



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION
FOR THE ATHLETIC TRAINER

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

In 2015, the BOC was dedicated to increasing communication and services to Athletic Trainers (ATs), candidates, regulators, educators and BOC Approved Providers. As always, we value the feedback on what you, our stakeholders, need from us. We welcome suggestions on how we, the BOC, communicate information on complaints and disciplinary concerns, as we are committed to the pursuit of our mission to assure protection of the public.

2015 Highlights

Continuing Professional Development and Education

- 91% of ATs renewed their certifications by the December 31, 2015, deadline
- The Maintenance of Competence Task Force (MOC) was created
- More than 530 ATs volunteered to participate in the AT Portfolio Pilot Study
- The BOC Board approved expansion of the EBP category

Standards of Practice and Discipline

- The Professional Practice and Discipline Committee took the following actions in the enforcement of the *BOC Standards of Professional Practice*:
 - Opened 448 discipline cases
 - Decided and/or closed 304 discipline cases
 - Issued emergency suspensions to 3 ATs because of the potential danger to the public
- Published proposed revisions to Standards of Practice for public comment and received more than 1,000 responses

Regulatory Affairs

- Hosted the BOC Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference with 110 attendees
- Provided support to 14 states considering changes in AT regulation



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Exam

- Completed the *Practice Analysis, 7th Edition*, which will become the blueprint for the 2017 BOC exam
- Convened a Cultural Sensitivity Panel to complete a review of the BOC exam

Collaboration

- The Strategic Alliance announced the decision on the professional degree
- The BOC hosted the Strategic Alliance Summit in October
- The first Athletic Rehabilitation Therapy Ireland (ARTI) candidate became certified under the mutual recognition agreement

Board Election

- 26 ATs submitted applications for the new Athletic Trainer Director

The BOC Board of Directors and staff are committed to providing timely information that 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 designed to promote continued professional improvement through educational resources, Approved Provider programs, self-assessment exams, and continuing education monitoring. *Be Certain.™* that the goal of the BOC is to assist you in providing optimal healthcare to patients and to assure the protection of the public.

Sincerely,

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, Puerto Rico and 36 countries.*
- *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 5 years. The NCCA is the accreditation body of Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE). In 2015, we served more than 49,000 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 1 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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2015 BOC Initiatives

- Completed our self-study for reaccreditation with the **National Commission for Certifying Agencies** (NCCA). Following the study, the NCCA reaccredited the BOC for another 5 years. The BOC has been continuously accredited by the NCCA since 1982 and is the **ONLY** accredited certification program for ATs in the United States.
- Welcomed 2 new Directors-elect, **Douglas Gregory**, MD, and **Patrick Sexton**, EdD, ATC, to the Board of Directors in January. They observed board activities and were mentored throughout the year, in advance of beginning their term in January of 2016.

In the fall, the BOC received 26 applications for the Athletic Trainer Director position on the BOC Board of Directors. Following the Nominating Committee's selection of 3 applicants for general election, BOC Certified ATs elected **Kimberly Detwiler**, MS, LAT, ATC, CSCS. Detwiler is Assistant Athletic Trainer at the University of Texas at Austin.

- In collaboration with fellow members of the AT Strategic Alliance, agreed to establish the **professional degree in athletic training at the master's level**. For more than 2 years leading up to the decision, the AT Strategic Alliance, under the lead of National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) and Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), engaged in a critical examination of what the appropriate professional degree level should be to best prepare Athletic Trainers for an integral role in the evolving healthcare system.

CAATE has indicated that baccalaureate programs may not admit, enroll or matriculate students into the athletic training program after the start of the fall term in 2022.

Further, CAATE has asked its Standards Committee to work with its strategic partners, stakeholders and other groups "to examine and evolve the Standards to reflect the added rigor and other key components of quality healthcare education as we move toward implementation of the degree requirement."



