The Athletic Training Profession
Board of Certification (BOC) Certified Athletic Trainers (ATC) are Allied Health Care Professionals recognized by the American Medical Association who specialize in the prevention, assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation of injuries to athletes and others engaged in physical activity. The presence of Certified Athletic Trainers is standard practice in professional and intercollegiate sports and mandated in every public high school in Hawai`i. Many other states require an ATC at practices and competitions. Additionally, sports medicine clinics serve the populations not covered by full or part time ATCs and employ ATCs as physician extenders to provide associated rehabilitation and patient care in a team approach with orthopedic surgeons, physician assistants, physical therapists, and other health care professionals. The growth in physical fitness awareness and sport participation emphasizes the need for appropriate health care in junior high schools, high schools, colleges and universities, professional athletic organizations, sports medicine clinics, company based fitness centers, military, and industrial settings. Please visit the National Athletic Trainers’ Association (NATA) website for additional information about careers in athletic training: http://www.nata.org.

Difference between “Entry-Level” and “Post-Professional” Athletic Training Education
Entry-Level Athletic Training Education Programs are accredited by Commission of Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) and designed to provide standardized athletic training education to the students who are interested in becoming ATC. Once admitted to an accredited Entry-Level (Professional) Athletic Training Education Program, students acquire knowledge, hands-on skills, clinical experience, and are eligible for BOC certification. Please visit the Entry-Level Graduate Athletic Training Education Programs at University of Hawai`i at Mānoa for more information.

Post-Professional Athletic Training Education Programs are also accredited by CAATE and designed to prepare current ATCs (or certification eligible) for advanced clinical practice and research, and to become scholars and leaders in the athletic training profession. Students graduating from this specialization are expected to demonstrate advanced knowledge and the capability of conducting research in the area of exercise physiology, biomechanics, human anatomy, and athletic training. Please visit the Post-Professional Athletic Training Education Program at University of Hawai`i at Mānoa for more information.