Who's taking care of your kids? Certified Athletic Trainers in Secondary Schools

"Health and success in school are interrelated. Schools cannot achieve their primary mission of education if students and staff are not healthy and fit physically, mentally and socially."

- National Association of State Boards of Education

Secondary school principals and administrators want their students to have every possible learning advantage. *Parents expect it.*

Certified athletic trainers (ATCs) provide it.

In a national telephone survey of 1,101 parents of school-aged children, the Center for Health and Health Care in Schools reported that at least 95 percent of parents believed:

- · It's important for schools to provide care in the case of medical emergencies
- · Regular, daily physical activity helps children do better academically
- · Educating students about nutrition and exercise is important

Mind and body are important

In a recent survey of principals and district superintendents, the National Athletic Trainers' Association found that 59 percent of the public secondary schools responding already had enlisted the services of an athletic trainer. Those administrators know certified athletic trainers can educate students about healthy lifestyles and proper nutrition, develop exercise regimens, advise how to prevent illness or injury during physical activity and provide quality, immediate care in case of an injury on the school grounds or at a school-sponsored athletic event.

What other duties do certified athletic trainers perform?

- · Determine an individual's readiness to participate in athletics, spirit groups or band
- · Promote safe and appropriate practice and competition
- · Advise on the selection, fit, function and maintenance of athletic equipment
- · Develop and implement a comprehensive emergency action plan
- Develop injury and illness prevention strategies
- Provide for on-site recognition, evaluation and immediate treatment of illnesses and injuries both acute and catastrophic
- · Facilitate and perform rehabilitation and reconditioning
- · Participate in the development and implementation of a comprehensive athletic health care system

The perfect way to address these needs is to employ a certified athletic trainer. In 1999, the American Medical Association recommended that schools with athletics programs provide the services of an athletic trainer for their student athletes.



Unique Health Care Providers

Now you know the value of a certified athletic trainer in a secondary school setting. Here's how to hire one ...



NATA Career Center Minimal Cost, Maximum Impact

Make the certified athletic trainer your allied health care professional of choice and use the NATA Career Center to locate one today.

The National Athletic Trainers' Association Career Center (www.nata.org/careercenter) is the most visited page on the NATA Web site – and there's a good reason for that! Last year, 3,180 jobs were listed up to 60 days on the site, which accounted for more than 60 percent of the site's nearly 13 million total page views.

The NATA Career Center is the place to advertise if you wish to hire a certified athletic trainer. Ninety-two percent of all certified athletic trainers are members of the NATA. Each of those 30,000 members has access to the Career Center.

Employers may take advantage of special options to maximize their use of the Career Center. You can create an Employer Profile that includes a brief description of the organization, address and a link to the employer's Web site. Employers may search the database for candidate profiles by various criteria, including:

- Job setting
- Geographic location
- · How long resume has been in system
- · Applications by job lists all applications submitted for current or archived jobs
- · Applications by date lists all applications submitted over a date range for current or archived jobs
- · Job statistics shows number of applications, views and e-mail-to-friend clicks

Other resources include:

- · Sample job descriptions
- · Salary information
- · Links to success stories of certified athletic trainers in many health care settings

At just \$200 for a full-time position listing and \$50 for a part-time job listing, the NATA Career Center is truly a bargain. Have access to the largest database of certified athletic trainers for less than the cost of most local newspaper advertisements simply by listing on the NATA Career Center.

Not to be confused with personal trainers, certified athletic trainers are allied health care professionals. More than two-thirds have a master's degree and all have at least a bachelor's degree. Many hold a teaching certificate.



To learn more about certified athletic trainers, contact the National Athletic Trainers' Association at 800-879-6282. To purchase a position listing, visit the NATA Career Center directly at www.nata.org/careercenter and begin your search today.