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2015 BOC Initiatives, Continued

- Celebrated the first application to take the BOC exam by a certified athletic therapist from Ireland. The milestone occurred as a result of a mutual recognition agreement signed with **Athletic Rehabilitation Therapy Ireland (ARTI)** in September 2014.
- Launched a series of webinars for BOC Approved Providers. The series educates continuing education providers on the **2016 Standards for Approved Providers**, which encourages a more rigorous continuing education experience for Athletic Trainers.
- Convened 110 representatives from 41 states and the District of Columbia at our Omaha headquarters for the **2015 BOC Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference**. Presenters covered a host of topics, including industry updates, case studies, unlicensed practice, ethics, certification boards, working with attorneys and sport safety legislation.

During the conference, the BOC honored the 2015 BOC Public Advocacy Award recipients. Honorees were **Alabama Sen. Greg Reed** and, jointly, **Illinois Athletic Trainers Association Inc. and Midwest Orthopaedics at RUSH**.

- Attended the inaugural **National Summit on Professional Regulation** by invitation of the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Board.
- Attended and exhibited at the **NATA 66th Annual Clinical Symposia & AT Expo** in St. Louis, Missouri. The BOC also collaborated with the NATA Committee on Professional Ethics to present *Professional Boundaries and Real World Ethics*. The meeting drew more than 10,000 attendees.
- Also at the event, the BOC convened a volunteer reception and named the 2015 Dan Libera Award winners and the Lindsay McLean Scholarship recipient. Dan Libera



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2015 BOC Initiatives, Continued

Awards went to **Alan Freedman, Dawn Hammerschmidt, Pete Koehneke** and **Scott Sunderland**. **Lisa Stobierski** received the Lindsay McLean Scholarship.

- Launched an awareness campaign focused on the document, ***BOC Facilities Principles***. The *BOC Facility Principles* is a risk management tool for all organizations that have facilities where athletic healthcare is delivered. The procedures documented in the *BOC Facility Principles* ensure safe, effective operation and compliance of athletic training facilities.

An accompanying online tool includes interactive checklists on accessibility, privacy and confidentiality, employee safety, safe handling of hazardous materials, emergency preparedness and more. It also allows users to generate reports for each facility being assessed.

- 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.
- Recruited more than 530 ATs to participate in a voluntary pilot study of an **Athletic Trainer Portfolio** system. The system will help ATs identify and design a personalized CE experience.
- Commissioned a **Maintenance of Competence Task Force**, which will begin meeting in Spring 2016 to develop recommendations for new strategies allowing ATs to demonstrate maintenance of competence. Recommendations will ultimately be made open for public comment.
- In October, hosted the Presidents and Executive Directors of the **Strategic Alliance** in Omaha. The purpose of this meeting was for each of the Strategic Partners to share



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2015 BOC Initiatives, Continued

their strategic plans, and to discuss and develop specific priorities for the group. The Strategic Alliance is committed to communicating, collaborating and sharing resources in order to advocate on behalf of the athletic training profession.

- Completed work on the ***BOC Practice Analysis, 7th Edition (PA7)***. The document identifies the knowledge, skills and content areas for the BOC exam and continuing education. PA7 will be effective starting April 2017 for the exam and January 2018 for continuing education.
- Assisted 173 ATs in **reinstating their certification**. Forty-seven 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 10 years since the BOC created this option, 430 individuals have returned to the profession via the exam route.
- Launched a new and improved **self-assessment exam** tool, which provides a better experience for BOC exam candidates, Program Directors and ATs looking to gauge their continuing education needs.



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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 \$530 and 200 pounds of food.

The Food Bank for the Heartland distributes food to 224 schools and 225 nonprofit organizations in Nebraska and Western Iowa, including pantries, emergency shelters, meal providers and rehabilitation centers. To learn more, visit www.foodbankheartland.org.





