

SUBCHAPTER VI  
ATHLETIC TRAINERS AFFILIATED  
CREDENTIALING BOARD

**448.95 Definitions.** In this subchapter:

- (1) "Affiliated credentialing board" means the athletic trainers affiliated credentialing board.
- (4) "Athletic trainer" means an individual who engages in athletic training.
- (5) "Athletic training" means doing any of the following:
  - (a) Preventing, recognizing and evaluating injuries or illnesses sustained while participating in physical activity.
  - (b) Managing and administering the initial treatment of injuries or illnesses sustained while participating in physical activity.
  - (c) Giving emergency care or first aid for an injury or illness sustained while participating in physical activity.
  - (d) Rehabilitating and physically reconditioning injuries or illnesses sustained while participating in physical activity.
  - (e) Rehabilitating and physically reconditioning injuries or illnesses that impede or prevent an individual from returning to participation in physical activity, if the individual recently participated in, and intends to return to participation in, physical activity.
  - (f) Establishing or administering risk management, conditioning, and injury prevention programs.
- (5m) "Consulting physician" means a person licensed as a physician under subch. [II](#) who consults with an athletic trainer while the athletic trainer is engaging in athletic training.
- (6) "Licensee" means a person who is licensed as an athletic trainer under this subchapter.
- [448.95\(7\)](#)(7) "Physical activity" means vigorous participation in exercise, sports, games, recreation, wellness, fitness, or employment activities.

**History:** [1999 a. 9](#); [2009 a. 162](#).

**448.951 Use of title.** Except as provided in s. [448.952](#), no person may designate himself or herself as an athletic trainer or use or assume the title "athletic trainer", "licensed athletic trainer", "certified athletic trainer" or "registered athletic trainer" or append to the person's name any other title, letters or designation that represents or may tend to represent the person as an athletic trainer unless the person is licensed under this subchapter.

**History:** [1999 a. 9](#), [185](#).

**448.952 Applicability.** This subchapter does not require a license under this subchapter for any of the following:

- (1) Any person lawfully practicing within the scope of a license, permit, registration or certification granted by this state or the federal government, if the person does not represent himself or herself as an athletic trainer.
- (2) An athletic training student practicing athletic training within the scope of the student's education or training, if he or she clearly indicates that he or she is an athletic training student.
- (3) An athletic trainer who is in this state temporarily with an individual or group that is participating in a specific athletic event or series of athletic events and who is licensed, certified, or registered by another state or country or certified as an athletic trainer by the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification, Inc., or its successor agency.

**History:** [1999 a. 9](#); [2009 a. 162](#).

**448.9525 Duties of affiliated credentialing board.**

- (1) The affiliated credentialing board shall do all of the following:
  - (a) Maintain a complete list of athletic trainers licensed under this subchapter that includes the address of each person on the list.
  - (b) Provide a copy of the list maintained under par. [\(a\)](#) to any person who requests a copy.
  - (c) Prescribe a form for the recording of a protocol required under s. [448.956 \(1\)](#).

(d) Promulgate rules establishing the minimum amount of liability insurance or surety bonding that a licensee must have to be eligible for renewal of his or her license.

(e) Promulgate rules requiring each applicant for a license under this subchapter to submit evidence satisfactory to the affiliated credentialing board that the applicant has current proficiency in the use of an automated external defibrillator achieved through instruction provided by an individual, organization, or institution of higher education approved under s. [46.03 \(38\)](#) to provide such instruction.

(2) Subject to s. [448.956 \(1\)](#), [\(4\)](#) and [\(5\)](#), the affiliated credentialing board and the medical examining board shall jointly promulgate rules relating to the minimum requirements of a protocol required under s. [448.956 \(1\)](#).

**History:** [1999 a. 9](#); [2007 a. 104](#).

Cross-reference: See also chs. [AT 1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), and [5](#), Wis. adm. code.

#### **448.953 Licensure of athletic trainers.**

(1) The affiliated credentialing board shall grant an athletic trainer license to a person who does all of the following:

(a) Submits an application for the license to the department on a form provided by the department.

