



NATABOC:
Accredited
by the
National
Commission
for Certifying
Agencies

certification update Online!

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contents

2000 Exam Report

Message from the President

Grounds for Disciplinary Action

New Directors Join the Board

Online Self- Assessment Examination

Continuing Education Opportunities for ATCs

New Approved Home Study Programs**

New Approved Providers of Continuing Education

Examiner Training Program

Back Issues Summer 2000 Winter 2001

Examiner Training Program Click Here!

For that special

Message from the President

Role and Responsibilities of Certification Board

The purpose of a certification organization shall be to evaluate individuals who wish to enter, continue and/or advance in their discipline through a certification process; and to issue a credential to individuals who demonstrate the required level of competence. As an accredited credentialing agency, the BOC adheres to the standards and guidelines of the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). They are clearly embedded into our mission: "To certify athletic trainers and to identify for the public, quality healthcare professionals through a system of certification, adjudication, standards of practice, and continuing competency programs."

The BOC assures all consumers of certified athletic trainers' services (e.g., athletes, employers, state regulators), through its stated standards (policies and requirements), certification examination and continuing education requirements, that all candidates and credential holders, have satisfied these standards, passed the certification examination and successfully met the continuing education requirements in order to be awarded and permitted to use the "ATC[®]" credential. Failure by the BOC to adhere to its policies and standards would raise questions about our reliability as a credentialing entity. The ATC[®] credential is a statement of qualification. It is recognized by organizations such as colleges, professional sports, and sports medicine clinics and other healthcare professions as an indicator of quality and excellence. It is also recognized by 41 states that have athletic trainer regulation.

One very important way that the BOC accomplishes its mission is by having a board comprised of three non-credential holders as well as six credential holders. It further insulates itself from political and bureaucratic influences through the nomination, election, and appointments process. Click [here](#) to meet the new Board members. The Board must weigh the interests of each part of the "public" it serves as it establishes its policies and requirements². The Board consists of six ATC[®] credential holders, a physician, and two members of the public who are not certified athletic trainers. The composition of the Board is partially determined by NCCA standards that require at least one member of the public serve as a full Board member. Additionally, the NCCA standards prevent a Board from appointing a majority of its members. The BOC chose to add a physician director and corporate/educational director.

The BOC is responsive to holder of the ATC[®] credential as well as the public. The interests of both are weighed as the BOC establishes policies and requirements. As a voluntary credentialing agency, the BOC's ultimate responsibility is to adhere to accepted practices of competency assurance while serving the interests of credential holders and the public.

ATC!
A suggestion
from the
NATABOC
[Click Here!](#)

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

¹ National Commission of Certifying Agencies (NCCA)

² The public is any individual or organization who may come in contact with an individual holding the ATC[®] credential.

 [Return to top](#)

NATABOC Grounds for Disciplinary Action

The NATABOC Professional Practice and Discipline Committee and the Standards Committee recently reviewed the NATABOC Grounds for Disciplinary Action. This document is available on the NATABOC web site [here](#). Both committees recommended slight modification and clarification to the policy. All potential candidates and certified athletic trainers should review the document to ensure they are staying current with the accepted practice guidelines. The Board of Directors have approved these changes effective June 1, 2001.

The NATABOC may revoke or otherwise take action with regard to the application or certification of an individual in the case of:

1. Ineligibility for certification.
2. Irregularity in connection with any certification application or examination.
3. Unauthorized possession, use, access, or distribution of certification examinations, score reports, answer sheets, certificates, certificant or applicant files, documents or other material.
4. Material misrepresentation or fraud in any statement to the Board of Certification or in any statement to the public in connection with athletic training, including, but not limited to, statements made to assist the applicant, certificant, or another to apply for, obtain, or retain certification.
5. Negligence or malpractice in professional work, which includes, but is not limited to, the release of confidential medical information of athletes or others with whom the certificant or applicant has a professional relationship.
6. The conviction of, plea of guilty or plea of nolo contendere (no contest) to a felony or misdemeanor which is directly related to public health, athletic care, or education. This includes but is not limited to rape, sexual abuse of a child or athlete, actual or threatened use of a weapon of violence; the prohibited sale or distribution of controlled substance, or its possession with the intent to distribute; or use of position of athletic trainer improperly to influence the outcome of score of an athletic contest or event or in connection with any gambling activity.
7. Not adhering to the eligibility requirements for certification candidacy or the continuing education requirements.
8. Not adhering to the Standards of Professional Practice.
9. Non-compliance with applicable local, state, and federal laws governing the practice of athletic training.
10. Not cooperating with BOC investigations into alleged illegal or unethical activities. This would include but is not limited to, not cooperating with appropriate committees by withholding information, not responding to requests for information in a timely fashion, or providing misleading information to a BOC committee or individual member.
11. Engaging in conduct that includes, but is not limited to, unauthorized use of the NATABOC name to endorse any products or services without proper authority, or exploitation of a patient for financial gain.

