



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION
FOR THE ATHLETIC TRAINER

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Letter from the BOC Board of Directors President and BOC Executive Director

2014 was a busy year once again for the BOC and the profession. For our part it was a year focused on increasing our communication to you: our Athletic Trainers (ATs), candidates, regulators, educators and Approved Providers.

As always, we value the feedback on what you, our customers, need from us. We also welcome your suggestions on how we communicate information about complaints and discipline as we pursue our mission to assure protection of the public.

Highlights:

Continuing Professional Development and Education

- Reviewed 121 Level 1 EBP courses for the 2014-15 continuing education reporting period – which adds up to 431 continuing education units (CEUs) approved as of January 2015
- Contacted 45,476 ATs via letter in November to remind them of the December 31, 2015, deadline for recertification and to provide tips on completing the new Evidence Based Practice (EBP) continuing education requirement
- Hosted the Practice Analysis 7 panelists to begin the process of benchmarking entry-level knowledge and skills that will become the blueprint for the BOC examination

Collaboration

- Consulted with the World Federation of Athletic Training and Therapy (WFATT) in the development of global education standards that were approved in November of 2014
- Signed a mutual recognition arrangement with the Canadian Athletic Therapy Association (CATA) and the Athletic Rehabilitation Therapy Ireland (ARTI) in September



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Standards of Practice and Discipline

- Took the following actions in the enforcement of BOC Standards and Professional Practice:
- Opened 457 discipline cases
- Decided and/or closed 700 discipline cases
- Issued emergency suspensions to six ATs because of the potential danger to the public

Regulatory Affairs

- Launched the Disciplinary Action Exchange to help the BOC, states and consumers locate disciplinary actions in an efficient manner. Currently three states are participating

Awareness

- Implemented a welcome series of informational emails to newly certified ATs

The BOC Board of Directors and staff are committed to providing you with timely information that we trust will be beneficial to you as a practitioner, educator, BOC Approved Provider or member of the public and regulatory community. The BOC provides products and services to promote continued individual improvement through educational resources, Approved Provider programs, self assessment exams and continuing education monitoring with the goal of providing the highest quality healthcare to our patients, while assuring the protection of the public.

Susan McGowen, PhD, ATC
BOC Board of Directors President

Denise Fandel, MBA, CAE
BOC Executive Director



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Fast Facts:

- *BOC Certified Athletic Trainers represent all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico as well as internationally*
- *The BOC establishes and regularly reviews both the standards for the practice of athletic training and the continuing education requirements for BOC Certified ATs*



BOC Vision

The BOC exists so that healthcare professionals worldwide have access to globally recognized standards of competence and exceptional credentialing programs that support them in the protection of the public and the provision of excellent patient care.

BOC Mission

To provide exceptional credentialing programs for healthcare professionals to assure protection of the public.

BOC Values

Integrity, Professionalism, Fairness, Transparency, Service

The Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC) has been responsible for the certification of Athletic Trainers (ATs) since 1969. The BOC was the certification arm of the professional membership organization the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) until 1989 when it became an independent non-profit organization to provide a certification program for entry-level ATs. The BOC establishes and regularly reviews both the standards for the practice of athletic training and the continuing education requirements for BOC Certified ATs.

The BOC has the only accredited certification program for ATs in the US. Since 1982, the BOC has been continuously accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and the BOC must undergo review and reaccreditation every five years. The NCCA is the accreditation body of Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE). In 2014, we served more than 45,000 ATs.



Member of the Better Business Bureau

The BOC has been a BBB Accredited Business since 2010. Accreditation in BBB is by invitation to companies that, at a minimum, have been in business for at least one year, have demonstrated sound business practices and meet the BBB accreditation standards. To be accredited by the BBB, an organization affirms that it meets and will abide by the standards of building trust, advertising honestly, telling the truth, being transparent, honoring promises, being responsive, safeguarding privacy and embodying integrity.



