

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Athletic Trainers Practice Act is
5 amended by changing Sections 3, 4, 13, and 16 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 5/3) (from Ch. 111, par. 7603)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

8 Sec. 3. Definitions. As used in this Act:

9 (1) "Department" means the Department of Financial and
10 Professional Regulation.

11 (2) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and
12 Professional Regulation.

13 (3) "Board" means the Illinois Board of Athletic Trainers
14 appointed by the Secretary.

15 (4) "Licensed athletic trainer" means a person licensed to
16 practice athletic training as defined in this Act and with the
17 specific qualifications set forth in Section 9 of this Act
18 who, upon the direction or consultation of a ~~his or her team~~
19 ~~physician or consulting physician~~, carries out the practice of
20 evaluation, prevention or emergency ~~prevention/emergency~~ care,
21 or physical reconditioning of injuries incurred by athletes
22 ~~participating in an athletic program~~ conducted by an
23 educational institution, professional athletic organization,

1 ~~or~~ sanctioned amateur athletic organization, performing arts
2 setting, clinical setting, or employment setting employing the
3 athletic trainer; or a person who, under the direction of a
4 physician, carries out comparable functions for a health
5 organization-based extramural program of athletic training
6 services for athletes. Specific duties of the athletic trainer
7 include, but are not limited to:

8 A. Supervision of the selection, fitting, and
9 maintenance of protective equipment;

10 B. Provision of assistance to the coaching staff in
11 the development and implementation of conditioning
12 programs;

13 C. Counseling of athletes on nutrition and hygiene;

14 D. Supervision of athletic training facility and
15 inspection of playing facilities;

16 E. Selection and maintenance of athletic training
17 equipment and supplies;

18 F. (Blank); ~~Instruction and supervision of student~~
19 ~~trainer staff;~~

20 G. Coordination with a ~~team~~ physician to provide:

21 (i) pre-competition physical exam and health
22 history updates,

23 (ii) game coverage or phone access to a physician
24 or paramedic,

25 (iii) follow-up injury care,

26 (iv) reconditioning programs, and

1 (v) assistance on all matters pertaining to the
2 health and well-being of athletes;~~;~~

3 H. Provision of on-site injury care and evaluation as
4 well as appropriate transportation, follow-up treatment
5 and reconditioning ~~rehabilitation~~ as necessary for all
6 injuries sustained by athletes in the program;

7 I. With a physician, determination of when an athlete
8 may safely return to full participation post-injury; ~~and~~

9 J. Maintenance of complete and accurate records of all
10 athlete ~~athletic~~ injuries and treatments rendered; and ~~-~~

11 K. Written reports to a referring individual every 30
12 days services are provided.

13 To carry out these functions the athletic trainer is
14 authorized to utilize modalities, including, but not limited
15 to, heat, light, sound, cold, electricity, exercise, or
16 mechanical devices related to care and reconditioning. An
17 athletic trainer may also carry out these functions upon
18 receiving a referral. A licensed athletic trainer shall use
19 "LAT" or "L.A.T." in connection with the athletic trainer's
20 name to denote licensure under this Act.

21 (5) "Referral" means the written authorization for
22 athletic trainer services as provided in paragraph (4)
23 guidance and direction given by a the physician, physician
24 assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, podiatric
25 physician, or dentist, who shall maintain medical supervision
26 of the athlete and makes a diagnosis or verifies that the

1 patient's condition is such that it may be treated by an
2 athletic trainer.

3 (6) "Aide ~~Athletic trainer aide~~" means a person who has
4 received on-the-job training specific to the facility in which
5 he or she is employed, on either a paid or volunteer basis, but
6 is not enrolled in an accredited ~~athletic training~~ curriculum.

7 (7) "Address of record" means the designated address
8 recorded by the Department in the applicant's or licensee's
9 application file or license file as maintained by the
10 Department's licensure maintenance unit. It is the duty of the
11 applicant or licensee to inform the Department of any change
12 of address, and those changes must be made either through the
13 Department's website or by contacting the Department.

14 (8) "Board of Certification" means the Board of
15 Certification for the Athletic Trainer.

16 (9) "Athlete" means a person participating in an activity
17 that requires a level of strength, endurance, flexibility,
18 range of motion, speed, or agility which may include exercise,
19 sports, recreation, wellness, or employment activity.

