

The background features a dark blue gradient with faint, light blue circular patterns and a scale. The scale is a large arc on the left side, with numbers ranging from 150 to 260 in increments of 10. There are also several smaller circular elements, some with arrows indicating rotation, scattered across the background.

THE 14 LEGAL DUTIES OF AN ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATOR

LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY, RISK MANAGEMENT, AND
STUDENT SAFETY

DUTY OF CARE

- Act as a reasonably prudent professional would under similar circumstances.
- Real-World Example:
 - Ensuring all athletic decisions align with district safety policies and best practices.

DUTY TO SUPERVISE

- Provide appropriate supervision before, during, and after activities.
- Real-World Example:
 - Assigning staff to supervise locker rooms, buses, and sidelines at events.

DUTY TO PROVIDE SAFE FACILITIES

- Ensure facilities are properly maintained and safe for use.
- Real-World Example:
 - Closing a gym floor with water damage until repairs are completed.

DUTY TO PROVIDE SAFE EQUIPMENT

- Ensure equipment is appropriate, maintained, and properly fitted.
- Real-World Example:
 - Removing cracked helmets and reconditioning protective gear annually.

DUTY TO WARN OF INHERENT RISKS

- Inform participants of foreseeable risks associated with activities.
- Real-World Example:
 - Conducting preseason meetings explaining sport-specific injury risks.

DUTY TO PROVIDE PROPER INSTRUCTION

- Teach skills and techniques using sound, accepted methods.
- Real-World Example:
 - Prohibiting unsafe drills and requiring use of approved coaching techniques.

DUTY TO MATCH ATHLETES APPROPRIATELY

- Match participants by size, skill, age, and experience when appropriate.
- Real-World Example:
 - Separating wrestlers by weight class and football players by experience level.

DUTY TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE CONDITIONING

- Ensure athletes are physically prepared for participation.
- Real-World Example:
 - Requiring preseason conditioning before allowing full-contact practices.

DUTY TO EVALUATE ATHLETES FOR INJURY OR ILLNESS

- Identify injuries and restrict participation when necessary.
- Real-World Example:
 - Holding injured athletes out until medical clearance is provided.

DUTY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY CARE

- Have emergency action plans and respond appropriately to injuries.
- Real-World Example:
 - Ensuring AEDs are accessible and staff are trained in emergency response.

DUTY TO DEVELOP AND ENFORCE RULES

- Establish, communicate, and enforce rules and expectations.
- Real-World Example:
 - Enforcing eligibility rules and codes of conduct consistently.

DUTY TO EVALUATE COACHES

- Ensure coaches are qualified, trained, and properly supervised.
- Real-World Example:
 - Conducting annual coach evaluations and verifying certifications.

DUTY TO PROTECT FROM SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND ABUSE

- Implement policies and safeguards to protect students.
- Real-World Example:
 - Completing background checks and mandatory reporter training.

DUTY TO KEEP RECORDS

- Maintain accurate documentation related to participation and safety.
- Real-World Example:
 - Keeping physicals, consent forms, injury reports, and training logs.