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2014 BOC Initiatives

- Attended and exhibited at the **NATA 25th Annual Clinical Symposia & AT Expo** in Indianapolis, Indiana. The meeting drew more than 10,000 attendees. At the event, the BOC convened a volunteer reception and named the 2014 Dan Libera Award winners and the Lindsay McLean Scholarship recipient. Dan Libera Awards went to AJ Duffy, III, Valerie Herzog, Christine Odell, Kim Peer and Mark White. Lynette Carlson received the Lindsay McLean Scholarship.
- **Submitted comments** to the **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services** in response to a proposed rule change that would exclude ATs from the CMS list of 'other professionals' with the knowledge and skill to fit custom orthotic devices. We did so along with the CAATE and the NATA.
- Signed a **mutual recognition arrangement (MRA)** with the Canadian Athletic Therapists Association (CATA) and **Athletic Rehabilitation Therapy Ireland (ARTI)**. The MRA allows Athletic Trainers and athletic therapists certified by each of the three organizations to apply for the BOC exam, and if successful, earn the ATC® credential. CATA and the BOC signed an MRA in 2005. Since the 2005 arrangement was signed, 84 CATA certified athletic therapists have taken the BOC exam and 80 have earned the ATC® credential.
- Assisted 228 ATs in **reinstating their certification**. Twenty-nine of these individuals had let their certification lapse or left the profession for a time and took advantage of the BOC's reinstatement by exam option. Over the past nine years since the BOC created this option, 383 individuals have returned to the profession via the examination route.
- Initiated a welcome email series for **newly certified ATs**. The series is designed to assist them as they transition from student to new professional. The series covers the following topics:
 - Securing the proper state regulatory approval to practice
 - Obtaining an NPI number
 - Sources and process for obtaining continuing education activities, as well as reporting requirements
 - Encouraging professional engagement at the state, regional and national levels



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- Celebrated **National Athletic Training Month** in March with a board and staff luncheon. During the luncheon, BOC President/Athletic Trainer Director Susan McGowen and BOC Executive Director Denise Fandel read a proclamation provided by Omaha Mayor Jean Stothert.
- Introduced a new publication, **Regulatory Update**. The biannual newsletter shares relevant information for state regulatory agencies.
- An **Evidence Based Practice (EBP)** continuing education category was implemented as part of new certification maintenance requirements that became effective in January 2014. Under the new requirements, all ATs are required to complete a minimum number of EBP continuing education units (CEUs) during the certification maintenance period. The requirements are as follows:
 - ATs certified in 2013 or before must complete 50 CEUs, which must include at least 10 Evidence Based Practice (EBP) CEUs.
 - ATs certified in 2014 must complete 25 CEUs, which must include at least 5 Evidence Based Practice (EBP) CEUs

All continuing education programs wishing to offer EBP CEUs must be pre-approved through an **application process**.

- Introduced the **Disciplinary Action Exchange (DAE)**, an online tool dedicated to protection of the public. The DAE allows states to submit disciplinary actions to be shared on the BOC website. The tool then helps states, consumers and the BOC find all public disciplinary actions against ATs – in an efficient, easy-to-use manner.
- Expanded the **State Regulatory Network**, an online network that serves state athletic training regulatory leaders and regulatory agency personnel. The network grew to 96 members
- Convened a group of six **Practice Analysis Task Force** members and 17 panelists to review practice standards for ATs. Their work will ultimately lead to the creation of the seventh Practice Analysis, which will serve as a blueprint for future BOC exams and for CE program development.



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- Celebrated the **BOC's 25th anniversary** as an independent, non-profit organization. In honor of this milestone, the BOC developed a **microsite** dedicated to photos and stories from the BOC's first 25 years. The microsite contains timelines, a record of BOC honorees and first-hand accounts from fellow ATs of memorable moments in athletic training and exam-taking.
- Hosted an open house during the **College World Series** for visiting ATs. While in Omaha, ATs contributed stories about their College World Series experience to the **BOC blog**
- Initiated the process of building the **iBOC exam** for international candidates. In addition, the BOC began training iBOC item writers
- Assembled and mailed informational packets to more than 1,200 **BOC Approved Providers**
- Implemented or updated the following **services** for ATs and BOC exam candidates:
 - Constructed an online database of continuing education opportunities, with sections for **EBP Category Programs**, **Category A Live Events** and **Category A Home Study Courses**
 - Initiated a series of courtesy emails to remind candidates of upcoming deadlines
 - Revised the **BOC Exam Candidate Handbook** for the 2014-2015 exam year
 - Updated all five versions of the online **self assessment exams** and the **sample exam**
 - Produced educational videos fulfilling **continuing education requirements**, including a special series dedicated to **EBP requirements**
 - Updated five **Professional Development Modules** on the following topics:
 - The BOC and Affiliated Organizations
 - Professional Practice and Responsibility
 - Certification Maintenance Requirements
 - Ethical and Professional Obligations
 - Marketing the ATC® Credential



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BOC Community Involvement

The BOC has continued to support the Food Bank for the Heartland, along with the Salvation Army, this past year. Throughout the summer months, staff members volunteered for the “Kids Cruisin’ Kitchen,” a collaborative effort between the Salvation Army, Foodbank for the Heartland and Hunger Free Heartland, that provides free hot lunches for children in the Omaha metro area. Staff members traveled with a food truck to various, predetermined locations in the community and served lunch to kids of all ages who gathered there each day. BOC staff enjoyed serving the kids their lunches, which were provided regardless of income. It was such a success that the BOC will support the program again next summer.

