



REGULATORY UPDATE

A PUBLICATION FROM
THE BOARD
OF CERTIFICATION

SPRING 2016

BOC Becomes Governing Member of FARB

■ *Membership is a step forward for Athletic Trainer representation in the regulatory community.*

The BOC recently became a governing member of Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB), an important milestone in advancing regulatory excellence in the athletic training profession.

Like the BOC, FARB's mission is concerned with public protection. Where the BOC focuses on credentialing programs for healthcare professionals, however, FARB's mission as an association of associations is to "advance excellence in regulation of the professions in the interest of public protection."

BOC Executive Director Denise Fandel said FARB, which represents over 12

million licensed professionals, is a great fit for the BOC.

"Our membership in FARB provides the opportunity to increase the visibility of Athletic Trainers within the regulatory community and partner in broad issues of certification, professional regulation and public policy," Fandel said.

Governing members of FARB are associations of regulatory boards and other not-for-profit associations determined by the FARB Board of Directors to administer programs and services consistent with FARB's tax status and mission of public protection. The benefits of FARB membership extend to all governing member associations' staff, appointed leaders and elected volunteer leaders.

A list of governing members can be found [here](#).

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BOC NEWS IN BRIEF

Annual Exam Report

The annual exam report for the BOC's 2015-2016 testing year has been posted on the [BOC website](#).

Regulatory Network

News affecting Athletic Trainer regulation happens every day. Are you up to speed on changes at the state and federal level? The [BOC State Regulatory Network](#) collects news and provides a space for discussion among peers in the regulatory community. Don't miss it. Sign up or log in today!

Disciplinary Action Exchange

The [Disciplinary Action Exchange \(DAE\)](#) was developed to help the BOC, states and consumers locate disciplinary actions in an efficient manner. The BOC posts all public disciplinary actions that have been deemed public.

We strongly encourage you to participate in the exchange. You can

submit disciplinary actions via the [online submission](#) form, under the Links section of the State Regulatory Network home page.

Communications about Licensure

Did you know the BOC regularly educates exam candidates and newly certified Athletic Trainers about the importance of obtaining a state license or registration?

Because complying with state regulatory requirements is the only route to legal practice, we make sure new and aspiring Athletic Trainers learn how to legally practice in their state, request verification of certification, obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number and keep up on regulatory news.

We are here to help. Please contact us with news affecting Athletic Trainers, and we will boost the signal among this audience.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

National Athletic Trainers' Association 67th Clinical Symposia & AT Expo

June 22-June 25, 2016

Baltimore, Maryland

www.nata.org/annual-meeting

Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) 2016 Annual Educational Conference

September 15-17, 2016

Portland, Oregon

www.clearhq.org/page-1860392

BOC Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference

July 14-15, 2017

Omaha, Nebraska

<http://www.bocatc.org/state-regulation/state-regulatory-conference>

BOC HOLIDAYS

Memorial Day

May 30

Independence Day

July 4

Labor Day

Sept. 5

Thanksgiving

Nov. 24-25

Winter Holiday

Dec. 26, 2016-Jan. 2, 2017

WANTED: Regulatory Conference Proposals

The BOC is now accepting program proposals for the 2017 BOC Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference to be held July 14-15, 2017 in Omaha, Nebraska. We are seeking proposals for general sessions, panel discussions and roundtable topics. For information about past topics, see the [State Regulatory Conference archive](#) on the BOC website.

Please email proposals to Shannon Leftwich, ShannonL@bocatc.org, no later than September 15, 2016.

Proposals should include the following:

- Name and contact information
- Potential speaker(s) and their contact information
- Proposed session length and format
- Brief session description
- Objectives
- Target audience
- Outline draft

Group Discusses Maintenance of Competence

The BOC is dedicated to a quality certification program that helps ATs maintain their competence and use best practices throughout their career. Certification maintenance requirements assure the ATC® credential is a sign of quality. As indicated in the last issue, the BOC is piloting an Athletic Trainer Portfolio system and has commissioned a Maintenance of Competence (MOC) Task Force.

