



October 1, 2016

Secondary School Athletic Trainers and Athletic Administrators,

As part of our initiative to promote sports safety at the secondary school level, the New York State Athletic Trainers' Association (NYSATA) is extending its funding program for New York state secondary schools to apply for the [NATA Safe Sports School Award](#) (SSSA). In 2015-2016, the funding program helped gain national recognition for nine NYS secondary schools, increasing the total number of Safe Sports School Award recipients to fifteen in New York – doubling our number in just one year!

The extension of the SSSA funding is part of NYSATA's 4th annual **Athletic Training Recognition Week, which will run from Friday, October 14 through Sunday, October 23, 2016**. This event, held each fall, is an opportunity for schools and organizations to bring attention to their current efforts in providing sports safety, as well as to promote public awareness of its importance.

NYSATA would like to help honor our secondary school athletic trainers by continuing to provide this exciting opportunity. **NYSATA will offer funding for the first five complete and successfully submitted Safe Sports School Award applications to the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) in 2016-2017.** The Safe Sports School Award is an NATA initiative to promote youth athlete safety, injury prevention, as well as athlete and parent education among secondary schools.

The Safe Sports School Award application can be found through the following link:

<http://www.nata.org/safe-sports-school-award>. Be sure to submit your application as early as possible to ensure your opportunity for funding.

In reaching out to our secondary school athletic trainers for feedback as to why more schools don't apply for the Award, the overwhelming response was that the application process was cost prohibitive. NYSATA knows there are numerous secondary schools in our state that provide an excellent standard of care to our young athletes and wanted to provide an opportunity for them to receive the recognition they deserve. Read about how the funding program helped to get well-deserved national recognition for NYS schools in 2015-2016: [NYSATA Congratulates Newest Safe Sports School Award Honorees in NYS](#).

If you have any questions, please contact NYSATA's Secondary School Committee Chair, Jarett Rhoads, MEd, ATC, CSCS, at SecSchool@gonysata2.org.