, tasks, knowledge and skills associated with competent entry-level practice as a certified athletic trainer.

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QUALIFIED EXAMINER CORP GROWS

The BOC extends a huge thanks to the over 3,300 ATC® credential holders who have participated in the Examiner Training Program since its inception in 1999. Without the assistance of these individuals, the BOC would have to substantially reduce the number of practical exam seats available.

On any given BOC exam day 400-800 certified athletic trainers who are also qualified examiners, are needed to administer the practical exam.

Any certified athletic trainer interested in participating in the program should contact the BOC in Omaha at 1.877.262.3926 or via email at staff@nataboc.org

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WE NEED YOUR INPUT – PROPOSED 2003-2005 CONTINUING EDUCATION GUIDELINES

As the end of the CEU reporting period approaches in December 2002, the proposed revisions of the 2003-2005 Continuing Education Guidelines have been finalized. These guidelines reflect proposed changes that will be reviewed and implemented and are important for all Certified Athletic Trainers.

The 2003-2005 Continuing Education File Folders will be mailed out immediately after these changes are approved and will outline the revised guidelines. The changes are described below by category.

Category A – No changes

Category B

1. BOC examiner/model CEUs are limited to 10 per year (this means two exams per year for CEU credit)
2. Addition of author of an abstract (previously authors of abstracts did not receive credit)
3. Addition of author of multimedia material

Category C – No changes

Category D – This category has been renamed from “CPR Certification” to “Emergency Medical Response Certification” (EMRC). CPR is not the only requirement for this category, hence the name change. The following need to be included in the EMRC:

- Adult/pediatric CPR
- AED
- Airway obstruction
- 2nd Rescuer CPR
- Barrier devices (e.g. pocket mask, bag valve mask)

Currently, all of the above components can be found in the following courses:

Professional Rescuer + AED by American Red Cross

Professional Rescuer + AED by National Safety Council

BLS Healthcare Provider CPR by American Heart Association

Category E – Currently you may receive 1 CEU per purchase of a video/audio/multimedia. The new guidelines state that 1 CEU per *contact hour* for a video/audio/multimedia. The documentation required is the receipt of purchase AND independent verification. Independent verification must be in the form of a letter from a superior verifying the number of contact hours.

Please submit your comments regarding the 2003-2005 Continuing Education Guidelines to the BOC office in writing at the address below. Comments will be forwarded to the Board of Directors for their final decision in September of 2002.

NATABOC
Attn: 2003-2005 CEU Guidelines
4223 So. 143rd Circle
Omaha , NE 68137
Fax: (402) 561-0598

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THESE PEOPLE ARE MISSING

Help us contact your colleagues!

The list that follows below contains the names of 246 individuals who have not maintained contact with the BOC. If you know how to reach these individuals listed [here](#), please have them contact the BOC immediately. (877-262-3926 or staff@nataboc.org)

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