AT Portfolio

Because healthcare is a dynamic field, we continuously seek to provide innovative ways for the AT to develop and maintain competence. A pilot study of a new Athletic Trainer Portfolio system will help ATs identify and design a personalized CE experience.

We have encouraged participants to complete the first 4 steps by the end of April. As of May 3, over 40% have completed the 4th step. The pilot study will conclude December 31, 2017.

MOC Task Force

The MOC Task Force met April 1-2 and discussed the following charges:

- Identifying strategies that allow ATs to demonstrate maintenance of competence beyond accumulation of CE credit alone



Members of the Maintenance of Competence Task Force include, from left, Larry Cooper, John Parsons, Anita James, Eric Fuchs, Gail Samdperil, Tom Woods, Michael Goldenberg, Kim Terrell, Dr. Doug Gregory, Kent Scriber, Stacy Walker, Dr. Jim Kinderknecht and Kitty Newsham.

- Recommending enhancements of the current certification maintenance system, which will allow ATs to maintain their competence through varied educational and assessment activities
- Identifying the components of the self-assessment module(s) and the subject matter areas that can be offered for future CE credit

The task force will continue to meet and will develop a report with recommendations to the BOC Board of Directors.

More Activities Now Count for EBP CEUs

We heard the requests for more ways to earn EBP CEUs, and we are pleased to offer them for the 2016-2017 reporting period. The expanded list will help Athletic Trainers (ATs) receive credit for activities that rely on EBP principles but were not previously counted under this category. Newly-eligible EBP activities are listed at right.

ATs can search the BOC's new [online directory](#) to find all BOC approved home studies and live events, including EBP Category programs. The directory is continuously updated. Complete information on eligible EBP Category programs is available in the [2016-2017 Certification Maintenance Requirements](#) document.

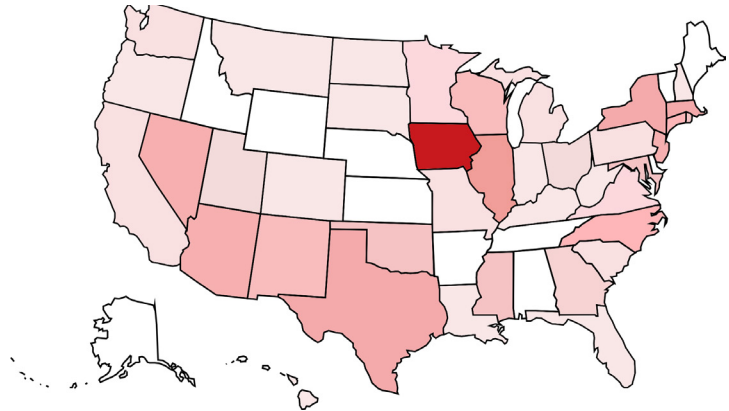
New Ways to Earn EBP CEUs

Qualifying journal quizzes* that were previously counted in Category A
Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Category 1 CME programs offered by BOC Approved Providers
Authorship of a peer-reviewed journal article addressing patient-oriented clinical research or translational research
Post-certification coursework from a CAATE accredited AT post professional program
Accredited medical or healthcare provider residency or fellowship with a focus closely related to athletic training
Graduate of a PhD/EdD/DSc/DAT program may qualify if dissertation has a narrow focus of athletic training

* For journal quizzes to qualify, the journal must be peer-reviewed and published by a BOC Approved Provider. Examples include *Journal of Athletic Training* and *International Journal of Athletic Training and Therapy*.

STATE REGULATORY NEWS

The BOC's involvement with state regulatory action in the first quarter of 2016 includes the states in the table below. States have brought or considered 196 bills that mention athletic training or Athletic Trainers. These states are illustrated in the map at right. At the federal level, 6 bills affecting the profession have been considered. For more information on proposed legislation, please visit the [Regulatory Network](#) and click on the bill using the list or on the state using the map.



