



ATHLETIC TRAINER COMPACT

What is the Athletic Trainer Compact?

The Athletic Trainer Compact (AT Compact) is an interstate occupational licensure compact for athletic trainers. Athletic trainers across the United States currently face barriers when trying to provide services in other states because of the disparate and time-intensive licensure policies currently employed by states. The AT Compact facilitates multistate practice by streamlining licensure processes, reducing administrative burdens, and improving public protection through enhanced sharing of disciplinary and investigative information among states. The compact enables eligible athletic trainers to obtain a "compact privilege" to practice in other participating states while maintaining licensure in their state of qualifying licensure.

Interstate Compacts in Other Professions

Interstate Compacts are constitutionally authorized, legally binding, legislatively enacted contracts among states. Including the AT Compact, there are currently 21 occupational licensure compacts available for enactment. Occupational licensure compacts are most common in health care professions including nurses, physicians, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and psychologists, among others. The 21 occupational licensure compacts represent over 400 enactments in 51 states and territories.

Compact Benefits

Benefits for Practitioners

- Enables and provides a uniform process to practice in other compact member states
- Expands employment opportunities into new markets.
- Eases the burden of applying for and maintaining multiple licenses.
- Supports relocating military spouses and families.

Benefits for Licensing Authorities

- Reduces administrative burdens.
- Creates a compact data system which enables the exchange of athletic trainer licensure and discipline information.
- Facilitates cooperation among state licensure boards on investigations and disputes
- Allows regulators to retain jurisdiction over licensees practicing in their state.

Benefits for States

- Promotes workforce development and strengthens labor markets.
- Preserves state sovereignty

Benefits for Patients

- Provides greater access to care for qualified providers.
- Improves continuity of care.
- Enhances availability of telehealth services.

Overview of Athletic Trainer Compact Privileges

The Athletic Trainer Compact enables licensees to practice in other compact member states through a compact privilege. Compact privileges provide licensees the same benefits of licensure while not requiring duplicative continuing education and differing renewal cycles. To qualify for a compact privilege, licensees must meet the requirements of the compact, such as possessing an unrestricted license. Because the compact alleviates the duplication of primary source verification, the authorization to practice in another state can be granted much quicker than other licensure pathways.

Compact privileges can potentially be issued minutes after an application is received. The process is expedited by the compact's shared data system of licensees amongst compact member states. The privilege model is a similar approach other allied health professions have taken including compacts for counselors, dentists and dental hygienists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and PA's.

How does the Athletic Trainer Compact work?

