WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN … ATHLETIC TRAINING

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:
Evaluate, advise, and treat athletes to assist recovery from injury, avoid injury, or maintain peak physical fitness. Their clients include everyone from professional athletes to industrial workers. Recognized by the American Medical Association as allied health professionals, athletic trainers specialize in the prevention, assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation of musculoskeletal injuries. Athletic trainers are often one of the first health care providers on the scene when injuries occur, and therefore must be able to recognize, evaluate, and assess injuries and provide immediate care when needed.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:
A bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university is required for almost all jobs as an athletic trainer. A bachelor’s degree with a major in athletic training from an accredited program is part of the requirement for becoming certified by the Board of Certification (BOC). Athletic trainers may need a master’s or higher degree to be eligible for some positions, especially those in colleges and universities, and to increase their advancement opportunities. Because some positions in high schools involve teaching along with athletic trainer responsibilities, a teaching certificate or license could be required.

EMPLOYERS/INDUSTRIES & SUGGESTED STRATEGY:
Please ask your Career Advisor (CDF) for identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice

Employers/Industries: Athletic Director, Camp Director, Certified Athletic Trainer, Commercial Wellness Center Director, Community Fitness Director, Corporate Health Advisor, Dietitian, Director of Recreation, Exercise Specialist, Fitness Center Director, Personal Trainer, Rehabilitation Specialist, Weight Management Specialist

Suggested Strategies: Individuals should be willing to work in any entry level capacity realizing most people start in low-level positions. Careers in sport and athletics are extremely competitive. Get as much experience as possible while in school through volunteer work, etc. Join professional associations and read their publications, attend their meetings, seminars, and conventions to learn more about the field, as well as to make important contacts for future networking. Earn a graduate or professional degree for increased opportunities. Maintain excellent fitness and athletic proficiency. Learn to relate well to a variety of people from various backgrounds.

STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES: (2006)

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http://online.onetcenter.org  www.bls.gov/oco/
INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

National Athletic Trainers’ Association
Board of Certification
Aerobic and Fitness Association of America
International Sports Science Associations
Medical Fitness Associations
National Strength and Conditioning Associations
New Mexico Athletic Trainers Association
Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers
NATA Education Council
Journal of Athletic Training

http://www.nata.org
http://www.bocatc.org
http://www.afaa.org
http://www.issaonline.org
http://www.medicalfitness.org
http://www.nsca-lift.org
http://www.nmatheretictrainers.org/
http://www.rmata.org/
http://www.nataec.org/
http://www.nata.org/jat/