



The mission of the Ohio Athletic Trainers' Association is to advance and strengthen the profession of Athletic Training while delivering and advocating for high quality healthcare. www.oata.org

As an athletic training student, you may or may not be familiar with the National Provider Identifier (NPI). As a student of health care, and on your way to becoming a health care professional, you should not only know what a NPI is, but should also have one.

What is a NPI?

A NPI is a unique 10-digit identification number used in standard health care transactions. It is issued to health care professionals and covered entities that transmit standard HIPAA electronic transactions (e.g., electronic claims and claim status inquiries). The NPI fulfills a requirement of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). Covered entities under HIPAA are required by regulation to use NPI to identify health care providers in HIPAA standard transactions.

Why should I get a NPI?

- Be a leader! There are approximately 10,500 Athletic Training students in the U.S., and only 14 in the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) at the beginning of the NATA TPR Project.
- The NPI improves recognition as health care professionals – across all settings.
- As of June 2014, it is a requirement to serve on any NATA committee.
- Many employers mandate their employees have a NPI.
- The NPI increases the impact on CMS, national payers, and federal legislators.
- Insurance companies, vendors, and clearinghouses access the NPPES data on a regular basis to ensure they have updated contact information for providers, clinics, and hospitals.
- You only have to register once! This will be your NPI throughout your entire career.

Applying

- While applying for your NPI, you must indicate your taxonomy code.
- The Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Code set is a hierarchical set that includes codes, descriptions, and definitions. They are designed to categorize the type, classification, and/or specialization of health care providers.
- As a student, you will enter 2 Taxonomy Codes to indicate you are a student of athletic training.
- 390200000X Student in an Organized Health Care Education/Training Program and 2255A2300X – Specialist/Technologist – Athletic Trainer

Please go to the following link to applying for a NPI number:

<https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/>



How to apply for an NPI Individual Providers:

As an Individual Provider, you may only have a single NPI, which will be associated with your unique, individual information. Once you login to NPPES, you will be able to complete your NPI application.

1. [Create a Login](#) through the Identity & Access Management System (I&A).
2. Login to NPPES with your I&A Username and password.
3. Complete the NPI application. *Estimated time to complete the NPI application form is 20 minutes.*

You can print and mail a copy of the application (attached) or you can fill out on-line (preferred).

- A. Choose option 1, initial application
- B. Choose option 1, Entity Type - Individual (Yes you are applying individually, not thru your place of employment)
 - a. Fill out Identifying information Home Address for both A & B (You are applying for individual #, so use your home address for both home and business)
- C. Other Provider Identification leave blank
- D. Add Primary Individual Taxonomy Code, click "39 Student in an Organized Health Care Education/Training Program"
- E. Add Secondary Individual Taxonomy Code, click "22 Respiratory, Developmental, Rehabilitative Services Provider", then click "2255A2300X Specialist/Technologist – Athletic Trainer"
 - a. 2. State License / License # / Ohio Section 4: Complete A & B Section 5:
 - b. Contact person is yourself

After Graduation

Upon graduation and the receipt of your certification (and state licensure if applicable), simply log into your NPPES account and remove the 390200000X – Student taxonomy code and set your primary code as "2255A2300X – Athletic Trainer". In addition, update any demographic changes such as address, email, phone, etc. and be sure to maintain accurate information just as you will for your certification and licensure.

If you have any questions, please email Michelle Kahler-Campbell michelle.kahler-campbell@oata.org or Matt Root mroot@aaultman.com and we will respond to you in a timely manner. Thank you for your time and good luck finishing your education and beginning your athletic training career!