 [Return to top](#)

New Directors to Join the Board

Names and faces will change, but the mission is the same.

At the conclusion of its July 2001 meeting the Board of Directors of the NATABOC will have three new faces; Dr. Steven Anderson, MD, Bruce Patrick, and Scott Street, MS, MBA, ATC. Public Director Don Herrmann and Physician Director D. Monte Hunter, MD will be leaving the Board after serving four years.

Dr. Anderson is a board-certified pediatrician practicing in Seattle, Washington. Currently he serves as team physician for the US Olympic Diving Team and the Pacific Northwest Ballet. Dr. Anderson is no stranger to working with athletic trainers, having served on the NATA Foundation- Youth Sports Symposium, liaison with NATA from the American Academy of Pediatrics and a speaker at the 1999 J&J Symposium. Dr. Anderson currently is medical advisor to the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association and is a board member of the American Board of Pediatrics.

Mr. Bruce Patrick will serve as Public Director for the NATABOC. Currently he is the Coordinator of Student Activities and Athletic Programs for Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, VA. In this position Mr. Patrick has daily interactions with the 46 certified athletic trainers on staff of the counties 23 high schools. Mr. Patrick is a familiar face at national meetings, recruiting athletic trainers to join Fairfax County Public Schools.

Mr. Scott Street will serve as an athletic trainer director to the Board of Certification. Mr. Street is the Senior Associate Athletic Director at the University of Texas-San Antonio. In this position Mr. Street oversees the athletic training staff. Prior to moving to San Antonio, Mr. Street served as the athletic business manager at the University of Missouri-Rolla, Associate Head Athletic Trainer at Wake Forest University and Assistant Athletic Trainer at Marshall University.

 [Return to top](#)

Online Self Assessment Examination

The NATABOC has developed an assessment examination for students who are preparing for the NATABOC certification examination. A unique, 75-question multiple-choice examination is presented to each student. The examination is linked to the NATABOC [Role Delineation Study, 4th Edition](#). Content experts who develop the NATABOC Certification Examination wrote the questions in this self-assessment examination. The difficulty level and style of questions are similar to those that will appear on the certification examination.

After completing the examination students will receive a report that is broken down by domains. They can then review each domain and the knowledge and skill statements pertinent to each area. Students can print the knowledge and skill statements that are contained within the NATABOC Role Delineation Study, 4th Edition. The assessment report will target areas for further study and will link the student to resources for the NATABOC Certification Examination. Student's scores will be tracked so that they can take the exam at another time and chart their progress.

The cost of the examination is \$45. Students will also be able to print out

the Role Delineation Study knowledge and skill statements (a \$26.95 value). Please inform your students of this opportunity.

They can access the self-assessment examination from the web site by clicking [here](#).

 **Return to top**

Continuing Education

Category E – New category increases flexibility for Continuing Education

Category E was added for the 2000-2002 term. This category allows certified athletic trainers to document continuing education activities completed from non-NATABOC approved providers. Individuals who are credentialed by another profession could now use a single provider to meet a part of both professions' continuing education requirements. A maximum of 20 contact hours of activities can be used. The NATABOC currently has over 700 approved providers. The addition of Category E and the increase in the ability to do up to 20 hours from non-NATABOC approved providers will allow an individual holding the ATC® credential to attend seminars from other health professions that they might not have previously and credit them toward the NATABOC CEU requirement.

Log on to the NATABOC web site to view a complete list of all approved providers [approved providers](#) and a [calendar](#) of continuing education activities offered by providers. Individuals can also search the entire NATABOC approved provider database by domains, geographic area and type of course offering.

CEU to Omaha

The Board of Certification continues its strategic plan to move all Board of Certification functions to one headquarters. Effective June 1, 2001 all continuing education questions should be directed to the NATABOC offices in Omaha. The NATA offices in Dallas will no longer serve as the satellite BOC Continuing Education Office. BOC and NATA will work together to make this process as smooth as possible for all certified athletic trainers. The BOC toll-free number is 1-877-BOC-EXAM (1-877-262-3926) or staff@nataboc.org

NATABOC Reaccredited

The NATABOC was successful in maintaining its accreditation by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). NCCA is the only accrediting body for voluntary credentialing /certification agencies. Review by the NCCA occurs every five years. The NATABOC has been accredited by the NCCA for the past 19 years.

