

Foundational Behaviors of Professional Practice

These basic behaviors permeate every aspect of professional practice, and should be incorporated into instruction in every part of the educational program. The behaviors in this section comprise the application of the common values of the athletic training profession.

Primacy of the Patient

- Recognize sources of conflict of interest that can impact the patient's health
- Know and apply the commonly accepted standards for patient confidentiality
- Provide the best health care available for the patient
- Advocate for the needs of the patient

Teamed Approach to Practice

- Recognize the unique skills and abilities of other health care professionals
- Understand the scope of practice of other health care professionals
- Understand and execute duties within the identified scope of practice for athletic trainers
- Include the patient (and family, where appropriate) in the decision making process
- Demonstrate the ability to work with others in effecting positive patient outcomes

Legal Practice

- Practice athletic training in a legally competent manner
- Recognize the need to document compliance with the laws that govern athletic training
- Understand the consequences of violating the laws that govern athletic training

Ethical Practice

- Understand and comply with the NATA's *Code of Ethics* and the BOC's *Standards of Practice*
- Understand the consequences of violating the NATA's *Code of Ethics* and BOC's *Standards of Practice*
- Understand and comply with other codes of ethics, as applicable.

Advancing Knowledge

- Critically examine the body of knowledge in athletic training and related fields
- Use evidence-based practice as a foundation for the delivery of care
- Understand the connection between continuing education and the improvement of athletic training practice
- Promote the value of research and scholarship in athletic training
- Disseminate new knowledge in athletic training to fellow athletic trainers, patients, other health care professionals, and others as necessary

Cultural Competence

- Understand the cultural differences of patients' attitudes and behaviors toward health care
- Demonstrate knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, and skills necessary to achieve optimal health outcomes for diverse patient populations.
- Demonstrate knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, and skills necessary to work respectfully and effectively with diverse populations and in a diverse work environment

Professionalism

- Advocate for the profession
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- Exhibit compassion and empathy
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication skills

Reference:

National Athletic Trainers' Association (2006) *Athletic Training Educational Competencies* (4th ed.), Dallas, TX