

Certified Athletic Trainers Do It All!

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Certified Athletic Trainers (ATC) are unique health care providers for the physically active. ATC's are multi-skilled practitioners with an advanced science-based bachelor's degree. ATC's commonly work in professional sports, universities/colleges, sports medicine clinics, hospitals, physical therapy clinics, industrial business, military, Olympics, secondary schools, and more.

In order to become an ATC, student(s) or a Student Athletic Trainers (SAT), must obtain a bachelors degree from an accredited athletic training program at a four-year university or college. SAT's study anatomy, physiology, biomechanics, nutrition, pathology, general medical conditions, disabilities, emergency care, pharmacology, risk management, modalities, and medical/legal issues. Along with all these courses, the SAT studies and applies orthopedic evaluation skills, through clinical experiences, which are part of the requirements for graduation. They will use these skills as an ATC to assess injuries and illness. Once this education is completed, over approximately 4-5yrs, the SAT is allowed to sit for the National Athletic Trainers Association Board of Certification (NATABOC) exam. When the SAT passes 3 parts of the NATABOC exam, s/he will be certified as an athletic trainer (ATC). In addition to the national certification a majority of the country requires an ATC to be licensed by the states medical board to practice athletic training.

So, when you hear the call for a trainer or athletic trainer at a sporting event or a game/event on TV you can say, I know now that ATC's do it all! If you are a physically active person, work in a physical environment, and/or an athlete, look around you might have a valuable resource right there in front of you.

Go to this link for a special highlight on how athletic trainers do it all.

http://www.nata.org/working/ecard/nata_presentation.asp?id=testid

For more information on Athletic Training refer to these sites:

NATA website
www.nata.org

MN AT website
www.mnata.com