

## **Technical Standards for Admission and Participation to the Kansas State University Athletic Training Program**

The Athletic Training Program at Kansas State University is a rigorous and intense program that has specific requirements for students to be able to successfully complete the program. The program, through didactic and clinical education, prepares graduates to enter a variety of employment settings and to render health care to a wide spectrum of individuals engaged in physical activity. The technical standards described in this document are set forth to ensure students admitted to the program are (1) knowledgeable of the essential functions of an athletic trainer and as a student training to enter into the profession; (2) are able to fulfill the expected knowledge, skills, and abilities of an entry-level athletic trainer; and therefore (3) meet the expectations of the program's accrediting agency for students in the program: Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education [CAATE]).

Students within the program must fully participate in the program's requirements with or without a reasonable accommodation in order to successfully complete the program. A student who cannot satisfy the requirements without such fundamental alteration may not be admitted and/or permitted to continue in the program. Provided however, compliance with the ability to satisfy the program's technical standards does not guarantee a student's eligibility for the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification examination or that they will, in fact, satisfactorily complete the program.

The student must demonstrate proficiency in targeted skills, required for the athletic training profession, which will be taught over the course of the program. There are four key competency areas involved in Athletic Training Education; 1. Core Competencies, 2. Patient/ Client Care, 3. Prevention, Health Promotion and Wellness, and 4. Health Care Administration. These skills are described in the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education- Standards for Accreditation of Professional Athletic Training Programs, Effective July 1, 2020 (<https://caate.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2020-Standards-Final-2-20-2019.pdf>), and they are used to inform the below listed fundamental requirements of the program. The student must have the requisite abilities, with or without reasonable accommodation(s), to satisfactorily complete the program, as follows:

### **A. Intellectual/ Cognitive Skills and Abilities**

- Assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts, and problem solve to formulate assessment and therapeutic judgement and to be able to distinguish deviations from the norm.
- Comply with administrative, legal and regulatory policies and laws in the classroom and clinical setting.
- Follow written and verbal instructions in a detailed manner.
- Adapt evaluation, diagnostic, and intervention activities in response to the patient's or client's abilities and cultural needs both in the classroom and clinic.
- Engage in self-analysis of one's own knowledge and skills and identify and access appropriate methods for improving areas of identified deficit.

### **B. Motor Skills and Abilities**

- Sustain necessary physical activity level in required classroom and clinical activities (e.g., demonstrate rehabilitation exercises, transfer of patients for evaluation and treatment, lifting and carrying heavy supplies and equipment).
- Move independently to, from, and within the work and educational/clinic setting.
- Provide for one's own personal hygiene.
- Move to be able to perform physical examination using accepted techniques; and to accurately, safely, and efficiently use required equipment and materials during the assessment and treatment of patients, as well as complete all documentation needed (e.g., SOAP notes, reports).
- Provide a safe environment for others by responding quickly to emergency situations in the classroom and/or clinical setting.
- Be responsible for own transportation to academic and clinical placements.

### **C. Communication Skills and Abilities**

- Communicate effectively using oral and written English language.
  - Communicate effectively with patients and colleagues, including individuals from different cultural and social backgrounds; this includes, but is not limited to, the ability to establish rapport with patients and communicate judgements and treatment information effectively.
- Communicate accurately physical examination results and a treatment plan professionally and clearly with patients, families, colleagues, associated staff, and other medical professionals.

### **D. Sensory/Observational Skills and Abilities**

- Visually, physically, and auditorily identify normal and impaired patient conditions.  
Recognize injuries, illness and/or conditions that occur in a wide spectrum of patients/clients who participate in physical activity.

### **E. Behavioral/Social Skills and Abilities – As an Athletic Training Student you will be asked to:**

- Maintain composure and continue to function professionally during periods of high stress.
- Maintain emotional and mental health required for use of intellectual abilities, prompt completion of responsibilities, and development of professional relationship with patients, families, peers, faculty, supervisors, and other medical professionals.
- Adhere to the NATA Code of Ethics.
- Dress professionally.
- Comply with reasonable requests and follow directions from faculty and supervisory authority, and adhere to classroom and clinical policies such as punctuality and attendance.
- Flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing and uncertain clinical situations.
- Affective skills, professional demeanor, and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care.

### **SEEKING ACCOMODATIONS:**

Candidates with disabilities who need classroom or other academic setting accommodations, access to technology, or information about emergency building/campus evacuation processes should contact the Student Access Center and/or their instructor. Services are available to students with a wide range of disabilities including, but not limited to, physical disabilities, medical conditions, learning disabilities, attention deficit

disorder, depression, and anxiety. If you are a student enrolled in campus/online courses through the Manhattan or Olathe campuses, contact the Student Access Center at [accesscenter@k-state.edu](mailto:accesscenter@k-state.edu), 785-532-6441. The Student Access Center will review a candidate's documentation and confirm that the documentation identifies the student as a student with a disability under applicable laws. The Student Access Center reserves the right to request additional documentation.

It is the responsibility of the student to request reasonable accommodations through the Student Access Center and to adhere to Student Access Center procedures. If a student states he/she can meet the technical standards with accommodations, then when the student requests accommodations, Student Access Center will review whether the requested accommodations are reasonable. A review of the requested accommodations will take into account whether the requested accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety or would fundamentally alter the nature of the program to include but not be limited to: all coursework, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to fulfilling the graduation requirements of the program. The decision regarding reasonable accommodations rests with the Student Access Center.

After reading the technical standards as described above, I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards for the Kansas State University Athletic Training Program. I believe to the best of my knowledge that I meet each of these standards with or without reasonable accommodation, and that if I need an accommodation, I understand the process I need to follow to request it. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards, I will not be admitted into the program and if after admission, I may be dismissed from the program.

To indicate your acknowledgment to the above terms, please sign and date below.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_