20 (10) "Physician assistant" means a physician assistant
21 licensed to practice under the Physician Assistant Practice
22 Act of 1987 in accordance with a written collaborative
23 agreement with a physician licensed to practice medicine in
24 all of its branches.

25 (11) "Advanced practice registered nurse" means an
26 advanced practice registered nurse licensed to practice under

1 the Nurse Practice Act.

2 (Source: P.A. 99-469, eff. 8-26-15.)

3 (225 ILCS 5/4) (from Ch. 111, par. 7604)

4 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

5 Sec. 4. Licensure; exempt activities. No person shall
6 provide any of the services set forth in subsection (4) of
7 Section 3 of this Act, or use the title "athletic trainer" or
8 "certified athletic trainer" or "athletic trainer certified"
9 or "licensed athletic trainer" or the letters "LAT", "L.A.T.",
10 "A.T.", "C.A.T.", "A.T.C.", "A.C.T.", or "I.A.T.L." after the
11 athletic trainer's ~~his or her~~ name, unless licensed under this
12 Act.

13 Nothing in this Act shall be construed as preventing or
14 restricting the practice, services, or activities of:

15 (1) Any person licensed or registered in this State by
16 any other law from engaging in the profession or
17 occupation for which he or she is licensed or registered.

18 (2) Any person employed as an athletic trainer by the
19 Government of the United States, if such person provides
20 athletic training solely under the direction or control of
21 the organization by which he or she is employed.

22 (3) Any person pursuing a course of study leading to a
23 degree ~~or certificate~~ in athletic training at an
24 accredited educational program if such activities and
25 services constitute a part of a supervised course of study

1 involving daily personal or verbal contact at the site of
2 supervision between the athletic training student and the
3 licensed athletic trainer who plans, directs, advises, and
4 evaluates the student's athletic training clinical
5 education. The supervising licensed athletic trainer must
6 be on-site where the athletic training clinical education
7 is being obtained. A person meeting the criteria under
8 this paragraph (3) must be designated by a title which
9 clearly indicates his or her status as a student ~~or~~
10 ~~trainee~~.

11 (4) (Blank).

12 (5) The practice of athletic training under the
13 supervision of a licensed athletic trainer by one who has
14 applied in writing to the Department for licensure and has
15 complied with all the provisions of Section 9 except the
16 passing of the examination to be eligible to receive such
17 license. This temporary right to act as an athletic
18 trainer shall expire 3 months after the filing of his or
19 her written application to the Department; when the
20 applicant has been notified of his or her failure to pass
21 the examination authorized by the Department; when the
22 applicant has withdrawn his or her application; when the
23 applicant has received a license from the Department after
24 successfully passing the examination authorized by the
25 Department; or when the applicant has been notified by the
26 Department to cease and desist from practicing, whichever

1 occurs first. This provision shall not apply to an
2 applicant who has previously failed the examination.

3 (6) Any person in a coaching position from rendering
4 emergency care on an as needed basis to the athletes under
5 his or her supervision when a licensed athletic trainer is
6 not available.

7 (7) Any person who is an athletic trainer from another
8 state or territory of the United States or another nation,
9 state, or territory acting as an athletic trainer while
10 performing his or her duties for his or her respective
11 non-Illinois based team or organization, so long as he or
12 she restricts his or her duties to his or her team or
13 organization during the course of his or her team's or
14 organization's stay in this State. For the purposes of
15 this Act, a team shall be considered based in Illinois if
16 its home contests are held in Illinois, regardless of the
17 location of the team's administrative offices.

18 (8) The practice of athletic training by persons
19 licensed in another state who have applied in writing to
20 the Department for licensure by endorsement. This
21 temporary right to act as an athletic trainer shall expire
22 6 months after the filing of his or her written
23 application to the Department; upon the withdrawal of the
24 application for licensure under this Act; upon delivery of
25 a notice of intent to deny the application from the
26 Department; or upon the denial of the application by the

1 Department, whichever occurs first.

2 (9) The practice of athletic training by one who has
3 applied in writing to the Department for licensure and has
4 complied with all the provisions of Section 9. This
5 temporary right to act as an athletic trainer shall expire
6 6 months after the filing of his or her written
7 application to the Department; upon the withdrawal of the
8 application for licensure under this Act; upon delivery of
9 a notice of intent to deny the application from the
10 Department; or upon the denial of the application by the
11 Department, whichever occurs first.