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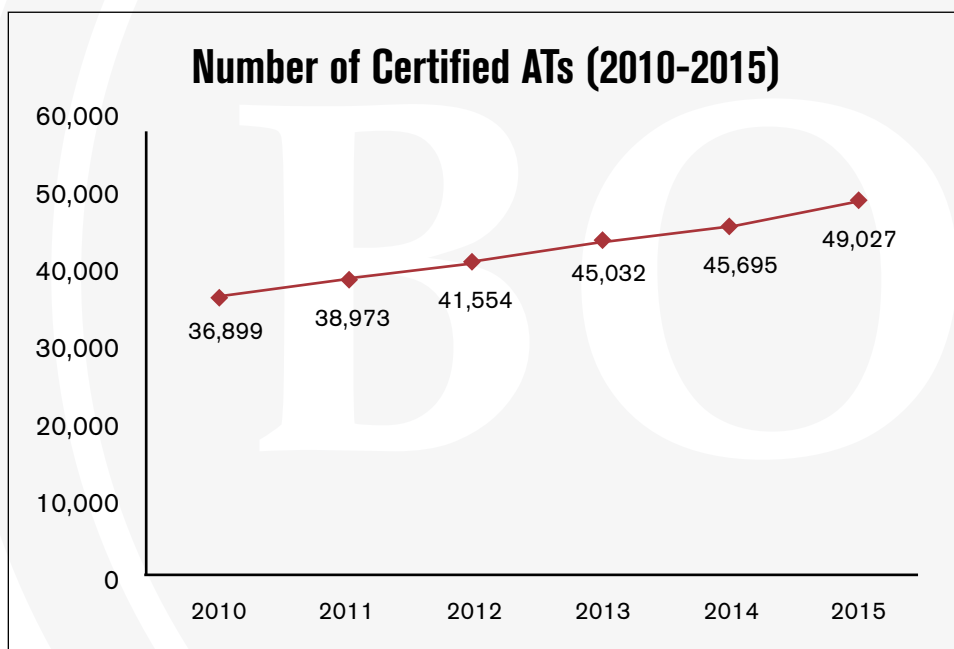
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BOC Certification Reports

Exam Report	2013	2014	2015
Candidates Certified	3,531	3,513	3,828
Exam Applications Processed and Approved	3,825	3,984	4,200
Exams Administered	4,862	5,044	5,324
Reinstatement Applications Processed and Approved	172	199	173

Reinstatement by Exam: Forty-seven individuals sat for the exam to be reinstated in 2015. 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	2013	2014	2015
Certified ATs	45,032	45,695	49,027
Total # of New Certified for the Year	3,531	3,513	3,828





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BOC Certification Reports

BOC Approved Provider Report	2013	2014	2015
Total Number of BOC Approved Providers	1,285	1,251	1,259
New Providers	148	100	100
Home Study Programs Approved	328	177	172
Providers Audited	145	147	0

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	2013	2014	2015
PPD Cases Opened	248	457	448
PPD Cases Closed	201	702	304
Emergency Suspensions	6	6	3



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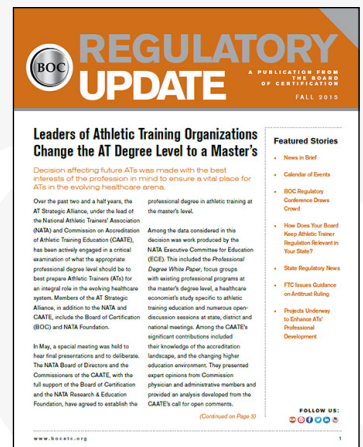
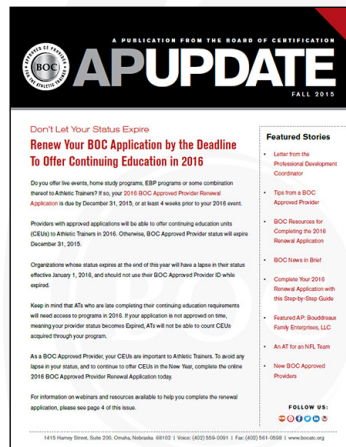
Publications

The *Cert Update* is published in the summer and winter and mailed or emailed to ATs, depending on preference. It is also emailed to Program Directors, BOC Approved Providers, 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.

The *Regulatory Update*, the newest BOC newsletter, shares important information with state regulatory agencies.





