

Meeting of
THE STATE COMMITTEE
FOR ATHLETIC TRAINING
Friday, May 31, 2024
1411 Broadway and NYSED Remote Conferencing Sites

Mr. Boese called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM .

Introductions and Roster:

Committee Members Present: Trevor Cramer, Courtney Gray, Robert O'Malley, Michael Powers, Douglas Straley, and Medicine Board liaison Dr. Ramanathan Raju.

Members Absent: None

NYSED Staff Present: Stephen Boese, Executive Secretary to the Board; Carla Wells, Education Program Assistant 2; and Lee Fitzgerald, Education Program Assistant 2.

Guests Present: Demitrios Papapetrous of NYSATA.

Motion is made, seconded, and passed to approve the 1/19/2024 meeting minutes.

Executive Secretary Report – Update From OP:

David Hamilton was appointed as the new Deputy Commissioner for the Office of the Professions following the retirement of Sarah Benson. David Hamilton previously served as the Assistant Commissioner for OP. Before that he served OP as the Executive Secretary for the State Boards for Social Work and Mental Health Practitioners, and as Executive Secretary for the State Boards for Physical Therapy, Podiatry, and Ophthalmic Dispensing.

Next week the Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer (BOC) and the State Government will have a meeting to discuss the interstate licensure compact for Athletic Trainers. New York's adoption of such a compact would require a legislative change, signed into law.

Our office is also hoping to work with the New York State Athletic Trainers' Association (NYSATA) to focus on spreading awareness of the new licensure law. The new law will present significant changes in AT scope of practice, supervision requirements, practice settings, and continuing education requirements. It is important to NYSED to inform ATs currently certified in NYS of the upcoming changes.

Leadership Discussion:

Because Athletic Training will soon become a licensed profession, the Committee will appoint a member to serve as Chair. The Committee has voted to recommend Michael Powers serve as Chair for the duration of this year. At the end of 2024 an election will be held for 2025.

Presentation: A brief overview of professional CE policies and procedures:

Lee Fitzgerald and Stephen Boese give a brief presentation on their office's current policy and procedures for reviewing continuing education. Starting in 2027, Athletic Trainers will be required to complete 45 credit hours of continuing education every 3-year registration period. Providers of continuing education must be approved by the New York State Education Department. The committee will need to draft regulation to establish criteria and standards for these providers.

The board office that oversees the Athletic Training Committee also oversees the Board for Veterinary Medicine—Veterinarians are also required to complete 45 credit hours every 3-year registration period. Likewise, Veterinary Technicians must complete 24 credit hours each registration period. The board office is responsible for reviewing and approving providers of education, and is also responsible for enforcing that licensees meet this requirement.

Walkthrough/discussion of first draft regulations for new practice act:

The committee briefly went over initial draft regulations for the new requirements. §52.27 defines acceptable accreditation standards for education—the committee members were comfortable with adhering to the national standard.

§79-7.2 stipulates the education requirement for the Athletic Training license as a bachelor's or higher degree in Athletic Training from either a New-York registered program, or a nationally accredited program. The committee discussed a potential grandfathering option for applicants who may have received their degree before these standards existed, yet still obtained national certification through the BOC. The committee recommended that these applicants who held an active BOC certification should be considered as meeting the education requirement.

Regarding the BOC certification itself, the committee did not see a need for NYSED to oversee/approve eligibility to sit for the exam.

The committee reviewed §79-7.5 pertaining to the new continuing education requirements. Athletic trainers will be required to complete 45 credit hours of CE every 3-year registration period. Licensees will be exempt from the requirement during their first 3-years after initial licensure under the new law.

An adjustment to the requirement can be made with good cause, such as medical hardship or military deployment. Depending on the situation, NYSED may either lower the number of credit

hours required or allow more credits than normal to be performed as “self-study” coursework. The regulation stipulates that under normal circumstances a maximum of 15 credit hours can be taken via self-study coursework.

Other activities that can be counted towards the continuing education requirement include preparing and teaching a course of learning, college coursework, and either obtaining or renewing a specialty training certification.

If a licensee is returning after a lapse in practice, they must present 45 credit hours of CE obtained within the last 3 years at their time of re-registration. If a licensee does not have the credits, they can choose to register under a 1-year Conditional Registration which would allow them to re-register right away and make-up the credit hours after one year.

“Deemed approved” providers of coursework would include National AT organizations, or State AT organizations, affiliates of such organizations, State and National conferences, State Boards, and Higher education institutions.

A \$45 CE fee will be added to AT licensee’s registration renewal fee. Providers of coursework looking to be approved by NYSED must pay a \$900 fee for each 3-year approval period.

There are no regulations beyond what is written in the statute with regards to scope of practice, or practice settings. However, if needed the committee can draft clarifying regulations for these.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 10:30 am.

Meeting is adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Fitzgerald

Education Program Assistant 2