12 (10) The practice of athletic training by persons
13 actively licensed as an athletic trainer in another state
14 or territory of the United States or another country, or
15 currently certified by the Board of Certification, or its
16 successor entity, at a special athletic tournament or
17 event conducted by a sanctioned amateur athletic
18 organization, ~~including, but not limited to, the Prairie~~
19 ~~State Games and the Special Olympics,~~ for no more than 14
20 days. This shall not include contests or events that are
21 part of a scheduled series of regular season events.

22 (11) Aides ~~Athletic trainer aides~~ from performing
23 patient care activities under the on-site supervision of a
24 licensed athletic trainer. These patient care activities
25 shall not include interpretation of referrals or
26 evaluation procedures, planning or major modifications of

1 patient programs, administration of medication, or solo
2 practice or event coverage without immediate access to a
3 licensed athletic trainer.

4 (12) Persons or entities practicing the specified
5 occupations set forth in subsection (a) of, and pursuant
6 to a licensing exemption granted in subsection (b) or (d)
7 of, Section 2105-350 of the Department of Professional
8 Regulation Law of the Civil Administrative Code of
9 Illinois, but only for so long as the 2016 Olympic and
10 Paralympic Games Professional Licensure Exemption Law is
11 operable.

12 (Source: P.A. 99-469, eff. 8-26-15.)

13 (225 ILCS 5/13) (from Ch. 111, par. 7613)

14 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

15 Sec. 13. Endorsement. The Department may, at its
16 discretion, license as an athletic trainer, without
17 examination, on payment of the required fee, an applicant for
18 licensure who is an athletic trainer registered or licensed
19 under the laws of another jurisdiction if the requirements
20 pertaining to athletic trainers in such jurisdiction were at
21 the date of his or her registration or licensure substantially
22 equal to the requirements in force in Illinois on that date or
23 equivalent to the requirements of this Act.

24 An applicant for endorsement who has practiced for 10
25 consecutive years in another jurisdiction shall meet the

1 requirements for licensure by endorsement upon filing an
2 application on forms provided by the Department, paying the
3 required fee, and showing proof of licensure in another
4 jurisdiction for at least 10 consecutive years without
5 discipline by certified verification of licensure from the
6 jurisdiction in which the applicant practiced.

7 Applicants have 3 years from the date of application to
8 complete the application process. If the process has not been
9 completed in 3 years, the application shall be denied, the fee
10 forfeited and the applicant must reapply and meet the
11 requirements in effect at the time of reapplication.

12 (Source: P.A. 99-469, eff. 8-26-15.)

13 (225 ILCS 5/16) (from Ch. 111, par. 7616)

14 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

15 Sec. 16. Grounds for discipline.

16 (1) The Department may refuse to issue or renew, or may
17 revoke, suspend, place on probation, reprimand, or take other
18 disciplinary action as the Department may deem proper,
19 including fines not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation, with
20 regard to any licensee for any one or combination of the
21 following:

22 (A) Material misstatement in furnishing information to
23 the Department;

24 (B) Violations of this Act, or of the rules or
25 regulations promulgated hereunder;

1 (C) Conviction of or plea of guilty to any crime under
2 the Criminal Code of 2012 or the laws of any jurisdiction
3 of the United States that is (i) a felony, (ii) a
4 misdemeanor, an essential element of which is dishonesty,
5 or (iii) of any crime that is directly related to the
6 practice of the profession;

7 (D) Fraud or any misrepresentation in applying for or
8 procuring a license under this Act, or in connection with
9 applying for renewal of a license under this Act;

10 (E) Professional incompetence or gross negligence;

11 (F) Malpractice;

12 (G) Aiding or assisting another person, firm,
13 partnership, or corporation in violating any provision of
14 this Act or rules;

15 (H) Failing, within 60 days, to provide information in
16 response to a written request made by the Department;

17 (I) Engaging in dishonorable, unethical, or
18 unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive,
19 defraud or harm the public;

20 (J) Habitual or excessive use or abuse of drugs
21 defined in law as controlled substances, alcohol, or any
22 other substance that results in the inability to practice
23 with reasonable judgment, skill, or safety;

24 (K) Discipline by another state, unit of government,
25 government agency, the District of Columbia, territory, or
26 foreign nation, if at least one of the grounds for the

