A public hearing will be conducted on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. in the board room at the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, 800 SW Jackson, Lower Level – Suite A, Topeka, Kansas, to consider a proposed amended regulation related to continuing education hours required to renew an athletic trainer license.

This 60-day notice of the public hearing shall constitute a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed amended regulation. All interested parties may submit comments prior to the hearing to Warran D. Wiebe, Deputy General Counsel, at the Board of Healing Arts at the address below, or via e-mail to KSBHA_HealingArts@ks.gov. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity to present their views, orally or in writing, concerning the proposed amended regulation during the public hearing. In order to provide all parties with an opportunity to present their views, it may be necessary to request each participant limit any oral presentations to five minutes.

Copies of the proposed amended regulation and the Economic Impact Statement for the proposed amended regulation may be obtained from the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, 800 SW Jackson, Lower Level – Suite A, Topeka, Kansas 66612, on the agency website at http://www.ksbha.org/publicinformation/publicinformation.shtml, by contacting LeeAnn Hunter-Roach at (785) 296-4502, or by e-mailing the agency at KSBHA_HealingArts@ks.gov.

Any individual with a disability may request accommodation in order to participate in the public hearing and may request the proposed amended regulation being considered and the economic impact statement in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the hearing should be made at least five working days in advance of the hearing by contacting Sheila Rice at (785) 296-8558 or at Sheila.Rice@ks.gov. Individuals with hearing and/or speech disabilities may contact the Kansas Relay Center at 800-766-3777 for communication accommodations. Handicapped parking is located on 8th Street and in the building’s parking garage. From the street, both the west entrance to the building on Jackson Street and the north entrance on 8th Street are accessible.

A summary of the proposed amended regulation and the economic impact follows:
The purpose of this proposed regulation amendment is to eliminate the requirement that athletic trainer licensees participate in at least two categories of annual continuing education listed in this regulation. Beginning in 2022, the national athletic training certification process has eliminated the requirement to complete “evidence-based practice” (“EBP”) continuing education courses. This has resulted in an ever-shrinking market of EBP courses available to Kansas athletic trainer licensees. Eliminating the requirement of two categories of continuing education courses does not change the total hours of continuing education required for license renewal (20 hours each year) or remove credit for EBP courses. This proposed regulation amendment eliminates only the requirement that continuing education courses must be completed in at least two categories, which in the past has generally included completing at least one course in the EBP category.

There are no expected costs associated with this proposed regulation amendment other than the costs associated with promulgating this regulation. The agency receives zero revenue and has no costs associated with continuing education.

This proposed regulation amendment was developed during publicly noticed open meetings of the Board, and the Board is following all notice and open meeting hearing requirements associated with promulgating regulations, which will entail at least 3 more open meetings related to this regulation.

Beginning in 2022, the national credentialing agency for athletic trainers, the Board of Certification (“BOC”), no longer requires athletic trainers to complete continuing education in the category of evidence-based practice (“EBP”). This has resulted in EBP courses no longer being offered in continuing education programs and makes it more difficult and costly for Kansas athletic trainers to attend and complete EBP courses. The Kansas Athletic Trainers’ Society (“KATS”) and members of the Board’s Athletic Trainers’ Council (“AT Council”) asked the Board to consider the new national standard and not require Kansas athletic trainers to complete EBP continuing education courses. These issues were discussed at open meetings of the AT Council in November 2021 and February 2022. The proposed regulation amendment was discussed and approved by the Board at its open meeting in February 2022.

(See economic impact statement.)