

**Chapter 246-916 WAC**  
**LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETIC TRAINERS**

Last Update: 6/20/24

**WAC**

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**WAC 246-916-010 Licensure requirements.** To be eligible for licensure, applicants must provide evidence of:

- (1) Completion of an approved educational program as determined in WAC 246-916-020; and
- (2) Attaining a passing score on the examination administered by the board of certification for athletic trainers (BOC) or its predecessor or successor organization as approved by the secretary; and
- (3) Any other written declarations or documentation, as required by the secretary.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.19.050, 18.29.130, 18.29.210, 18.34.120, 18.46.060, 18.55.095, 18.84.040, 18.88B.060, 18.89.050, 18.130.050, 18.138.070, 18.155.040, 18.200.050, 18.205.060, 18.215.040, 18.230.040, 18.240.050, 18.250.020, 18.290.020, 18.360.030, 18.360.070, 70.41.030, 70.230.020, 71.12.670, and 18.108.085. WSR 21-02-002, § 246-916-010, filed 12/23/20, effective 1/23/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.250.020. WSR 08-11-060, § 246-916-010, filed 5/16/08, effective 7/1/08.]

**WAC 246-916-020 Approved educational programs.** The secretary approves:

- (1) Any accredited educational program accepted by the board of certification for the athletic trainer (BOC) as meeting the requirements to sit for the certification examination; or
- (2) Completion of a bachelors or advanced degree attained prior to January 1, 2004, including at a minimum:
  - (a) Course work in:
    - (i) Health, such as, nutrition, drugs/substance abuse, health education, personal health and wellness or a course in pathology or pathophysiology or pharmacology is considered an acceptable substitution;
    - (ii) Human anatomy;
    - (iii) Kinesiology/biomechanics;
    - (iv) Human physiology;
    - (v) Physiology of exercise;
    - (vi) Basic and advanced athletic training; and
  - (b) Completion of an internship with a minimum of 1,500 practical hours under direct supervision of an athletic trainer certified by the BOC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.250.020 and 18.250.060. WSR 16-11-057, § 246-916-020, filed 5/13/16, effective 6/13/16. Statutory Authority:

RCW 18.250.020. WSR 08-11-060, § 246-916-020, filed 5/16/08, effective 7/1/08.]

**WAC 246-916-030 Applicants currently licensed in other states.**

Before licensure may be issued to any individual currently licensed to practice as an athletic trainer in another state, as provided in chapter 18.250 RCW, applicants must provide evidence of:

- (1) Having met the education requirements for licensure as defined in WAC 246-916-020; and
- (2) Attaining a passing score on the examination as defined in WAC 246-916-010; and
- (3) Verification of credential from any state; and
- (4) Any other written declarations or documentation, as required by the secretary.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.19.050, 18.29.130, 18.29.210, 18.34.120, 18.46.060, 18.55.095, 18.84.040, 18.88B.060, 18.89.050, 18.130.050, 18.138.070, 18.155.040, 18.200.050, 18.205.060, 18.215.040, 18.230.040, 18.240.050, 18.250.020, 18.290.020, 18.360.030, 18.360.070, 70.41.030, 70.230.020, 71.12.670, and 18.108.085. WSR 21-02-002, § 246-916-030, filed 12/23/20, effective 1/23/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.250.020. WSR 08-11-060, § 246-916-030, filed 5/16/08, effective 7/1/08.]

**WAC 246-916-040 Inactive license.** A practitioner may obtain an inactive credential. Refer to the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 4.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.250.020. WSR 08-11-060, § 246-916-040, filed 5/16/08, effective 7/1/08.]

**WAC 246-916-050 Expired license.** If the license has expired, the practitioner must meet the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.250.020. WSR 08-11-060, § 246-916-050, filed 5/16/08, effective 7/1/08.]

**WAC 246-916-060 Continuing education.** The goal of continuing education is to promote continued competence, development of current knowledge and skills, and enhancement of professional skills and judgment. Continuing education activities must focus on increasing knowledge, skills, and abilities related to the practice of athletic training.

(1) A licensed athletic trainer shall complete a minimum of 50 hours of continuing education every two years. At least 10 of those hours must include evidence-based practice as outlined in subsection (4) of this section. The remaining hours may be in categories listed in subsection (5) of this section.