NCCA accreditation is considered the gold standard. Recently, the US Department of Transportation recognized NCCA accreditation as a requirement for all organizations requesting recognition of their members as substance abuse professionals. The Federal Register published the final rule for 49 CFR Part 40 where it states that, "having NCCA accreditation is a means of demonstrating to the Department of Transportation that your certification is reviewed by a panel of impartial experts that have determined that your examination(s) has met stringent and appropriate testing standards."

Home study programs a cost-effective way to obtain continuing

education

Home study programs are a very cost-effective way for ATC® credential holders to obtain continuing education. Over 340 home study programs are currently approved by the NATABOC. Some benefits

- No travel time or costs involved
- Documentation that learning has occurred
- Ability to tailor continuing education activities to areas of interest
- Cost per contact hours significantly less

To view the most current listing of home study courses click [here](#)

Proper use of the credential

In 1987, the NATA protected the ATC® credential by registering the mark with the US Patent and Trademark Office. Prior to registering the trademark the credential appeared in most literature as A.T.,C. however, the NATABOC has seen a large number of variations on this theme. Although the NATA owns the trademark, the NATABOC is the agency responsible for protecting the ATC® credential.

The recognized and protected credential is **ATC®** (no punctuation) or **C.A.T.®** All individuals who hold the right to use the credential should ensure they are displaying their certification properly and uniformly to the public.

NATABOC to hosts meeting with state regulators in San Antonio

In September of 2001, the NATABOC will host a meeting with state regulatory agency officials. This will be done in conjunction with the annual CLEAR meeting. CLEAR is the Council on Enforcement and Regulation. CLEAR is an association of individuals, agencies and organizations, which comprise the international community of professional and occupational regulation. CLEAR is a dynamic forum for improving the quality and understanding of regulation in order to enhance public protection. Members of the NATA Governmental Affairs Committee will join the NATABOC in the meeting. For more information on CLEAR you can visit their web site at www.clearhq.org.

Examiner Training Program

We have added 280 Qualified Examiners since January 1st, 2001. This brings our total number to 2,884. On behalf of the certification candidates who are served by your participation the NATABOC thanks these individuals.

The NATABOC needs additional qualified examiners. All certified athletic trainers in good standing, including newly certified individuals, are eligible to participate in the Examiner Training Program. Upon successful completion of the program, your name will be added to our Qualified Examiner database and you will be eligible to assist with the practical examination by serving as an examiner or model.

Why would I want to become a qualified examiner?

- Becoming involved in the examination process is a great way to support the profession of athletic training.
- NATABOC has a growing need for examiner and models due to the growing pool of certification candidates. Our pool of qualified

examiners will not only help determine exam sites, but it will allow for the greatest number of candidates to be tested.

- Each time you assist with an examination you earn 5 CEUs. You will also receive a per diem and mileage reimbursement (\$.30 per mile, maximum 300 miles round trip).

How do I get involved?

The examiner training program is a two-step process:

1. Interested individuals must complete the home study workbook and test.
 - The home study test is a 50 question multiple choice test.
2. After successful completion of the home study test, individuals register and attend a four-hour workshop.
 - Workshops will be held in and around the cities in which NATABOC examinations are administered. State, district and national meetings will also be targeted for workshop sessions.
 - Everyone must achieve a score of 85% in the workshop test. Their names are then added to the list of qualified examiners for the NATABOC exam sites.

How do I obtain examiner training information?

Please visit our web site at www.nataboc.org for:

- Home study workbook
- On-line home study test
- Current workshop sites and dates
- On-line workshop registration

You may also contact Stacy Arrington at the BOC National Office toll-free at 877/262-3926 or via e-mail at sarrington@nataboc.org with any questions, requests for the home study materials, a current workshop schedule or to register for a workshop.

Do we know where you are?

The profession of athletic training is often quite a mobile profession. It is important that all individuals notify the NATABOC of changes in their address. An individual who fails to keep the NATABOC informed risks having their certification suspended and possibly revoked.

Included in the 2000-2002 CEU File Folder are "change of address" cards. Please use these cards to let us know where you are. Or send us your new address by clicking [here](#).

ATTENTION CURRENT QUALIFIED EXAMINERS: If you have moved since the last time you served as an examiner or model, Please contact the BOC to update your address information and the exam sites that you are able to work. You may download an address correction form from our web page [here](#) or contact Stacy Arrington at 877/262-3926 or sarrington@nataboc.org.

 [Return to top](#)
