



What Can I Do With a Degree in...

Athletic Training



The Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) is a highly educated and skilled professional specializing in athletic health care. In cooperation with physicians and other allied health personnel, the ATC functions as an integral member of the athletic health care team in secondary schools, colleges and universities, sports medicine clinics, professional sports programs, and other athletic health care settings.

Two options are available to students majoring in Athletic Training.

The Clinical Option is designed for those seeking to become a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC). This degree, also referred to as the **Athletic Training Education Program**, is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE).

The Health & Human Performance Pre-Professional Option prepares students for graduate school in areas of sports medicine including medical school, physician's assistant program, physical therapy or occupational therapy. This option is not accredited by CAATE.

Job Outlook

Employment of athletic trainers is projected to grow much faster than average. Job prospects should be good in the health care industry, but competition is expected for positions with sports teams.

2008-2009 Occupational Outlook Handbook (U.S. Dept. of Labor)

"Employment prospects are excellent for Athletic Trainers."

Career Opportunities in the Sports Industry by Sally Field

Salaries

Salaries vary greatly depending on the specific setting in which the Athletic Trainer works. Athletic Trainers working in schools or colleges may earn salaries ranging from \$25,000 to \$65,000... Athletic Trainers working for professional teams earn from \$25,000 to \$150,000+

Career Opportunities in the Sports Industry by Sally Field

Median annual earnings of wage-and-salary athletic trainers were \$36,560 in May 2006. The middle 50 percent earned between \$28,920 and \$45,690. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$21,940, while the top 10 percent earned more than \$57,580.

2008-2009 Occupational Outlook Handbook (U.S. Dept. of Labor)

The median wage in Oklahoma is \$27,460.

Median wages for large metropolitan areas in our region are...

Denver - \$30,510

Kansas City - \$35,870

Dallas - \$33,500

Salary Facts Handbook, 2008 (JIST Publishing)



Possible Career Paths of Athletic Training Majors

BOC Certified Athletic Trainers Clinical Option (ATEP majors)

Traditional Career Paths

- Professional Athletic Trainer
- University or College Athletic Trainer
- Sports Medicine Clinical Athletic Trainer
- Secondary School Athletic Trainer
- Combination Teacher/Athletic Trainer
- Industrial Athletic Trainer
- Athletic Training Education Programs
- Hospital Setting Athletic Trainer

Alternative Career Paths

- Corporate Health Programs
- Health Clubs
- Clinical & Industrial health care programs
- Performance enhancement
- Research facilities
- Military Branches

Pre-Professional Option

Good Background for

- Physician
- Orthopedic Surgeon
- Physician Assistant
- Physical Therapist
- Exercise Scientist
- Any member of a Sports Medicine team (except Athletic Trainer)

Alternative Career Paths

- Pharmaceutical Sales Representative
- Health Care Administrator
- Health Products Sales Representative

Learn more about Athletic Training
by visiting these websites...



Board of Certification (BOC)

<http://www.bocatc.org/>

**Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training
Education (CAATE)**

<http://www.caate.net/>

Job Descriptions / Occupational Outlook Handbook

Athletic Trainer - <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos294.htm>

Physical Therapist - <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos080.htm>

Physician's Asst. - <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos081.htm>

Surgeon - <http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes291067.htm>

About.com: Sports Medicine

Athletic Training articles...

http://sportsmedicine.about.com/cs/athletic_training/a/

Journal of Athletic Training

<http://www.nata.org/jat/>

Directory of Team Sports

<http://www.50states.com/sports/>

Professional Organizations

National Athletic Trainers' Association

<http://www.nata.org/>

Check out their video page!

<http://www.nata.org/video/>

American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM)

<http://www.acsm.org>

American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)

<http://www.apta.org>

**American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine
(AOSSM)**

<http://www.sportsmed.org>



Will you be marketable when you graduate?



In the Athletic Training (clinical option) students complete at least 1500 hours of directed observation with an OSU affiliated BOC Certified Athletic Trainer. Students develop their clinical skills in injury prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, counseling and education of athletes.

**In addition to these academic requirements,
consider doing the following...**

Investigate and research your career path

As you choose activities and experiences to participate in during college consider what skills and abilities you might develop. To see a detailed list of what skills are need to be an *Athletic Trainer* visit the Occupational Information Network (O*NET®) website at

<http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/29-9091.00>

Students interested in attending graduate or professional school can learn more about the skills needed for the following professionals

Physician / Surgeon

<http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/29-1067.00>

Physician Assistant

<http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/29-1071.00>

Physical Therapist

<http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/29-1123.00>

Join student clubs and organizations

Athletic Training Student Association

This organization promotes the profession of athletic training and provides for the student development of clinical skills and learning opportunities. Professionals in athletic training and allied health professions present at monthly meetings, providing opportunities for interaction with leaders in the field.

Organizations such as the **National Athletic Trainers' Association** (see link to the left) provide students with information about current issues as well as potential networking opportunities. Find out how you can become involved.

Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn

Get online and search for others with similar interests. This is a great way to develop a professional network. Google yourself to see what is out there and remember that anything you post online could be viewed by employers.

Visit your Career Services office!

The College of Education Career Services assists students with all phases of their career development. Services offered include: resume development; job search assistance; career research resources; and preparation for the transition from school to work.

To make an appointment call 744-6350
or email careersuccess@okstate.edu