(b) Pays the fee specified in s. [440.05 \(1\)](#).

(c) Subject to ss. [111.321](#), [111.322](#) and [111.335](#), submits evidence satisfactory to the affiliated credentialing board that he or she does not have an arrest or conviction record.

(d) Subject to ss. [111.321](#), [111.322](#) and [111.335](#), submits evidence satisfactory to the affiliated credentialing board that he or she does not have a history of alcohol or other drug abuse.

(e) Submits evidence satisfactory to the affiliated credentialing board that he or she has received at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

(f) Submits evidence satisfactory to the affiliated credentialing board that he or she has met the requirements for certification established by the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification, Inc., or its successor agency and has passed the certification examination administered by the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification, Inc., or its successor agency.

(g) Provides all of the following information:

1. A statement as to whether the person has been granted an athletic trainer credential from any licensing jurisdiction in the United States or in any foreign country.

2. If the person has been granted an athletic trainer credential from any licensing jurisdiction in the United States or in any foreign country, a description of any disciplinary actions initiated against the person by the licensing jurisdiction that issued the credential.

3. A statement as to whether the person has ever applied for an athletic trainer credential from any licensing jurisdiction in the United States or in any foreign country and had the application denied, along with a description of why the credential application was denied.

(h) Passes an examination under s. [448.954](#).

(i) Submits evidence satisfactory to the affiliated credentialing board that he or she has current proficiency in the use of an automated external defibrillator achieved through instruction provided by an individual, organization, or institution of higher education approved under s. [46.03 \(38\)](#) to provide such instruction.

(2) The affiliated credentialing board may waive the requirements under sub. [\(1\) \(c\)](#) to [\(i\)](#) for an applicant for a license under sub. [\(1\)](#) who establishes to the satisfaction of the affiliated credentialing board all of the following:

(a) That he or she has been issued a credential as an athletic trainer by another licensing jurisdiction in the United States.

(b) That the jurisdiction that issued the credential under par. [\(a\)](#) has requirements for credentialing that are substantially equivalent to the requirements under sub. [\(1\) \(c\)](#) to [\(i\)](#).

(5) An application form for a license under this section shall include all of the following:

(a) An affirmation by the applicant that the information that he or she is supplying on the application is true and complete.

(b) A statement that the applicant authorizes the affiliated credentialing board to have access to any of the following:

1. The applicant's records at the college or university at which he or she received the bachelor's degree required under sub. [\(1\) \(e\)](#).

2. The records of any credentialing authority in any licensing jurisdiction in the United States or in any foreign country that has granted the applicant a credential in athletic training.

**History:** [1999 a. 9](#), [185](#); [2007 a. 104](#); [2009 a. 162](#).

Cross-reference: See also ch. [AT 2](#), Wis. adm. code.

#### **448.954 Examination.**

(1) The affiliated credentialing board shall conduct or arrange for examinations for athletic trainer licensure at least semiannually and at times and places determined by the affiliated credentialing board. Examinations shall consist of written or oral tests, or both, requiring applicants to demonstrate minimum competency in subjects substantially related to athletic training.

(2) In lieu of an examination under sub. (1), the affiliated credentialing board may accept the results of an examination administered by the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification, Inc., or its successor agency.

**History:** [1999 a. 9](#); [2009 a. 162](#).

Cross-reference: See also ch. [AT 2](#), Wis. adm. code.

#### **448.9545 Continuing education.**

(1)

(a) To be eligible for renewal of a license issued under s. [448.953 \(1\)](#) or [\(2\)](#), a licensee shall, during the 2-year period immediately preceding the renewal date specified under s. [440.08 \(2\) \(a\)](#), complete not less than 30 credit hours of continuing education in courses of study approved by the affiliated credentialing board.

