

## **FINAL REGULATIONS**

**Title of Regulation: 18 VAC 85-120-10 et seq.**  
**Regulations Governing the Certification of Athletic Trainers**

**Statutory Authority:** § 54.1-2400 and Chapter 29 (§ 54.1-2900 et.seq.) of Title 54.1 of the  
Code of Virginia

**Effective Date:** June 6, 2001

**Summary:** These regulations protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth by establishing requirements and fees for licensure, renewal of license, reinstatement of a lapsed license for persons practicing as athletic trainers.

**PART I.**

**General Provisions.**

**18 VAC 85-120-10 . Definitions.**

In addition to words and terms defined in § 54.1-2900 of the Code of Virginia, the following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Accredited educational program” means a program in athletic training accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs(CAAHEP) or any other agency approved by the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Board of Certification (NATABOC) for its entry level certification examination or any other organization approved by the board.

“Advisory board” means the Advisory Board on Athletic Training to the board as specified in § 54.1-2957.5 of the Code of Virginia.

“Athletic Trainer or certified athletic trainer” means a person certified by the Virginia Board of Medicine to engage in the practice of athletic training as defined in § 54.1-2900 of the Code of Virginia.

“Board” means the Virginia Board of Medicine.

“NATABOC” means the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Board of Certification.

**18 VAC 85-120-20. Public participation.**

A separate board regulation, 18 VAC 85-10-10 et seq., Public Participation Guidelines, provides for involvement of the public in the development of all regulations of the Virginia Board of Medicine.

**18 VAC 85-120-30. Current name and address.**

Each certificate holder shall furnish the board his current name and address. All notices required by law or by these regulations to be mailed by the board to any such certificate holder shall be validly given when mailed to the latest address given to the board. Any change of name or address shall be furnished to the board within 30 days of such change.

**PART II.**

**Requirements for Certification as an Athletic Trainer.**

**18 VAC 85-120-40. General requirements.**

No person shall practice or hold himself out as practicing as an athletic trainer in the Commonwealth unless certified by the board except as provided in § 54.1-2957.6 of the Code of Virginia.

**18 VAC 85-120-50. Application**

An applicant for certification shall submit the following on forms provided by the board:

1. A completed application and fee as prescribed in 18 VAC 85-120-150;
2. Verification of professional education in athletic training as required in 18 VAC 85-120-60;
3. Verification of professional activity as required on the application form;
4. Documentation of passage of the national examination as required in 18 VAC 85-120-70; and
5. If licensed or certified in any other jurisdiction, documentation of practice as an athletic trainer and verification as to whether there has been any disciplinary action taken or pending in that jurisdiction.

**18 VAC 85-120-60. Educational requirements.**

An applicant for certification shall:

1. Be a graduate of an accredited educational program for athletic trainers; or
2. Have met the educational requirement necessary to hold current credentialing as a

Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) from NATABOC or another credentialing body approved by the board.

**18 VAC 85-120-70. Examination requirements.**

An applicant for a certificate to practice as a certified athletic trainer shall submit to the board written evidence that the applicant has passed the NATABOC entry level examination for athletic trainers, or its equivalent as determined by the board.

**18 VAC 85-120-80. Provisional certification.**

- A. An applicant who is a graduate of an accredited education program or has fulfilled internship educational requirements through NATABOC and who has applied to take the certification examination may be granted a provisional certificate to practice athletic training under the supervision and control of a certified athletic trainer.
- B. The graduate shall submit an application for a provisional certificate to the board for review and approval by the Chair of the Advisory Board on Athletic Training or his designee.
- C. The provisional certificate shall expire one year from issuance or upon certification as an athletic trainer by the board, whichever comes first.

**PART III.**

**Renewal and Reinstatement.**

**18 VAC 85-120-90. Renewal of certificate.**

A. Every certified athletic trainer intending to continue his certification shall biennially in each odd-numbered year in his birth month:

1. Register with the board for renewal of his certification;
2. Pay the prescribed renewal fee at the time he files for renewal; and
3. Attest to current NATABOC certification.

B. An athletic trainer whose certificate has not been renewed by the first day of the month following the month in which renewal is required shall pay a late fee as prescribed in 18 VAC 85-120-150.

**18 VAC 85-120-100. Reinstatement.**

- A. In order to reinstate a certificate which has been lapsed for more than two years, an athletic trainer shall file an application for reinstatement, pay the fee for reinstatement of his certificate as prescribed in 18 VAC 85-120-150, and submit to the board evidence of current certification by NATABOC.
- B. An athletic trainer whose certificate has been revoked by the board and who wishes to be reinstated shall make a new application to the board and payment of the fee for reinstatement of his certificate as prescribed in 18 VAC 85-120-150 pursuant to § 54.1-2921 of the Code of Virginia.

#### **PART IV.**

#### **Standards of Practice.**

#### **18 VAC 85-120-110. Individual responsibilities.**

The certified athletic trainer 's responsibilities are to evaluate the individual being treated, plan the treatment program, administer and document treatment within the limit of his professional knowledge, judgment and skills and in accordance with the practice of athletic training as set forth in § 54.1-2900 of the Code of Virginia.

#### **18 VAC 85-120-120. General responsibilities.**

- A. A certified athletic trainer shall be responsible for the actions of persons engaging in the practice of athletic training under his supervision and direction.
- B. A certified athletic trainer shall ensure that noncertified persons under supervision shall not perform those functions that require professional judgment or discretion in the practice of athletic training.

**18 VAC 85-120-130. Supervisory responsibilities.**

- A. The certified athletic trainer supervising the practice of persons holding a provisional certificate issued by the board shall develop a written protocol with the provisional certificate holder to include but not be limited to the following:
1. Provisions for periodic review and evaluation of services being provided, including a review of outcomes for individuals being treated; and
  2. Guidelines for availability and ongoing communications proportionate to such factors as practice setting, acuity of population being served, and experience of the provisional certificate holder.

B. The certified athletic trainer supervising the practice of student athletic trainers shall:

1. Provide daily, on-site supervision and shall plan, direct, advise and evaluate the performance and experience of the student trainer.

2. Delegate only non-discretionary tasks which are appropriate to the level of competency and experience of the student athletic trainer, practice setting and acuity of population being served.

**18 VAC 85-120-140. Violations.**

Violations of Chapter 29 (§ 54.1-2900 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia may subject a certificate holder to sanctions as set forth in § 54.1-2915 of the Code of Virginia.

**Part V.**

**Fees.**

**18 VAC 85-120-150. Fees.**

A. Unless otherwise provided, fees listed in this section shall not be refundable.

B. The following fees have been adopted by the board:

1. The application fee shall be \$130.
2. The fee for renewal of certification shall be \$135 and shall be due in the licensee's birth month, in each odd-numbered year.
3. A fee of \$50 for processing a late renewal within one renewal cycle shall be paid in addition to the renewal fee.
4. The fee for reinstatement of a certificate that has expired for two or more years shall be \$180 and shall be submitted with an application for reinstatement.
5. The fee for reinstatement of a certificate pursuant to § 54.1-2921 of the Code of Virginia shall be \$2,000.
6. The fee for a duplicate renewal certificate shall be \$5, and the fee for a duplicate wall certificate shall be \$15.

7. The fee for a returned check shall be \$25.
  
8. The fee for a letter of verification to another jurisdiction shall be \$10.

## **Certification**

*I certify that this regulation is full, true, and correctly dated.*

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William L. Harp, M.D.  
Executive Director  
Virginia Board of Medicine

Date: \_\_\_\_\_