State and Bill Number	Action
Arizona	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOC was notified by the Arizona Board of Athletic Training of potential legislation that would, among other items, repeal AT licensure • BOC sent a letter opposing the AT provision of the bill • ATs were successfully taken out of the bill • Licensure remains a requirement for ATs in Arizona
Colorado SB161	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill drafted to keep registration • If bill is not passed, ATs will no longer be regulated as of July 1, 2016 • BOC sent a letter of support of registration • Bill has passed the Senate and moved to the House
Connecticut SB00356	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill drafted to update AT practice act and allow ATs to practice to the full extent of their education and training • BOC sent a letter of support • Bill received a favorable fiscal analysis report
Illinois HB6231 SB2742	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill drafted to update AT practice act and allow ATs to practice in settings not included in the current practice act • BOC sent a letter of support • Unrelated to the bill, the department sent BOC draft of updated rules • BOC reviewed the rules and provided feedback
Minnesota HF3038, SF2609	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill drafted to update AT practice act and to go from registration to licensure • BOC sent letter of support • Bill to be carried over to the next legislative session
Mississippi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated rules were proposed and the BOC provided feedback
New Hampshire HB1213	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill introduced to repeal AT law • BOC sent letter of opposition • The bill failed
North Carolina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill drafted to repeal AT law • BOC sent letter of opposition • Senator Wells replied to our letter with questions, and the BOC responded • Bill has been put on hold for further investigation; with a short session, the bill will likely be revisited in 2017
North Dakota	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board requested assistance with online licensure renewal process • BOC submitted a proposal, which has been accepted
Utah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules were proposed for clarification regarding direction of a physician • BOC submitted a letter to the Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing (DOPL) and its counsel supporting a clarification • It was determined that a rule change was not necessary, but rather a clarification was noted in meeting minutes
Washington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated rules were proposed, and the BOC provided feedback

New BOC Practice Analysis Published

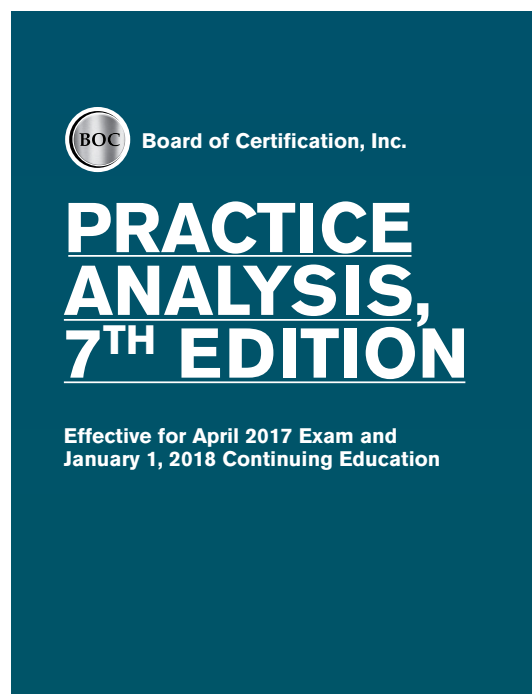
The BOC is pleased to announce a new version of its practice analysis. *BOC Practice Analysis, 7th Edition*, will become effective for BOC exams beginning April 2017 and for continuing education beginning January 1, 2018.

PA7 identifies essential knowledge and skills for the athletic training profession and serves as a blueprint for exam development and continuing competence programming.

The following supporting documents are available at no cost from the [BOC website](#):

- Content Outline for PA7
- Comparison of PA7 to RD/PA6
- How to Use PA7

If you need a full copy of PA7 for regulatory purposes, please contact the BOC office via email: ShannonL@bocatc.org.



[Click for more about PA7](#)

Candidates Will See New Format for Exam Results

The BOC has recently changed the way exam results are shared.

Effective with the March/April 2016 BOC exam, candidates who **pass** the exam will now see an exam result of PASS, not an actual exam score, on the exam results letter.

A passing result on the BOC exam indicates a candidate has met the entry-level standard. As a result, the actual exam score becomes irrelevant once the passing standard has been met. Since the exam is designed to identify individuals who have met a specific threshold, it would be inappropriate to use an exam score to compare passing candidates (e.g., a candidate who scores a 600 is not

necessarily more qualified or competent than a candidate who scores a 550 when the passing standard is 500).

Results will be displayed as follows:

Sample Exam Results for Passing Score		
Exam Window	Candidate ID	Your Exam Result
Month/Year	BOC123456	PASS

Candidates who **fail** the exam will continue to see an exam score.

