

On behalf of the Illinois Athletic Trainers Association (IATA), we request athletic trainers be considered within the first distribution group for the COVID-19 vaccine. The IATA represents more than 2,600 certified athletic trainers in the state of Illinois. Our mission is to represent, engage, and foster the continued growth and development of the athletic training profession and athletic trainers as unique health care providers.

Recognized by the AMA since 1990, athletic trainers are health care professionals who collaborate with physicians to provide preventative services, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention, and rehabilitation of injuries. Athletic trainers are also recognized by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services by being eligible for a National Provider Identifier (NPI). During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, athletic trainers have served on the front lines, providing exceptional service to patients, whether within a traditional health care facility, competitive sports environment, or in the broader community setting. Through a variety of roles, athletic trainers continue to provide support with patient evaluation, screening, testing, transport and documentation, in settings where health care is delivered. This includes repetitive, direct interaction with high-risk populations. It is with this information that we request that you consider and accept athletic trainers within the first distribution group for the COVID-19 vaccine when available through your entity.

Thank you in advance for consideration of this request. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Jordan Anderson, President of the Illinois Athletic Trainers Association at <a href="mailto:I.A.AndersonAT@gmail.com">I.A.AndersonAT@gmail.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Jordan Anderson, MS, ATC

President: Illinois Athletic Trainers Association