1 discipline is the same or substantially equivalent to
2 those set forth herein;

3 (L) Directly or indirectly giving to or receiving from
4 any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or association
5 any fee, commission, rebate, or other form of compensation
6 for any professional services not actually or personally
7 rendered. Nothing in this subparagraph (L) affects any
8 bona fide independent contractor or employment
9 arrangements among health care professionals, health
10 facilities, health care providers, or other entities,
11 except as otherwise prohibited by law. Any employment
12 arrangements may include provisions for compensation,
13 health insurance, pension, or other employment benefits
14 for the provision of services within the scope of the
15 licensee's practice under this Act. Nothing in this
16 subparagraph (L) shall be construed to require an
17 employment arrangement to receive professional fees for
18 services rendered;

19 (M) A finding by the Department that the licensee
20 after having his or her license disciplined has violated
21 the terms of probation;

22 (N) Abandonment of an athlete;

23 (O) Willfully making or filing false records or
24 reports in his or her practice, including but not limited
25 to false records filed with State agencies or departments;

26 (P) Willfully failing to report an instance of

1 suspected child abuse or neglect as required by the Abused
2 and Neglected Child Reporting Act;

3 (Q) Physical illness, including but not limited to
4 deterioration through the aging process, or loss of motor
5 skill that results in the inability to practice the
6 profession with reasonable judgment, skill, or safety;

7 (R) Solicitation of professional services other than
8 by permitted institutional policy;

9 (S) The use of any words, abbreviations, figures or
10 letters with the intention of indicating practice as an
11 athletic trainer without a valid license as an athletic
12 trainer under this Act;

13 (T) The evaluation or treatment of ailments of human
14 beings other than by the practice of athletic training as
15 defined in this Act or the treatment of injuries of
16 athletes by a licensed athletic trainer except by the
17 referral of a physician, physician assistant, advanced
18 practice registered nurse, podiatric physician, or
19 dentist;

20 (U) Willfully violating or knowingly assisting in the
21 violation of any law of this State relating to the use of
22 habit-forming drugs;

23 (V) Willfully violating or knowingly assisting in the
24 violation of any law of this State relating to the
25 practice of abortion;

26 (W) Continued practice by a person knowingly having an

1 infectious communicable or contagious disease;

2 (X) Being named as a perpetrator in an indicated
3 report by the Department of Children and Family Services
4 pursuant to the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act
5 and upon proof by clear and convincing evidence that the
6 licensee has caused a child to be an abused child or
7 neglected child as defined in the Abused and Neglected
8 Child Reporting Act;

9 (X-5) Failure to provide a monthly report on the
10 patient's progress to the referring physician, physician
11 assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, podiatric
12 physician, or dentist;

13 (Y) (Blank);

14 (Z) Failure to fulfill continuing education
15 requirements;

16 (AA) Allowing one's license under this Act to be used
17 by an unlicensed person in violation of this Act;

18 (BB) Practicing under a false or, except as provided
19 by law, assumed name;

20 (CC) Promotion of the sale of drugs, devices,
21 appliances, or goods provided in any manner to exploit the
22 client for the financial gain of the licensee;

23 (DD) Gross, willful, or continued overcharging for
24 professional services;

25 (EE) Mental illness or disability that results in the
26 inability to practice under this Act with reasonable

1 judgment, skill, or safety; ~~or~~

2 (FF) Cheating on or attempting to subvert the
3 licensing examination administered under this Act;~~;~~

4 (GG) Violation of the Health Care Worker Self-Referral
5 Act; or

6 (HH) Failure by a supervising athletic trainer of an
7 aide to maintain contact, including personal supervision
8 and instruction, to ensure the safety and welfare of an
9 athlete.

10 All fines imposed under this Section shall be paid within
11 60 days after the effective date of the order imposing the fine
12 or in accordance with the terms set forth in the order imposing
13 the fine.

14 (2) The determination by a circuit court that a licensee
15 is subject to involuntary admission or judicial admission as
16 provided in the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities
17 Code operates as an automatic suspension. Such suspension will
18 end only upon a finding by a court that the licensee is no
19 longer subject to involuntary admission or judicial admission
20 and issuance of an order so finding and discharging the
21 licensee.