The BOC supported the Food Bank for the Heartland again in December with a Holiday Open House. Attendees donated food and funds, while the BOC contributed \$10 per person. In all, the event raised \$910.

The Food Bank for the Heartland distributes food to about 225 nonprofit organizations in Nebraska and Western Iowa, including pantries, emergency shelters, meal providers and rehabilitation centers. More than 250,000 lives have been impacted by the food and other items distributed by the Food Bank for the Heartland. To learn more, visit www.foodbankheartland.org.





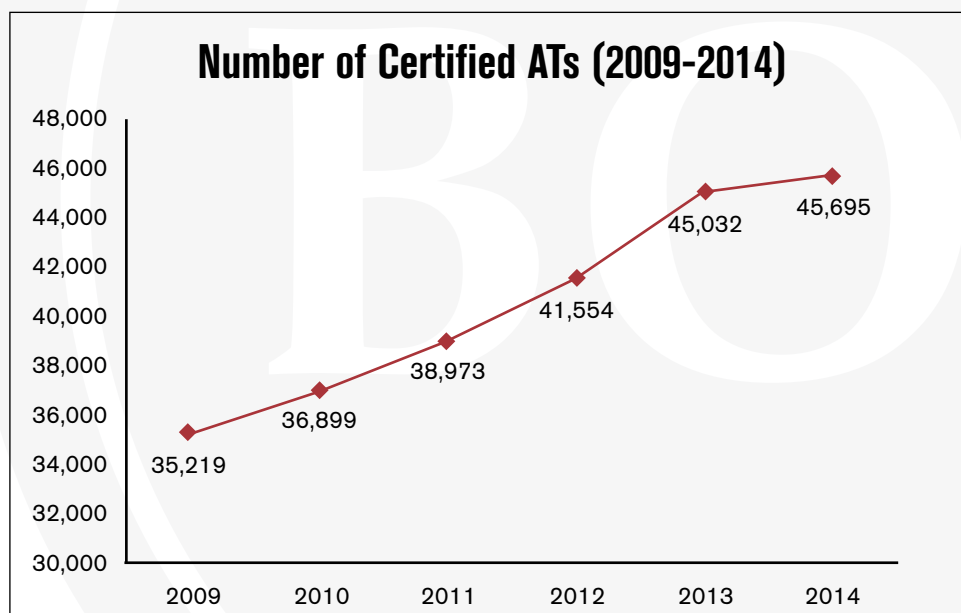
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Exam Report	2012	2013	2014
Candidates Certified	3,198	3,531	3,513
Exam Applications Processed and Approved	2,768	3,825	3,984
Reinstatement Applications Processed and Approved	198	172	199

Reinstatement by Exam: Twenty-nine individuals sat for the exam to be reinstated in 2014. Individuals who allow their certification to lapse have options to reinstate their certification. The requirements for a successful return to Certified status are based on the total number of years the individual's status has been expired. In general, candidates for reinstatement must demonstrate that they have completed the required continuing education (CE) requirements while their status was expired or pass the BOC exam. For reinstatement details, visit the [BOC website](#).

Continuing Education Report	2012	2013	2014
Certified ATs	41,670	45,032	45,695
Total # of New Certified for the Year	3,198	3,531	3,513





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BOC Approved Provider Report	2012	2013	2014
Total Number of BOC Approved Providers	1,257	1,285	1,251
New Providers	140	148	100
Home Study Courses Approved	165	328	177
Providers Audited	0	145	147

Protecting the Public

The Professional Practice and Discipline (PP&D) Committee is responsible for the oversight and adjudication of the *BOC Standards of Professional Practice*, which consists of the Practice Standards and the Code of Professional Responsibility. The PP&D Committee has jurisdiction over all BOC Certified ATs and both current and prospective BOC exam applicants. The *BOC Standards of Professional Practice* and *Professional Practice and Discipline Guidelines and Procedures* can be viewed on the BOC website at www.bocatc.org.

