

**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH SCIENCE, KINESIOLOGY, RECREATION, AND DANCE**

**GRADUATE ATHLETIC TRAINING  
EDUCATION**

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE  
MANUAL**

**UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS**

**January 2009**

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## **FOREWARD**

The Athletic Training Education Program at the University of Arkansas is offered by the Department of Health Science, Kinesiology, Recreation, and Dance. The degree is a Master of Science in Kinesiology with a concentration in athletic training. The Athletic Training Education Program is designed to prepare students for a career in athletic training. This manual was prepared to inform students in the Athletic Training Education Program at the University of Arkansas the regulations for participating in the program.

Students should be aware that athletic training requirements are subject to annual change in order to maintain compliance with University requirements. Therefore, the athletic training education faculty within the Department of Health Science, Kinesiology, Recreation, and Dance (HKRD) reserves the right to implement any changes as deemed necessary by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), and/or the University of Arkansas. Students majoring in athletic training are responsible for current information regarding the program of study. All current information can be located in this manual, the athletic training web site, and the University of Arkansas Graduate Catalog.

### **Equal Opportunity and Sexual Harassment Policy**

The University of Arkansas is committed to non-discrimination and equal opportunity in programs, activities, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, unfavorable discharge from the military, or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era, or other factors prohibited by law. Further, the University of Arkansas is committed to the comprehensive program of Affirmative Action to insure access, equity and fairness in educational programs, related activities and employment for minorities, women, and disabled persons.

All persons comprising the University community have the right to an environment free from sexual, racial or other types of harassment. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If harassment occurs, and if the student chooses not to confront the offender directly, the student should report the offense to the clinical supervisor, to the Program Director of Athletic Training, or the Department Head of HKRD. If the harassment continues and is not resolved, the student should report the situation to the Office of Human Relations, (ADMIN 415-575-2158).

It is the policy of the University of Arkansas to provide a campus environment and workplace free of any sexual harassment, and to resolve complaints of sexual harassment by any member of the University community, including faculty, staff, and students. Each student and employee has a responsibility to maintain the workplace free of sexual harassment. The responsibility of supervisors on campus and at clinical sites, includes discussing this policy with all those supervised, including the warning that false accusations will result in disciplinary action up to and including possible termination from University affiliation. Depending on the situation, faculty and clinical supervisors may be held liable in cases dealing with sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is illegal and will not be tolerated by the University. **See the University Graduate Catalog for further explanation of the Universities Sexual Harassment Policy.**

## **Athletic Training Education Program Personnel**

### **Department Administration:**

**HKRD Department Head, Sharon Hunt, EdD**  
**HKRD Graduate Coordinator, Dean Gorman, PhD**

### **Athletic Training Education Program Faculty:**

**Jeffrey A. Bonacci, DA, ATC/L – Program Director, Clinical Assistant Professor**  
**Gretchen D. Oliver, PhD. ATC/L Clinical Coordinator, Assistant Professor**  
**Al Gordon, MD – Medical Director Athletic Training Education**

### **Approved Clinical Instructors:**

<b>Ms. Julie Cain MS, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>University of Arkansas, Women’s Athletics</b> <b>Head Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Ms. Jennifer Jallo , MS, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>University of Arkansas Women’s Athletics</b> <b>Assistant Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Jeremy Braziel, MS, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>University of Arkansas Women’s Athletics</b> <b>Assistant Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Mr. Dave England, MS, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>University of Arkansas Men’s Athletics</b> <b>Head Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Mr. Mark Haynes, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>Heritage High School</b> <b>Head Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Ms. Dawn Didier, MS, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>University of Arkansas Men’s Athletics</b> <b>Assistant Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Ms. Audrey Stone, MS, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>University of Arkansas</b> <b>Research Assistant</b>
<b>Mr. Jamie Crowley, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>Harbor High School</b> <b>Head Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Mr. Chad Fink, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>Springdale High School</b> <b>Head Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Mr. David Roller, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>Head Athletic Trainer</b> <b>Rogers High School</b>
<b>Mr. James West, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>Bentonville High School</b> <b>Head Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Ms. Laura Wilson, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>Bentonville High School</b> <b>Assistant Athletic Trainer</b>
<b>Mrs. Lucy Evanson, MS, ATC/L.....</b>	<b>Fayetteville High School</b> <b>Head Athletic Trainer</b>

# **University of Arkansas**

## **Athletic Training Education Program**

### **Mission**

It is the mission of the entry-level graduate athletic training program at the University of Arkansas to validate and expand the existing body of knowledge in athletic training through scientific inquiry. Coursework in physiology, current trends, modalities, therapeutic exercise, pharmacology, and others provide the didactic experiences that advance the students' professional training. Clinical practice is provided through assignments in a variety of settings such as the University's NCAA Division I athletic training facilities, local high schools and sports medicine clinics.

The Athletic Training Education Program, guided by the Health Science, Kinesiology, Recreation and Dance Department's mission, seeks to provide a comprehensive athletic training educational program for students that not only meets, but exceeds the educational standards set fourth by its accrediting body. Furthermore, in establishing and implementing its educational program, the faculty and staff recognize the value and importance of providing an educational foundation based upon scientific inquiry, experiential learning opportunities, and conducting on-going program evaluation to maintain a state-of-the-art educational experience for the students.

### **Goals and Objectives**

The Graduate Athletic Training Education Program (GATEP) will prepare students for an entry-level athletic trainer's position through achievement of the following goals and objectives.

#### **Goal 1**

The GATEP is committed to maintaining a CAATE approved entry-level curriculum that educates students through didactic, laboratory, and practical clinical experiences.