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BOC Volunteer Facts

- *Three committees, 2 task forces, a working group and an EBP panel, totaling 62 members*
- *Nine members of the BOC Board of Directors, plus 2 Directors-Elect*
- *94 exam item writers*
- *20 bloggers*

Adding It Up

*187 volunteers
X \$23.07/hour
@ 2 hrs/month x
12 months =
\$103,538 of
in-kind service*

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

Volunteers

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.

2015 BOC volunteer accomplishments:

- Developed more than 300 new exam items for experimental testing
- Completed work on the *Practice Analysis, 7th Edition*

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 Personnel

Board of Directors

A 9-member Board of Directors governs the BOC: 6 AT Directors, 1 Physician Director, 1 Public Director and 1 Corporate/Educational Director. An Athletic Trainer Director-Elect and Physician Director-Elect also attend meetings prior to their board service.

Back row:

Ed Christman, Frank Walters, Douglas Gregory, Jan Lauer, Russell “Rusty” McKune, James Kinderknecht

Middle and front:

Patrick Sexton, Denise Fandel, Susan McGowen, James Malseed, Erin Cramer, Amy DeRosa, Anne Minton



Staff Members

Standing:

Shannon Leftwich, Chad Kinart, Kendra Aspegren, Kelli Wilkins, Sue Pereira, Stacy Arrington, Stephanie Boldt, Lorinda Horst, Melissa Breazile, James Higgins and Sally Witt

Seated:

Nathan Burns, Denise Fandel, Mindy Lindquist, Anne Minton, Dave Gorman, Jessica Roberts and Cherie Trimberger





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2015 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.

Vice President/Athletic Trainer Director

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

Sublimity Medical Clinic

Treasurer/Athletic Trainer Director

Jan Lauer, MA, ATC ('17)

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

Athletic Trainer Director

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

Archmere Academy

Athletic Trainer Director

Russell McKune, MS, ATC ('16)*

The Nebraska Medical Center

Athletic Trainer Director

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

Broward Health

Athletic Trainer Director-Elect

Patrick Sexton, EdD, ATC ('18)*

Minnesota State University, Mankato

Corporate/Educational Director

Ed Christman, AT Ret. ('15)

Cramer Products, Inc.

Physician Director

James Kinderknecht, MD ('15)

Hospital for Special Surgery and Weill Cornell Medical College

Physician Director-Elect

Douglas Gregory, MD ('18)*

Lakeview Medical Center

Public Director

Amy DeRosa ('17)

Incremedical, LLC

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 2015, we presented Dan Libera Service Awards to Alan Freedman, Dawn Hammerschmidt, Pete Koehneke and Scott Sunderland.



Dan Libera Award recipients in 2015 were, from left, Scott Sunderland, Christine Odell (2014 honoree), Alan Freedman, Dawn Hammerschmidt and Peter Koehneke.

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. In addition, he held several offices in the NATA 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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2015 Exam Development Committee

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

Committee Chair

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

Indiana University

Multiple-Choice Co-Chairs

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

Knox College

*Kristi White, PhD, ATC ('15)**

Angelo State University

Alternative Item Type Co-Chairs

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

Albion College

*Terri Jo Rucinski, MA, ATC, PT, CSCS ('15)**

University of North Carolina



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2015 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 ('18)

California University of Pennsylvania

Athletic Trainer Members

Martin Baker ('16)*

Elon University

Sara Brown, ATC ('17)

Boston University

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

Cinnaminson Senior High School, Philadelphia Wings
Indoor Lacrosse Team and Temple University

Pete Koehneke ('16)*

Canisius College

Corey Oshikoya, ATC ('16)

Loyola University Chicago



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2015 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 ('17)

Texas Orthopedic Specialists

Athletic Trainer Members

Scott Cheatham, ATC ('17)*

California State University Dominguez Hills

Cynthia Clivio, ATC ('18)

Kamehameha Schools

Paul Higgins, DPT, ATC, CSCS ('17)*

University of Hartford and

University Physical Therapy, LLC

Kelly Potteiger, ATC ('17)*

North Park University

Public Members

Jerry Diehl ('16)*

Retired from National Federation
of State High School Associations

Mary Macomber ('17)*

Retired Attorney



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2015 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