(2) A licensed athletic trainer must complete one hour of health equity continuing education every two years. The goal of health equity continuing education is to equip health care workers with the skills to recognize and address health inequities in their daily work.

The minimum standards include instruction on skills to address the structural factors, such as bias, racism, and poverty, that manifest as health inequities. These skills include individual level and system-level intervention, and self-reflection to assess how the licensee's social position can influence their relationship with patients and their communities. These skills enable a health care professional to care effectively for patients from diverse cultures, groups, and communities, varying in race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexuality, religion, age, ability, socioeconomic status, and other categories of identity.

(a) This training must be completed by the end of the first full continuing education reporting period after January 1, 2024, or during the first full continuing education reporting period after initial licensure, whichever is later.

(b) Training must include content as listed in WAC 246-12-830 and RCW 43.70.613.

(c) The hours spent completing the training in health equity under this section will count toward meeting applicable continuing education requirements for athletic trainer license renewal.

(3) A licensed athletic trainer may alternatively meet the requirement of 50 hours of continuing education if they hold a current certification from the board of certification for the athletic trainer (BOC). The required documentation is proof of certification during the two-year period.

(4) At least 10 hours of evidence-based practice must be obtained during the two-year reporting period through any of the following activities:

(a) Complete BOC approved workshops, seminars, conferences, webinars, or home study courses. The required documentation for this activity is a certificate of completion.

(b) Graduate from a Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) accredited post-professional athletic training graduate program. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is an official transcript indicating graduation within the two-year period.

(c) Graduate from a PhD, EdD, DSc program if dissertation has a narrow focus of athletic training. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is an official transcript indicating graduation within the reporting period and a copy of the dissertation.

(d) Present a BOC approved evidence-based practice program. A maximum of 10 hours per evidence-based practice topic may be applied in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is a letter of acknowledgment that includes the date, title, and intended audience from the conference coordinator.

(e) Complete a CAATE accredited athletic trainer residency or fellowship. A maximum of 20 hours per year may be applied in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is a letter from the residency or fellowship director.

(f) Any other evidence-based practice activity as approved by the secretary.

(5) Remaining hours may be obtained through any of the following activities:

(a) BOC approved workshops, seminars, conferences, webinars, or home study courses. The required documentation for this activity is a certificate of completion.

(b) Professional activities.

(i) Speaker at a conference or seminar for health care providers. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied per topic in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is a letter of acknowledgment that includes the date, title, and intended audience from the conference coordinator.

(ii) Panelist at a conference or seminar for health care providers. A maximum of five hours may be applied per topic in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is a letter of acknowledgment that includes the date, title, and intended audience from the conference coordinator.

(iii) Primary author of an article in a nonrefereed journal. A maximum of five hours may be applied per article in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is a copy of the article.

(iv) Author of an article in a refereed journal. A maximum of 15 hours may be applied per article in the two-year period for primary authors. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied per article in the two-year period for secondary authors. The required documentation for this activity is a copy of the article.

(v) Author of an abstract in a refereed journal. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied per abstract in the two-year period for primary authors. A maximum of five hours may be applied per abstract in the two-year period for secondary authors. The required documentation for this activity is a copy of the abstract.

(vi) Author of a published textbook. A maximum of 40 hours may be applied per book in the two-year reporting period for primary authors. A maximum of 20 hours may be applied per book in the two-year reporting period for secondary authors. The required documentation for this activity is a copy of the title page with the publication date.

(vii) Contributing author of a published textbook. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied per book in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is a copy of the title page with the publication date and list of contributors.

(viii) Author of a peer-reviewed or refereed poster presentation. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied per presentation in the two-year period for primary authors. A maximum of five hours may be applied per presentation in the two-year period for secondary authors. The required documentation for this activity is a letter of acknowledgment that includes the date and title of the presentation from the conference coordinator.

(ix) Primary author of published multimedia material, including CD, audio, or video. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied per publication in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is a copy of the publication.

(x) Participating member of clinical research study team. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied in the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is a letter from the principal investigator or a copy of the institutional review board approval with investigators listed.

(xi) Primary author of a home study course. A maximum of 10 hours may be applied per course in the two-year reporting period. The required documentation for this activity is a letter of approval.