(b) No more than 10 credit hours of the continuing education required under par. (a) may be on any of the following subject areas or combination of subject areas:

1. Management.
2. Risk management.
3. Personal growth.
4. Educational techniques.

(2) The affiliated credentialing board may approve any of the following courses for continuing education credit:

(a) A course that has been approved for continuing education credit by the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification, Inc., or its successor agency.

(b) Any course that satisfies all of the following:

1. The course is directly related to the practice of athletic training or sports medicine and lasts at least one hour.
2. Each member of the course faculty has expertise in the subject area of the course because he or she has received a degree from an accredited college or university relating to the subject area, has experience or special training in the subject area covered by the course or has previously taught the subject area covered by the course.
3. The course has specific written objectives describing the goals of the course for the participants.
4. The sponsor of the course keeps attendance records for the course and retains copies of those records for at least 4 years after the date of the course.

**History:** [1999 a. 9](#); [2009 a. 162](#).

Cross-reference: See also ch. [AT 3](#), Wis. adm. code.

#### **448.955 Issuance of license; expiration and renewal.**

(1) The renewal dates for licenses granted under this subchapter are specified under s. [440.08 \(2\) \(a\)](#).

(2) Renewal applications shall be submitted to the department on a form provided, subject to sub. (3), by the department and shall include the renewal fee determined by the department under s. [440.03 \(9\) \(a\)](#) and evidence satisfactory to the affiliated credentialing board that the licensee has all of the following:

(a) Completed, during the 2-year period immediately preceding the renewal date specified in s. [440.08 \(2\) \(a\)](#), the continuing education requirements specified in s. [448.9545](#).

(b) Current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

(c) Liability insurance or a surety bond in at least the minimum amount required by the rules promulgated under s. [448.9525 \(1\) \(d\)](#).

(d) Current proficiency in the use of an automated external defibrillator achieved through instruction provided by an individual, organization, or institution of higher education approved under s. [46.03 \(38\)](#) to provide such instruction.

**(3)** A renewal application form for renewal of a license issued under this subchapter shall include all of the following:

**(a)** A place for the licensee to describe his or her work history, including the average number of hours worked each week, for the 2-year period immediately preceding the renewal date specified in s. [440.08 \(2\) \(a\)](#).

**(c)** A statement, signed by the licensee and the licensee's consulting physician, that a current copy of the protocol required under s. [448.956 \(1\)](#) is on file at the place of employment of the athletic trainer and of the consulting physician.

**History:** [1999 a. 9](#); [2007 a. 20, 104](#); [2009 a. 162](#).

Cross-reference: See also ch. [AT 2](#), Wis. adm. code.

#### **448.956 Practice requirements.**

**(1)**

**(a)** A licensee may engage in athletic training only in accordance with an evaluation and treatment protocol that is established by the athletic trainer and approved by the consulting physician in accordance with the rules promulgated under s. [448.9525 \(2\)](#) and recorded on a protocol form prescribed by the affiliated credentialing board under s. [448.9525 \(1\) \(c\)](#).

**(b)** A licensee shall have a copy of the protocol established under par. [\(a\)](#) at his or her place of employment at all times.

**(c)** A protocol established under par. [\(a\)](#) shall be updated no later than 30 days before the date specified in s. [440.08 \(2\) \(a\) 14f](#).

**(1m)** Subject to sub. [\(1\) \(a\)](#), a licensee may provide athletic training to an individual without a referral, except that a licensee may not provide athletic training as described under s. [448.95 \(5\) \(d\)](#) or [\(e\)](#) in an outpatient rehabilitation setting unless the licensee has obtained a written referral for the individual from a practitioner licensed or certified under subch. [II](#), [III](#), [IV](#), [V](#), or [VII](#) of this chapter; under ch. [446](#); or under s. [441.16 \(2\)](#).

**(2)** In addition to engaging in athletic training under a protocol established under sub. [\(1\)](#), a licensee may do any of the following:

**(a)** Monitor the general behavior and general physical response of a person to treatment and rehabilitation, including monitoring whether the person's behavior or response show abnormal characteristics and monitoring whether the person exhibits abnormal signs or symptoms.

