

CHAPTER 2020-29

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 226

An act relating to athletic trainers; amending s. 468.701, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “athletic trainer”; deleting a requirement that is relocated to another section; amending s. 468.707, F.S.; revising athletic trainer licensure requirements; amending s. 468.711, F.S.; requiring certain licensees to maintain certification in good standing without lapse as a condition of renewal of their athletic trainer licenses; amending s. 468.713, F.S.; requiring that an athletic trainer work within a specified scope of practice; relocating an existing requirement that was stricken from another section; amending s. 468.723, F.S.; requiring the direct supervision of an athletic training student to be in accordance with rules adopted by the Board of Athletic Training; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 468.701, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.701 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(1) “Athletic trainer” means a person licensed under this part who has met the requirements ~~of under~~ this part, including the education requirements established ~~as set forth~~ by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education or its successor organization and necessary credentials from the Board of Certification. ~~An individual who is licensed as an athletic trainer may not provide, offer to provide, or represent that he or she is qualified to provide any care or services that he or she lacks the education, training, or experience to provide, or that he or she is otherwise prohibited by law from providing.~~

Section 2. Section 468.707, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.707 Licensure requirements.—Any person desiring to be licensed as an athletic trainer shall apply to the department on a form approved by the department. An applicant shall also provide records or other evidence, as determined by the board, to prove he or she has met the requirements of this section. The department shall license each applicant who:

- (1) Has completed the application form and remitted the required fees.
- (2) ~~For a person who applies on or after July 1, 2016,~~ Has submitted to background screening pursuant to s. 456.0135. The board may require a background screening for an applicant whose license has expired or who is undergoing disciplinary action.
- (3)(a) Has obtained, at a minimum, a bachelor’s baccalaureate ~~or higher~~ degree from a college or university professional athletic training degree

program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education or its successor organization recognized and approved by the United States Department of Education or the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation, approved by the board, or recognized by the Board of Certification, and has passed the national examination to be certified by the Board of Certification; or-

(b)(4) Has obtained, at a minimum, a bachelor's degree, has completed the Board of Certification internship requirements, and holds If graduated before 2004, has a current certification from the Board of Certification.

(4)(5) Has current certification in both cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator set forth in the continuing education requirements as determined by the board pursuant to s. 468.711.

(5)(6) Has completed any other requirements as determined by the department and approved by the board.

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 468.711, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.711 Renewal of license; continuing education.—

(3) If initially licensed after January 1, 1998, the licensee must be currently certified by the Board of Certification or its successor agency and maintain that certification in good standing without lapse.

Section 4. Section 468.713, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.713 Responsibilities of athletic trainers.—

(1) An athletic trainer shall practice under the direction of a physician licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, or otherwise authorized by Florida law to practice medicine. The physician shall communicate his or her direction through oral or written prescriptions or protocols as deemed appropriate by the physician for the provision of services and care by the athletic trainer. An athletic trainer shall provide service or care in the manner dictated by the physician.

(2) An athletic trainer shall work within his or her allowable scope of practice as specified in board rule under s. 468.705. An athletic trainer may not provide, offer to provide, or represent that he or she is qualified to provide any care or services that he or she lacks the education, training, or experience to provide or that he or she is otherwise prohibited by law from providing.

Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 468.723, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.723 Exemptions.—This part does not prohibit ~~prevent~~ or restrict:

(2) An athletic training student acting under the direct supervision of a licensed athletic trainer. For purposes of this subsection, “direct supervision” means the physical presence of an athletic trainer so that the athletic trainer is immediately available to the athletic training student and able to intervene on behalf of the athletic training student. The supervision must comply with board rule in accordance with the standards set forth by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education or its successor.

Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

Approved by the Governor June 18, 2020.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 18, 2020.