(xii) Reviewer of a refereed publication. A maximum of five hours may be applied per review, with a limit of 20 hours applied per two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is a disposition letter.

(xiii) Exam item writer for BOC exam or other health care professional exams. A maximum of five hours may be applied per year of active item writing. The required documentation for this activity is a letter of acknowledgment from the exam company.

(c) Post certification college or university course work. A maximum of 10 continuing education hours per credit hour may be applied during the two-year period. The required documentation for this activity is an official transcript from an accredited college or university.

(d) Activities by non-BOC approved providers.

(i) Workshops, seminars, conferences, webinars that are directly related to athletic training. The required documentation for this activity is verification of attendance.

(ii) Videos, DVDs, audiotapes, multimedia, webinars, home study courses. Each activity must have an examination. The required documentation for this activity is documentation verifying completion.

(6) A licensed athletic trainer shall comply with the requirements of WAC 246-12-170 through 246-12-240.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.040, 18.250.020, 43.70.040, and 43.70.613. WSR 23-22-097, § 246-916-060, filed 10/30/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.250.020 and 2014 c 194. WSR 16-11-053, § 246-916-060, filed 5/13/16, effective 6/13/16.]

**WAC 246-916-065 Athletic trainer suicide prevention education.**

Effective August 1, 2020, a licensed athletic trainer must complete a secretary-approved one-time training that is at least six hours in length for suicide assessment that includes screening, referral, and imminent harm via lethal means elements.

(1) This training must be completed by the end of the first full continuing education reporting period after August 1, 2020, or during the first full continuing education reporting period after initial licensure, whichever is later.

(2) Training accepted by the secretary must be on the department's model list as authorized in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 14.

(3) Training completed between July 23, 2019, and August 1, 2020, that meets the requirements of subsection (2) or (3) of this section, is accepted as meeting the one-time training requirement of this section.

(4) The hours spent completing the training in suicide assessment under this section count toward meeting applicable continuing education requirements for athletic training license renewal.

[Statutory Authority: 2019 c 358. WSR 20-15-031, § 246-916-065, filed 7/7/20, effective 8/7/20.]

**WAC 246-916-070 Medications.** (1) An athletic trainer licensed under chapter 18.250 RCW may, for the practice of athletic training:

(a) Purchase, store, and administer over-the-counter medications as prescribed by an authorized healthcare practitioner;

(b) Purchase, store, and administer medications as prescribed by an authorized healthcare practitioner, if the athletic trainer has completed an accredited training program on the topic of pharmacology and medication administration. The athletic trainer shall only pur-

chase, store, and administer medications in accordance with the accredited training program completed.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Accredited training program on the topic of pharmacology and medication administration" includes:

(i) Coursework on pharmacology and medication administration within an accredited athletic training program approved under WAC 246-916-020;

(ii) Board of certification for the athletic trainer (BOC) approved Category A continuing education on the topic of pharmacology and medication administration;

(iii) BOC approved Category C postcertification college and university coursework on the topic of pharmacology and medication administration;

(iv) Other accredited training programs on the topic of pharmacology and medication administration.

(b) "Over-the-counter medications" has the same meaning as RCW 69.60.020, and also includes vitamins.

(c) "Medications" means legend drugs as defined under RCW 69.41.010, and does not include controlled substances as defined under RCW 69.50.101.

(3) Athletic trainers shall follow other medication limitations and requirements in RCW 18.250.110.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.250.020, 18.250.030, and 2023 c 143. WSR 24-13-115, § 246-916-070, filed 6/20/24, effective 7/21/24.]

**WAC 246-916-990 Athletic trainer fees and renewal cycle. (1)**

Licenses must be renewed every year on the practitioner's birthday as provided in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2.

(2) The following nonrefundable fees will be charged:

<b>Title of Fee</b>	<b>Fee</b>
<b>Original application</b>	
Application	\$115.00
<b>Active license renewal</b>	
Renewal	135.00
Late renewal penalty	70.00
Expired license reactivation	100.00
<b>Inactive license renewal</b>	
Renewal	40.00
Expired license reactivation	40.00
<b>Duplicate license</b>	15.00
<b>Verification of license</b>	25.00

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280. WSR 15-19-149, § 246-916-990, filed 9/22/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250. WSR 08-13-066, § 246-916-990, filed 6/13/08, effective 7/1/08.]