Katherine Newsham, PhD, ATC ('16)*

Saint Louis University

Athletic Trainer Members

Mark Doughty, MS, ATC ('15)

Newark High School

Michele Klucar Monaco, ATC ('15)*

Ursinus College

John Parsons, PhD, ATC ('15)*

NCAA Sports Science Institute

Nathan Welever, MS, ATC ('15)*

Work-Fit (Boeing)

Public Member

Steven J. Anderson, MD ('15)*

Orthopedic Physician Associates



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2015 Continuing Professional Development Working Group

The Continuing Professional Development Working Group is charged with developing a set of recommendations to enhance current BOC programs and services as they relate to Continuing Professional Development. Their work has included the launch of the AT Portfolio Pilot Study, which examines a formal system that will help ATs assess their professional needs.

Committee Chair

Gail S. Samdperil, EdD, ATC, Chair

Sacred Heart University

Athletic Trainer Members

Nina Walker, MA, LAT, ATC

UNC Chapel Hill

Jenna M. Street, MS, ATC, PES

United States Olympic Committee

Matthew Rothbard, EdD, ATC

Southern Conn. State University

John Hauth, EdD, LAT, ATC

St Lukes University Health Network

Anh-Dung Nguyen, PhD, ATC

High Point University



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PA7 Task Force

The PA7 Task Force leads the research and development required for publication of the *Practice Analysis, 7th Edition*. The PA7 identifies essential knowledge and skills for the athletic training profession and serves as a blueprint for exam development and continuing education requirements.

Christine Odell, PhD, ATC, Chair

Metropolitan State University of Denver

Paul Bruning, DHA, ATC

Tallahassee Orthopedic Clinic

Darryl Conway, MA, ATC

University of Michigan

Peg Houglum, PhD, AT Ret.

Cedar Grove, Wisconsin

David Ruiz, MS, ATC, Cert. MDT

Davenport, Florida

Jay Sedory, MEd, ATC, EMT-T

United States Marine Corps

Ericka Zimmerman, EdD, ATC, CES, PES

Western Carolina University



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2015 Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference Advisory Panel

Members of the Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference Advisory Panel are charged with creating and implementing the biennial BOC Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference. The conference is designed to create a communication network among state Athletic Trainer leadership and state regulatory agencies.

Kurt McClurg, MEd, ATC, Co-Chair

Maumee City Schools
Ohio

Dave Montgomery, Co-Chair

City of Roca
Nebraska

Valerie W. Herzog, EdD, LAT, ATC

Weber State University
Utah

Gregory Rose, ATC

American Medical Response
Kentucky

Ron H. Walker, EdD, ATC, CSCS

University of Tulsa
Oklahoma

Jeff Rosa

State OTPTAT Board
Ohio

Timothy L. McLane, MBA, ATC, AEMT

Georgia Regents Sports Medicine
Georgia

Anna Marie Sedory, MS, ATC, CSCS

Drug Enforcement Administration
Virginia

Tom Ryan

Wisconsin Athletic Trainers Affiliated
Credentialing Board



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BOC Staff Members

Denise Fandel, MBA, CAE

Executive Director

Kendra Aspegren

Director of Information Technology

Shannon Leftwich, MA, ATC

Director of Credentialing and Regulatory Affairs

Melissa Breazile

Content Coordinator

Dave Gorman

Technical Support Specialist

Lorinda Horst

Credentialing Specialist

Sue Pereira

Administrative Assistant

Cherie Trimberger

Communications Coordinator

Sally Witt

Executive Assistant

Anne Minton, MA

Associate Executive Director

Stephanie Boldt

Director of Finance and Administration

Stacy Arrington

Credentialing Services Manager

Nathan Burns, MS, ATC

Credentialing Program Coordinator

James Higgins

Technical Project Specialist

Mindy Lindquist

Sales and Marketing Manager

Jessica Roberts, MS Ed, ATC

Professional Development Coordinator

Kelli Wilkins, MA, ATC

Compliance Specialist

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.



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION

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