

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.
- United States Department of Labor:
<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos294.htm>

You know you want to become an athletic trainer.....Now What?



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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

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