

When was the last time you read the PATS Code of Ethics or the NATA Code of Ethics? Are you aware that as PATS members, we are obligated to report any violations or unethical behavior? Here are steps for filing a complaint to the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine, Board of Certification, National Athletic Trainers' Association and Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society. If you have any questions about the Code of Ethics, an ethical dilemma or would like to know more information, please contact the PATS Ethics Committee at ethics@gopats.org.

Process for Filing a Complaint Against a Commonwealth Athletic Trainer

If a member of the public (i.e. patient, employer, colleague) believes an athletic trainer has violated one of the state licensure rules and regulations, national certification standards or professional organization's code of ethics, the following steps should be taken if someone has a complaint regarding an athletic trainer in Pennsylvania.

A formal complaint should be completed for all of the following four agencies, in the order listed below, as they relate to different aspects of the athletic trainer's professional career.

If a member of the public (i.e. patient, employer, colleague) believes an athletic trainer has violated one of the state licensure rules and regulations, national certification standards or professional organization's code of ethics, the following steps should be taken if someone has a complaint regarding an athletic trainer in Pennsylvania.

A formal complaint should be completed for all of the following four agencies, in the order listed below, as they relate to different aspects of the athletic trainer's professional career.

- 1) File a [complaint](#) about an athletic trainer licensed by the **Pennsylvania (PA) State Board of Medicine or State Board of Osteopathic Medicine**. Click on 'File a Complaint' and then 'Professional Licensing'.
 - Click [HERE](#) to verify the athletic trainer holds a PA State Board License.
 - View the [PA Athletic Trainer State Credentialing](#) information.
- 2) File a [complaint](#) about an athletic trainer who holds **Board of Certification (BOC)** credentials.
 - Click [HERE](#) to verify the athletic trainer holds BOC credentials.
 - Click [HERE](#) view the BOC Standards of Professional Practice.
 - View [Board of Certification Consumer Complaints](#).
- 3) File a **National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA)** Code of Ethics [complaint](#) about an athletic trainer who is a member of the NATA.
 - View the [NATA Code of Ethics](#).
- 4) *Coming soon!* File a complaint about an athletic trainer who is a member of the **Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATS)**.
 - **NOTE:** A formal complaint **MUST** be filed via the NATA Code of Ethics Complaint Form if a PATS Code of Ethics Complaint Form is being submitted.
 - View the [PATS Code of Ethics](#).

****Contact the PATS Ethics Committee [chairperson](#) if you have a question regarding the process for filing a complaint.

Here is what the page will look like with all the links/extra words:

- 1) File a complaint (*PA State BOM website* - <http://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/Pages/default.aspx>) about an athletic trainer licensed by the **Pennsylvania (PA) State Board of Medicine or State Board of Osteopathic Medicine**. Click on 'File a Complaint' and then 'Professional Licensing'.
 - Click HERE (*PA State BOM license verification webpage hyperlink* <https://www.pals.pa.gov/#/page/search>) to verify the athletic trainer holds a PA State Board License.
 - View the PA Athletic Trainer State Credentialing information. – (*PATS PA State Credentialing page hyperlink*- <http://gopats.org/legisl-info/PA-state-credentialing.htm>)

- 2) File a complaint (*BOC hyperlink* <http://bocatc.org/file-a-complaint/new>) about an athletic trainer who holds **Board of Certification (BOC)** credentials.
 - Click HERE (<https://i7lp.integral7.com/durango/do/pr/prSearch?ownername=boc&channel=boc>) to verify the athletic trainer holds BOC credentials.
 - Click HERE (http://www.bocatc.org/system/document_versions/versions/144/original/boc-standards-of-professional-practice-2018-20180305.pdf?1520264560) to view the BOC Standards of Professional Practice.
 - View Board of Certification Consumer Complaints.(*hyperlink* https://at.bocatc.org/disc_actions)

- 3) File a **National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA)** Code of Ethics complaint <https://www.nata.org/ethics-complaint-form>) about an athletic trainer who is a member of the NATA.
 - View the NATA Code of Ethics (*NATA Code of Ethics hyperlink* <https://www.nata.org/membership/about-membership/member-resources/code-of-ethics>).

- 4) *Coming soon!* File a complaint (*will insert hyperlink to PATS Code of Ethics Complaint form once approved by PA EB*) about an athletic trainer who is a member of the **Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATS)**.
 - **NOTE:** A formal complaint **MUST** be filed via the NATA Code of Ethics Complaint Form if a PATS Code of Ethics Complaint Form is being submitted.
 - View the PATS Code of Ethics (*insert hyperlink to PATS COE – pdf form is on About-Code of Ethics webpage* - http://gopats.org/aboutus/Code_of_Ethics_09-14.pdf)

****Contact the PATS Ethics Committee chairperson if you have a question regarding the process for filing a complaint (*PATS Ethics Committee webpage hyperlink* - <http://gopats.org/governance/committee-ethics.htm>)