22 (3) The Department may refuse to issue or may suspend
23 without hearing, as provided for in the Code of Civil
24 Procedure, the license of any person who fails to file a
25 return, to pay the tax, penalty, or interest shown in a filed
26 return, or to pay any final assessment of tax, penalty, or

1 interest as required by any tax Act administered by the
2 Illinois Department of Revenue, until such time as the
3 requirements of any such tax Act are satisfied in accordance
4 with subsection (a) of Section 2105-15 of the Department of
5 Professional Regulation Law of the Civil Administrative Code
6 of Illinois.

7 (4) In enforcing this Section, the Department, upon a
8 showing of a possible violation, may compel any individual who
9 is licensed under this Act or any individual who has applied
10 for licensure to submit to a mental or physical examination or
11 evaluation, or both, which may include a substance abuse or
12 sexual offender evaluation, at the expense of the Department.
13 The Department shall specifically designate the examining
14 physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches
15 or, if applicable, the multidisciplinary team involved in
16 providing the mental or physical examination and evaluation.
17 The multidisciplinary team shall be led by a physician
18 licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches and may
19 consist of one or more or a combination of physicians licensed
20 to practice medicine in all of its branches, licensed
21 chiropractic physicians, licensed clinical psychologists,
22 licensed clinical social workers, licensed clinical
23 professional counselors, and other professional and
24 administrative staff. Any examining physician or member of the
25 multidisciplinary team may require any person ordered to
26 submit to an examination and evaluation pursuant to this

1 Section to submit to any additional supplemental testing
2 deemed necessary to complete any examination or evaluation
3 process, including, but not limited to, blood testing,
4 urinalysis, psychological testing, or neuropsychological
5 testing.

6 The Department may order the examining physician or any
7 member of the multidisciplinary team to provide to the
8 Department any and all records, including business records,
9 that relate to the examination and evaluation, including any
10 supplemental testing performed. The Department may order the
11 examining physician or any member of the multidisciplinary
12 team to present testimony concerning this examination and
13 evaluation of the licensee or applicant, including testimony
14 concerning any supplemental testing or documents relating to
15 the examination and evaluation. No information, report,
16 record, or other documents in any way related to the
17 examination and evaluation shall be excluded by reason of any
18 common law or statutory privilege relating to communication
19 between the licensee or applicant and the examining physician
20 or any member of the multidisciplinary team. No authorization
21 is necessary from the licensee or applicant ordered to undergo
22 an evaluation and examination for the examining physician or
23 any member of the multidisciplinary team to provide
24 information, reports, records, or other documents or to
25 provide any testimony regarding the examination and
26 evaluation. The individual to be examined may have, at his or

1 her own expense, another physician of his or her choice
2 present during all aspects of the examination.

3 Failure of any individual to submit to a mental or
4 physical examination or evaluation, or both, when directed,
5 shall result in an automatic suspension without hearing, until
6 such time as the individual submits to the examination. If the
7 Department finds a licensee unable to practice because of the
8 reasons set forth in this Section, the Department shall
9 require the licensee to submit to care, counseling, or
10 treatment by physicians approved or designated by the
11 Department as a condition for continued, reinstated, or
12 renewed licensure.

13 When the Secretary immediately suspends a license under
14 this Section, a hearing upon such person's license must be
15 convened by the Department within 15 days after the suspension
16 and completed without appreciable delay. The Department shall
17 have the authority to review the licensee's record of
18 treatment and counseling regarding the impairment to the
19 extent permitted by applicable federal statutes and
20 regulations safeguarding the confidentiality of medical
21 records.

22 Individuals licensed under this Act who are affected under
23 this Section shall be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate
24 to the Department that they can resume practice in compliance
25 with acceptable and prevailing standards under the provisions
26 of their license.

1 (5) (Blank).

2 (6) In cases where the Department of Healthcare and Family
3 Services has previously determined a licensee or a potential
4 licensee is more than 30 days delinquent in the payment of
5 child support and has subsequently certified the delinquency
6 to the Department, the Department may refuse to issue or renew
7 or may revoke or suspend that person's license or may take
8 other disciplinary action against that person based solely
9 upon the certification of delinquency made by the Department
10 of Healthcare and Family Services in accordance with paragraph
11 (5) of subsection (a) of Section 2105-15 of the Department of
12 Professional Regulation Law of the Civil Administrative Code
13 of Illinois.

14 (Source: P.A. 99-469, eff. 8-26-15; 100-872, eff. 8-14-18.)