Discipline	2012	2013	2014
PPD Cases Opened	289	248	457
PPD Cases Closed	190	201	702
Emergency Suspensions	8	6	6



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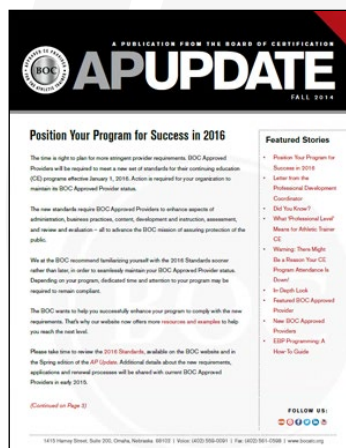
Publications

The *Cert Update* is published in the summer and the winter and mailed to ATs, Program Directors and BOC Approved Providers. It is emailed to athletic training candidates and state regulatory agencies.

BOC Approved Providers receive the *AP Update*, a semi-annual e-newsletter that contains the latest information about CE, news from the BOC and trends in athletic training.

The *PD Update* is sent to Program Directors and provides news on the BOC exam, accreditation, student education and more.

In 2014, the BOC added a new publication, the *Regulatory Update*. This newsletter shares important information with state regulatory agencies.





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Volunteers

BOC Volunteer Facts

- *Four committees and one task force, totaling 48 members*
- *Nine members of the BOC Board of Directors*
- *90 item writers*
- *16 bloggers*

Adding It Up

*163 volunteers
X \$22.55/hour
@ 2 hrs/month x
12 months =
\$88,216 of
in-kind service*

***We thank you for
your service!***

We thank the hundreds of volunteers who serve in various capacities. The contribution of volunteers such as BOC item writers, committee members and Board of Directors is critical in developing the high professional standards expected of today's ATs.

2014 BOC volunteer accomplishments:

- Administered 5,044 certification exams
- Developed more than 253 new exam items for experimental testing
- Began work on the Practice Analysis 7

The continuous commitment to the development and administration of a quality certification program has produced a highly regarded program recognized as the gold standard for identifying entry-level athletic training professionals. We thank everyone for their service to support the growth and success of the BOC.



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BOC Board of Directors and Staff



A nine-member Board of Directors governs the BOC. There are six AT Directors, one Physician Director, one Public Director and one Corporate/Educational Director.

Back Row:

Stephanie Setlak, Mindy Lindquist, Ed Christman, Russell McKune, Jan Lauer, James Higgins, Frank Walters, James Kinderknecht, Kendra Aspegren, Chad Kinart, Lorinda Horst

Middle Row:

Stacy Arrington, Melissa Breazile, Erin Cramer, Dave Gorman

Front Row:

Denise Fandel, Jenna Jelinek, Amy DeRosa, Susan McGowen, James Malseed, Jessica Roberts, Shannon Leftwich, Sue Pereira, Anne Minton



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2014 BOC Board of Directors

President/Athletic Trainer Director

Susan McGowen, PhD, ATC ('16)

University of New Mexico, XMED, Inc.
and Red Bull North America, Inc.

Email: xmed@me.com

Treasurer/Athletic Trainer Director

Jan Lauer, MA, ATC ('17)

Tri-Rehab, Inc., Earning Results, LLC
and Assured Medical Billing, Inc.

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Athletic Trainer Director

Jim Malseed, MEd, ATC, RAA ('17)

Archmere Academy

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Corporate/Educational Director

Ed Christman, AT Ret. ('15)

Cramer Products, Inc.

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Public Director

Amy DeRosa ('17)

Incremedical, LLC

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Vice President/Athletic Trainer Director

Frank Walters, PhD, LAT, ATC ('15)

Broward Health

Email: fwalters@browardhealth.org

Athletic Trainer Director

Erin Cramer, MS, PA-C, ATC ('15)

Sublimity Medical Clinic

Email: rncrmr72@yahoo.com

Athletic Trainer Director

Russell McKune, MS, ATC ('16)*

The Nebraska Medical Center

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Physician Director

James Kinderknecht, MD ('15)

Hospital for Special Surgery
and Weill Cornell Medical College

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Executive Director

Denise Fandel, MBA, CAE

Board of Certification, Inc.

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Dan Libera Service Award

The BOC Dan Libera Service Award was established in 1995 in recognition of Dan's contributions to the BOC certification program. The award recognizes individuals who have shown dedication to the mission of the BOC. Long-standing contributions to the BOC's programs are the primary criteria for the award. In 2014, we presented six Dan Libera Service Awards.

AJ Duffy, III

Valerie Herzog

Christine Odell

Kim Peer

Mark White

Dan was well-known throughout the nation for his enthusiasm and commitment to the profession of athletic training. Through his work at the University of Northern Colorado and his volunteer activities with the NATA and the BOC, he was able to pass on these traits to the students and colleagues who had the privilege to work with him.

