
WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ... **ATHLETIC TRAINING**

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:

UNM's [Athletic Training Education Program](#) describes this occupation as: "a healthcare professional focusing on prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries and illnesses." An athletic trainer can work with all age groups. The [National Athletic Trainers' Association](#) website has more information on this exciting career path.

According to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) website: "Athletic trainers typically do the following:

- Apply protective or injury-preventive devices such as tape, bandages, and braces
- Recognize and evaluate injuries
- Provide first aid or emergency care
- Develop and carry out rehabilitation programs for injured athletes
- Plan and implement comprehensive programs to prevent injury and illness from athletics
- Do administrative tasks, such as keeping records and writing reports on injuries and treatment programs"

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

Most advertised jobs require a minimum of a bachelor's degree. Requirements do vary with each state. In addition, educational institutions (K-12 and colleges and universities) may require a graduate degree, teaching certifications and/or additional educational requirements. Consult [O*Net](#) for more information on the specific KSAs (Knowledge, Skill, Ability) that are needed for athletic training.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO:

The University of New Mexico [Athletic Training Education program](#) offers a Bachelor of Science degree.

INDUSTRIES AND TARGETED EMPLOYERS:

A variety of employers specifically recruit UNM students and alumni. Consult UNM's [Lobo Career Connection](#) for a complete list of employers and current job postings. Speak with a Career Development Facilitator at the [UNM Office of Career Services](#) for help with identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Education (K-12 and Colleges/Universities):

Athletic positions (Directors, Managers), Faculty,

Government:

Recreational departments for city and/or state, federal positions, dieticians,

Private:

Personal Trainers, Rehabilitation Specialists, Fitness or nutrition experts, corporate health employees, commercial health directors/staff

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES

- Consider specializing through a double major, minor, or concentration in another area.
- Gain related professional experience through involvement in internships, student employment, [Co-ops](#), and/or volunteer opportunities.
- Shadow professionals in the field to gain a better understanding of the occupation and to build relationships with professional mentors.
- Build your network and get involved on campus through student organizations and campus events. Find organizations and events at the [Student Activities Center website](#).
- Attend career related campus events such as career fairs, company information sessions, and or career workshops.

- Students who are interested in graduate school should maintain a high undergraduate GPA and develop relationships with faculty and community leaders.
- Speak with mentors and faculty about career opportunities.
- Job leads can be found on your department's website, list-servs, newsletters, and social media sites.

STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES:

ATHLETIC TRAINERS

Location	2012				
	10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
United States	\$26,000	\$33,900	\$42,100	\$51,900	\$64,100
New Mexico	\$17,800	\$20,100	\$31,900	\$44,500	\$57,800

*Data obtained from Career One Stop (www.careerinfonet.org)

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

National Athletic Trainers' Association	http://www.nata.org
Board of Certification	http://www.bocatc.org
Aerobic and Fitness Association of America	http://www.afa.org
International Sports Science Associations	http://www.wissaaonline.org
Medical Fitness Associations	http://www.medicalfitness.org
National Strength and Conditioning Associations	http://www.nscf-lift.org
New Mexico Athletic Trainers Association	http://www.nmathletictrainers.org/
Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers	http://www.rmata.org/
NATA Education Council	http://www.nataec.org/
Journal of Athletic Training	http://www.nata.org/jat/



<http://onetonline.org>



www.bls.gov/oco/

Resources:

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition*, Athletic Trainers, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/athletic-trainers.htm> (visited September 25, 2013).