

# Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services

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## ATHLETIC TRAINERS AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD EVALUATION AND TREATMENT PROTOCOL

A licensee may engage in athletic training only in accordance with an evaluation and treatment protocol that is established by the athletic trainer in accordance with the rules promulgated under Wis. Stat. § [448.9525\(2\)](#) and recorded on a protocol form prescribed by the affiliated credentialing board under § [448.9525\(1\)\(c\)](#). This protocol form is to be completed by the licensee and must be typed or printed except where a signature is required. **Please do not return this form to the Department of Safety and Professional Services.**

If a 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; or who holds a compact privilege under subch. [X](#) of ch. 448 and who can provide appropriate treatment to the patient. ([Wis. Stat. § 448.956\(4\)](#)).

- The athletic trainer shall modify or terminate treatment of a patient that is not beneficial to a patient or that the patient cannot tolerate ([Wis. Admin. Code § AT 4.02\(3\)](#)).
- A licensee shall have a copy of the completed protocol at his or her place of employment at all times ([Wis. Stat. § 448.956\(1\)\(b\)](#)).
- This protocol shall be updated no later than 30 days before the renewal date (July 1 each even-numbered year) ([Wis. Stat. § 448.956\(1\)\(c\)](#)).

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**Athletic Trainer:** Place a “yes” in the blank in front of the services enumerated below, those evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitative procedures that the athletic trainer may perform in evaluating and treating injuries or illness sustained while participating in physical activity. A “no” shall be put in the blank in front of the evaluation, treatment, or rehabilitative procedures that the athletic trainer should not perform in the evaluation and treatment of injuries or illness sustained while participating in physical activity.

- \_\_\_\_\_ (1) Taking a basic medical history when necessary for evaluation and treatment of the injuries or illness sustained while participating in physical activity that may include, previous medical history, previous surgical history, pertinent family medical history, current medication history including known drug allergies, relevant social history, chief medical complaint, and history of the present injury or illness for which the person to be treated is seeking evaluation and treatment ([Wis. Admin. Code § AT 4.01\(1\)](#)).
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Evaluating an injury or illness sustained while participating in physical activity. An evaluation may include any of the following procedures: ([Wis. Admin. Code § AT 4.01\(2\)](#)):
- \_\_\_\_\_ Palpation
  - \_\_\_\_\_ General observation
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Motion assessment
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Muscle strength tests
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Endurance tests
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Neurological assessment
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Joint play assessment
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Functional evaluation
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Objective physical measurement
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Circulatory assessment

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- \_\_\_\_\_ (3) Treating an injury or illness sustained while participating in physical activity including ([Wis. Admin. Code § AT 4.01\(3\)](#)):
- \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency care
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Ultrasound
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Phonophoresis
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Electrical nerve stimulation
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Iontophoresis
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Specified diathermy
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Intermittent compression
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Traction
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Therapeutic massage
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Moist heat
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Paraffin baths
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Cryotherapy
- \_\_\_\_\_ (4) Rehabilitating an injury or illness sustained while participating in physical activity. Rehabilitation may include any of the following procedures ([Wis. Admin. Code § AT 4.01\(4\)](#)) (Written referral required if in outpatient setting, [Wis. Stat. § 448.956\(1m\)](#)):
- \_\_\_\_\_ Progressive resistance exercise
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Range of motion exercise
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Trigger point therapy
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Joint mobilization for range of motion only
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Proprioceptive neuromuscular facilitation
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Functional exercise
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Cardiovascular exercise
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Aquatic exercise
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Taping, bracing, and splinting.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Isokinetic exercise
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Isometric exercise
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Isotonic exercise
- \_\_\_\_\_ (5) 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 ([Wis. Stat. § 448.95\(5\)\(e\)](#)) with written referral per [Wis. Stat. § 448.956\(1m\)](#).
- \_\_\_\_\_ (6) Establishing or administering risk management, conditioning, and injury prevention programs ([Wis. Stat. § 448.95\(5\)\(f\)](#)).
- \_\_\_\_\_ (7) Administering specifically enumerated drugs ([Wis. Admin. Code § AT 4.01\(5\)](#)).
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- \_\_\_\_\_

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Per [Wis. Stat. § 448.956\(1m\)](#), 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 [§ 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 [§ 441.16\(2\)](#) or from a practitioner who holds a compact privilege under subch. [X](#) or [XI](#) of ch. 448.

In addition to engaging in athletic training under this protocol, a licensed athletic trainer may do any of the following per [Wis. Stat. § 448.956\(2\)](#):

- (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 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.

When working on behalf of his or her employer, a licensed athletic trainer may, in accordance with this protocol do all of the following per [Wis. Stat. § 448.956\(3\)](#):

- (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 [Wis. Stat. § 448.01\(5\)](#), or by a person licensed under [Wis. Stat. § 446.02](#), who has the power to direct, decide, and oversee the implementation of the treatment or rehabilitation.

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## ATHLETIC TRAINER

Full Name  Wisconsin Lic#

Address   
(Current address as it appears on file with DSPS, include street, city, state, and zip code)

Business Phone -- E-mail Address

Athletic Trainer Signature  Date / /   
(Print and Sign Form)

A licensee **must** have a current copy of the completed protocol at the licensee's place of employment at all times.