Dan was a founding member of the Colorado Athletic Trainers' Association, serving as secretary from 1979 until 1983. In addition, he held several offices in the NATA, including the District 7 Research and Injury Committee, the Membership Committee, the Board of Directors and the Board of Certification.

In 1995, Dan was inducted into the Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers' Association Hall of Fame. In pursuit of educating others, Dan gave presentations throughout the country and served as a consultant to NIKE, Kodak of Colorado, the NCAA and several high schools in Colorado. In 1997, Dan was inducted into the NATA Hall of Fame. Dan passed on August 2, 1997, from complications from ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease).



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2014 Exam Development Committee

The Exam Development Committee is responsible for the development, construction and validation of each portion of the BOC certification exam and other assessment tools approved by the BOC Board of Directors.

Committee Chair

Joseph Lueken, MS, LAT, ATC ('16)

Indiana University

Email: jlueken@indiana.edu

Multiple-Choice Co-Chairs

Kristi White, PhD, ATC ('15)

Angelo State University

Email: kristi.white@angelo.edu

Scott Sunderland, MS, ATC, EMT-B ('15)

Knox College

Email: SSunderl@Knox.edu

Alternative Item Type Co-Chairs

Carol Moss, MA, AT, ATC ('15)

Albion College

Email: cmoss@albion.edu

Terri Jo Rucinski, MA, ATC, PT, CSCS

University of North Carolina

Email: tjrucinski@unca.unc.edu



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2014 Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee implements the process and procedures for nominating candidates for the BOC Board of Directors and chairs for the BOC standing committees.

Committee Chair

Julie Emrhein, ATC ('15)

California University of Pennsylvania

Email: emrhein@calu.edu

Athletic Trainer Members

Sara Brown, ATC ('15)

Boston University

Email: sara@bu.edu

Mark Cherwony, MEd, MS, ATC ('15)

Cinnaminson Senior High School, Philadelphia Wings

Indoor Lacrosse Team and Temple University

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David E Colt, EdD, ATC ('14)

MidAmerica Nazarene University

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Corey Oshikoya, ATC ('14)

Denver Broncos

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Sue Stanley-Green, ATC ('14)

Florida Southern College

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Public Member

Paul DeMartinis ('14)

MedCo Sports Medicine

Email: pauld@medcosupply.com



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2014 Professional Practice & Discipline Committee

The Professional Practice and Discipline Committee is responsible for overseeing and upholding the BOC Practice Standards and Policies.

Committee Chair

Rob Sandmann, Med, ATC, LAT ('14)

Texas Orthopedic Specialists

Email: rjsandmann@gmail.com

Athletic Trainer Members

Cynthia Clivio, ATC ('15)

Kamehameha Schools

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Paul Higgins, DPT, ATC, CSCS ('14)

University of Hartford and

University Physical Therapy, LLC

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Kelly Potteiger, ATC ('14)

North Park University

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Brian Razak, ATC ('14)

University of New England

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Public Members

Jerry Diehl ('16)

Retired from National Federation
of State High School Associations

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Jack McNeeley, AT Ret. ('14)

Retired Athletic Trainer

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2014 Standards Committee

The Standards Committee recommends entry-level and continuing education requirements and policies to the BOC Board of Directors and reviews relevant issues at the Board's request. Additionally, the Standards Committee reviews the Code of Professional Practice and recommends any revisions to the Board of Directors.

Committee Chair

Mark Doughty, MS, ATC ('14)

Newark High School

Email: mdoughty@laca.org

Athletic Trainer Members

James Knue, ATC ('14)

Cirque du Soleil

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Katherine Newsham, PhD, ATC ('14)

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John Parsons, PhD, ATC ('14)

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Content Coordinator

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Shannon Leftwich, MA, ATC

Director of Credentialing and

Regulatory Affairs

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Nathan Burns, MS, ATC

Credentialing Program Coordinator

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James Higgins

Technical Project Specialist

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Jenna Jelinek

Compliance Specialist

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Mindy Lindquist

Sales and Marketing Manager

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Jessica Roberts, MS Ed, ATC

Professional Development Coordinator

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BOC VISION

The BOC exists so that healthcare professionals worldwide have access to globally recognized standards of competence and exceptional credentialing programs that support them in the protection of the public and the provision of excellent patient care.

BOC MISSION

To provide exceptional credentialing programs for healthcare professionals to assure protection of the public.

BOC VALUES

Integrity, Professionalism, Fairness,
Transparency, Service

The BOC, a national credentialing agency, has been certifying Athletic Trainers and identifying, for the public, quality healthcare professionals with certainty since 1969. Currently, there are more than 45,000 BOC Certified Athletic Trainers.



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