

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1290

S.P. 520

In Senate, March 25, 2025

An Act to Update the Laws Regarding Athletic Trainers

Reference to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford and
Senators: RAFFERTY of York, STEWART of Aroostook, Representative: FOLEY of Wells.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §14356, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 275, §1, is amended
3 to read:

4 **2. ~~Student athletic trainer~~ Athletic training student.** A person fulfilling the
5 requirements for licensure or pursuing a supervised course of study leading to a degree or
6 certificate in athletic training at an accredited or approved educational program if the
7 person is designated by a title that indicates that person's status as a student or trainee;

8 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §14356, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 275, §1, is amended
9 to read:

10 **4. Visiting team.** A person performing athletic training services in the State for an
11 out-of-state team that is in the State for competition at which an athletic trainer licensed
12 under this chapter or a physician is available if these services are performed for no more
13 than 4 14 days at a time or for no more than 30 days a year.

14 **Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §14357, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 402, Pt. JJ, §§4 and
15 5, is further amended to read:

16 **1. Qualifications.** To qualify for a license as an athletic trainer an applicant must:

17 A. Demonstrate that the applicant is trustworthy and competent to engage in practice
18 as an athletic trainer in a manner that safeguards the interests of the public;

19 ~~B. Be a graduate of a college or university approved by the department and have~~
20 ~~successfully completed that college's or university's curriculum in athletic training or~~
21 ~~other curricula acceptable to the department and have completed an athletic training~~
22 ~~education program approved by the National Athletic Trainers' Association or its~~
23 ~~successor or other organization approved by the department or a program of practical~~
24 ~~training in athletic training acceptable to the department; and~~

25 ~~C. Have passed the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification~~
26 ~~examination or be currently certified by the National Athletic Trainers' Association or~~
27 ~~its successor or other organization approved by the department.~~

28 D. Have passed the examination of the Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer
29 or successor organization; and

30 E. Hold a current credential from the Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer or
31 successor organization.

32 **Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §14359, 2nd ¶**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 402, Pt. JJ, §7, is
33 further amended to read:

34 For the purposes of satisfying the continuing education requirements, each application
35 for license renewal must include current certification by the ~~National Athletic Trainers'~~
36 ~~Association or its successor or other organization approved by the department~~ Board of
37 Certification for the Athletic Trainer or successor organization.

38 **Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §14360**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 402, Pt. JJ, §8, is repealed.

39 **Sec. 6. 32 MRSA §14361-A, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 402, Pt. JJ, §10, is
40 amended to read:

4. Unethical conduct. A finding by the National Athletic Trainers' Association's Ethics Committee of a violation of the National Athletic Trainers' Association's Code of Ethics or a finding by the National Athletic Trainers' Association's Board of Certification's Professional Practice and Discipline Committee of a violation of the Board of Certification's Standards of Professional Practice the Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer of a violation of that board's practice standards and code of professional responsibility or findings by successor or other organizations with respect to codes of ethics approved by the department.

SUMMARY

This bill amends the laws governing the licensing and certification of athletic trainers to update references to students and trainees and national trade associations, extend the length of time that out-of-state trainers with visiting sports teams may provide athletic training services from 4 to 14 days and eliminate temporary licensing.