

Regulation of the Athletic Training Profession

THE PROBLEM

Presently, consumers are unable to identify if a practicing Athletic Trainer in Washington State is properly trained and educated, or if that particular Athletic Trainer is in good standing with the state regarding credentialing and disciplinary status.

Athletic Trainers' providing medical services are not receiving a criminal background check-including all school systems.

Consumers harmed by an Athletic Trainer (or by someone who is unqualified to perform the duties and services of an athletic trainer) are unable to report complaints to the state.

Athletic Training voluntary organizations (NATA, WSATA) and national credentialing organization (BOC) can **not** protect Washington State citizens from misrepresentations, malpractice, ethical violations or harm.

There is no method for interagency communication regarding the movement and practice of Athletic Training with Washington State.

Athletic Trainers from another state with a criminal conviction and Athletic Trainers from another state who have had national credentialing and/or state regulation revoked or suspended can work in Washington State.

Individuals convicted of a criminal act within Washington State, or who have had national credentialing revoked or suspended can still practice the profession of Athletic Training.

Someone who has never had proper education in the Athletic Training profession can claim to be, advertise, and work as an Athletic Trainer in Washington State.

THE SOLUTION

Licensure provides requirements for the legal practice of Athletic Training, protects the athletic training title from material misrepresentation, aids in fulfillment of consumer expectations of receiving qualified medical care from properly educated and trained health care providers and provides protection to the public from unqualified Athletic Trainers.