Athletic Training:
Career Overview
What are Certified Athletic Trainers

• Highly educated professionals specializing in the prevention, recognition, management and rehabilitation of athletic related injuries

• Pass the Board of Certification Exam (National Test)
Typical Job Description

• Prevention of athletic injuries
• Evaluation and diagnosis of athletic injuries including immediate care
• Treatment, rehabilitation and reconditioning of athletic injuries
• Organization, administration and professional responsibility
Typical Work Settings

- Secondary Schools
- Colleges and Universities
- Professional Sports
  - NFL, MLB, NBA, WNBA, NHL, MLS and etc.
- Hospitals, Clinics, Physician Offices and Sports Medicine Clinics
- Rehabilitation and Therapy Clinics
- Military and Law Enforcement
- Industrial and Commercial
- Performing Arts
Job Growth Expectations

- Employment is projected to grow much faster than average
- Employment is expected to grow 37% between 2008 and 2018.
You know you want to become an athletic trainer……Now What?
How to become an Athletic Trainer

• Find a college that is accredited
• Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (www.caate.net)
  – Agency responsible for the accreditation of professional programs
• Board of Certification (www.bocatc.org)
  – Sets the standards for the practice of athletic training and is the only accredited certifying body for AT’s
• Continuing Education Units (CEU’s)
  – Required to maintain the ATC certification and to stay up to date with new concepts
Accredited Colleges in Louisiana

- Louisiana College
- Louisiana State University
- McNeese State University
- Nicholls State University
- Southeastern Louisiana University
- University of Louisiana - Lafayette
Accredited Colleges in Louisiana

• Selective Admission
  – Have a minimal GPA
  – Required general education
    • Basic biology and biology lab
  – Complete introductory courses
  – Minimum amount of approved clinical hours
  – Maintain an average GPA once in the program
    • 2.5 or better

• All athletic trainer programs have a set number of spots available each year
What School Fits “Me” Best

• Large School vs. Small School
• Sports at the school
• Travel with the college teams
  – Class schedule
• Travel to clinical sites
• School Costs
• Athletic Training supply costs
Time Commitments

• Any given semester
  • 14-21 hours of classes
  • 5-20 hours of clinical rotations per week

• Typical Schedule
  – 7:30am to 1:00pm Classes
  – 2:00pm to 7:00pm Clinical Rotations
BOC Test

- Board of Certification Test is the “national test” for athletic trainers
- Offered 5 times per year
- Computer based testing
- 3 hours
- Early registration $300; late $375
- Pass rate for first time takers is 51%
Masters

• Multiple Options with ATC credential
• Most of grad school is paid for while covering college sports
• More than 70% ATC’s have a masters degree in a related Sports Medicine field
Questions

If you have any questions about athletic training feel free to call us at 504-864-2127