**(b)** Suggest modifications in treatment or rehabilitation of an injured person to the health care practitioner who referred the person to the athletic trainer or to any other health care provider who is providing treatment to the person.

**(c)** Develop and administer an athletic training program for a person. An athletic training program under this paragraph may include providing education and counseling to a person.

**(3)** When working on behalf of his or her employer, a licensee may, in accordance with a protocol established under sub. [\(1\) \(a\)](#), do all of the following:

**(a)** Treat and rehabilitate an injury or illness using cold, heat, light, sound, electricity, exercise, chemicals, or mechanical devices.

**(b)** Evaluate and treat a person for an injury or illness that has not previously been diagnosed.

**(c)** Treat or rehabilitate an employee with an injury or illness that has resulted from an employment activity as directed, supervised, and inspected by a physician, as defined in s. [448.01 \(5\)](#), or by a person licensed under s. [446.02](#), who has the power to direct, decide, and oversee the implementation of the treatment or rehabilitation.

**(4)** If a licensee or the consulting physician of the licensee determines that a patient's medical condition is beyond the scope of practice of the licensee, the licensee shall, in accordance with the protocol established under sub. [\(1\) \(a\)](#), refer the patient to a health care practitioner who is licensed under ch. [446](#) or [447](#) or subch. [II](#), [III](#) or [IV](#) of ch. [448](#) and who can provide appropriate treatment to the patient.

**(5)** A licensee shall modify or terminate treatment of a patient that is not beneficial to a patient or that the patient cannot tolerate.

**History:** [1999 a. 9](#); [2009 a. 162](#).

Cross-reference: See also ch. [AT 4](#), Wis. adm. code.

#### **448.957 Disciplinary proceedings and actions.**

**(1)** Subject to the rules promulgated under s. [440.03 \(1\)](#), the affiliated credentialing board may make investigations and conduct hearings to determine whether a violation of this subchapter or any rule promulgated under this subchapter has occurred.

**(2)** Subject to the rules promulgated under s. [440.03 \(1\)](#), the affiliated credentialing board may reprimand a licensee or may deny, limit, suspend or revoke a license granted under this subchapter if it finds that the applicant or licensee has done any of the following:

**(a)** Made a material misstatement in an application for a license or for renewal of a license.

**(b)** Subject to ss. [111.321](#), [111.322](#) and [111.335](#), been convicted of an offense the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice of athletic training.

**(c)** Advertised in a manner that is false, deceptive or misleading.

**(d)** Advertised, practiced or attempted to practice under another's name.

**(e)** Subject to ss. [111.321](#), [111.322](#) and [111.34](#), practiced athletic training while the applicant's or licensee's ability to practice was impaired by alcohol or other drugs.

**(f)** Engaged in unprofessional or unethical conduct.

**(g)** Engaged in conduct while practicing athletic training that evidences a lack of knowledge or ability to apply professional principles or skills.

**(h)** Failed to cooperate with the affiliated credentialing board in an investigation under this section.

**(i)** Aided another person in violating this subchapter or any rule promulgated under this subchapter.

**(j)** Violated this subchapter or any rule promulgated under this subchapter.

**(3)** In addition to or in lieu of the penalties provided under sub. [\(2\)](#), the affiliated credentialing board may assess against an applicant or licensee a forfeiture of not more than \$10,000 for each violation specified under sub. [\(2\)](#).

**History:** [1999 a. 9.](#)

Cross-reference: See also ch. [AT 5](#), Wis. adm. code.

**448.958 Injunctive relief.** If the affiliated credentialing board has reason to believe that any person is violating this subchapter or any rule promulgated under this subchapter, the affiliated credentialing board, the department, the attorney general or the district attorney of the proper county may investigate and may, in addition to any other remedies, bring an action in the name and on behalf of this state to enjoin the person from the violation.

**History:** [1999 a. 9.](#)

**448.959 Penalties.** Any person who violates this subchapter or any rule promulgated under this subchapter may be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than 9 months or both.