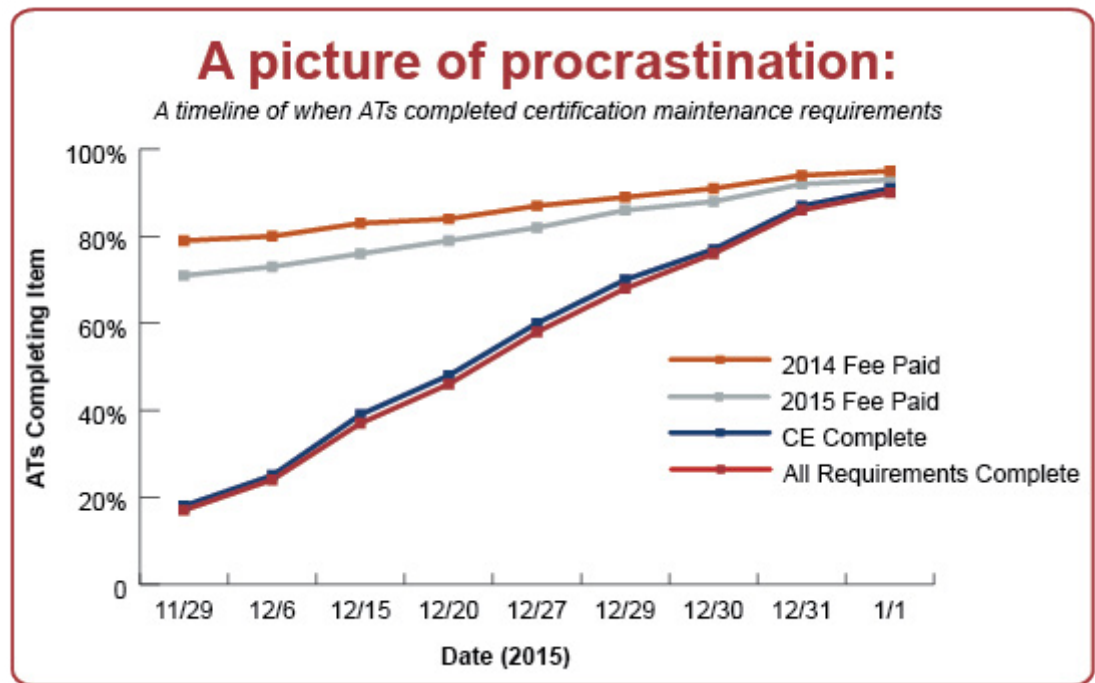
The *BOC Candidate Handbook* and website have both been updated to reflect these changes.

AT Insight: Peak Times for CE Participation

We'd like to share with you a few data points about BOC Certified Athletic Trainers following the December 31, 2015, BOC certification maintenance deadline.

As of March 1, 2016:

- 41,939 ATs with a previous expiration date of December 31, 2015, had completed all of their requirements and now have a December 31, 2017, expiration date (93%)
- 3,108 individuals had an Expired certification status due to not completing 2015 requirements (7%)
- 45,990 individuals were Certified (including 4,051 ATs who earned the BOC certification in 2015 or 2016)



The chart above shows the percentage of ATs who had completed their requirements at certain dates leading up to the December 31, 2015, deadline. As you can see, an overwhelming majority of ATs completed their CE requirements in December, at the tail end of the reporting period.

Updated Standards Document to Be Published

The BOC Board of Directors recently approved an updated version of the *BOC Standards of Professional Practice*, which will be effective September 1, 2016. It will be published in full in the summer edition of *Cert Update*.

The BOC Standards Committee's goal was to streamline the document with the understanding that the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee uses this document to determine practice violations. Last updated in 2006, the new version aligns with other healthcare

professions while maintaining its relevance for Athletic Trainers.

A public comment period was open last fall. The Standards Committee reviewed the feedback and made a few modifications. The *BOC Standards of Professional Practice* is reviewed by the BOC Standards Committee and recommendations are provided to the BOC Board of Directors. The BOC Standards Committee is composed of 5 Athletic Trainer members and 1 Public member.