- The curriculum will be presented in an organized, sequential, and cumulative manner such that students will learn, develop, and refine their knowledge and clinical skills across the entire six semester program.
- Each didactic course and related laboratory experience will be based on and defined by the specific educational competencies and clinical proficiencies enumerated in the Fourth Edition of the Athletic Training Educational Competencies.
- Supervised and guided clinical experiences will occur each semester and directly relate to the specific educational competencies and clinical proficiencies delivered within the corresponding semester's formal coursework.
- Students will receive opportunities for individualized and on-going evaluation of clinical skill proficiency, both within didactic and laboratory courses as well as during clinical experiences each semester under the supervision of Approved Clinical Instructors.
- The GATEP curriculum will prepare students to sit for the Board of Certification Exam (BOC).

## **Goal 2**

Students will gain an appreciation for the influence and importance of scholarly and scientific inquiry.

- All courses within the Graduate Athletic Training Education Program of Study will promote the development of critical thinking and evaluation skills through the integration of scholarly research.
- Students will complete a self-directed thesis or independent research project with their selected research committee.
- Students will be encouraged to attend research-based conferences.

## **Goal 3**

The GATEP will provide a diverse number of clinical experiences.

- Students will participate in clinical rotations that include experiences with both genders through a variety of age groups, clinical settings, sports, and equipment intensive activities.
- Students will gain appreciation for the diversity among certified athletic trainers by being assigned to a different approved clinical instructor during each semester.
- Students will be exposed to other health care providers including, but not limited to physicians, surgeons, nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, strength and conditioning specialists, nutritionists, sports psychologists, and massage therapists.

## **Goal 4**

The GATEP will promote personal and professional development.

- Students will be encouraged to become members of professional organizations.
- Students will be exposed to professionally pertinent topics and issues through guest speakers from a variety of health care professions.
- Students will be encouraged to attend seminars, workshops, and conferences.

**Goal 5** The GATEP will be evaluated on an on-going basis to ensure the maintenance of high standards and program improvement.

- Program evaluations by students, recent graduates, and clinical affiliates will be conducted on an annual basis.
- Students will evaluate academic courses and instructors each semester.
- Instructors will be encouraged to attend training sessions and/or seminars that promote improvement in instructional methods and integration of technology.

- The program director will conduct periodic surveys and questionnaires to assess program quality, student satisfaction, instructor effectiveness, and educational enhancements.

## History

Men's and Women's athletic programs are separate entities at the University of Arkansas. The first athletic trainer hired for Men's Athletics was Sam Langford from 1946-1950. Upon his departure, Bill Ferrell was hired from 1950-1967. For a period of six years, various individuals handled the athletic training responsibilities until 1973 when Dean Weber was hired and remains the Director of Athletic Training. As Razorback Men's Athletics grew a new athletic training facility was built in 1975 in Barnhill Arena and renovated in 1993 to the present day at Razorback Stadium. In 1984, David England was hired as the first full time assistant and remains to the present day the health care provider for men's basketball and baseball. Today, Men's Athletics also employs another assistant, Eric Linson, who is responsible for football. In terms of athletic training education, athletic trainers taught all courses from the Men's athletic trainers. Upon the advent of a Women's Athletics program in the late 1960's within the Department of Women's Athletics, a Women's Head Athletic Trainer, Nancy Stevens', was appointed in 1978. Following Stevens' resignation, Sally Werner-Ferrell was hired in 1989. She remained the head athletic trainer until her resignation in 1994 when Julie Cain was hired. In 1996 Women's Athletics hired the first assistant athletic trainer, Kris Ring, and in 1999 Sean Collins. Since then several assistant athletic trainers have overturned in both the women's and men's athletic departments. The Health Science, Kinesiology, Recreation, and Dance Department (HKRD) partnered with women's athletics to employ a part time assistant athletic trainer/instructor position that would provide health care coverage and direct and instruct the athletic training internship program. This partnership was not successful because of campus support for athletic training education. In 2000, the HKRD department hired three full time faculty positions, one serving as the program director and the others serving as lectures. Overall, athletic training at the University of Arkansas has grown from a humble beginning with a few students interested in learning the skills of athletic training, to an entry-level graduate degree program seeking accreditation.

Once the program received national accreditation in 2005, the GATEP faculty consisted of a full time program director, Dr. Jeff Bonacci, and 50% part-time faculty member Mr. Phil Vardiman. In April of 2005 and as a result of accreditation standards Phil Vardiman was promoted to full time status faculty member however in July 2005 he resigned to accept a position at the University of Kansas. Following a year faculty search replacement, Dr. Gretchen Oliver was hired as the clinical coordinator for the athletic training education program.

To ensure that educational programs for athletic trainers include the appropriate content, the NATA now utilizes the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) to guarantee adherence to the basic educational Standards and Guidelines. CAATE is responsible for accrediting athletic training education programs so that such accreditation standards are met and maintained in educating students in athletic training education.

The ATEP at the University of Arkansas has multiple components, including a pre-athletic training undergraduate program (an undergraduate academic program preparing students for application to an entry-level CAAHEP accredited athletic training program), a graduate entry-level masters of science athletic training education program, and extensive off-campus as well as on-campus clinical sites.

## **Description of the Program**

Athletic training at the University of Arkansas has two major components. First, the Department of Health Science, Kinesiology, Recreation, and Dance (HKRD) has an athletic training education program to prepare students for careers in the field of athletic training. Secondly, the Department of Men's and Women's Athletics has a traditional athletic training program to provide health care for the many athletes at the University. Both of these athletic training programs have their own objectives and goals, yet work cooperatively together to benefit each program, their respective departments, the staff, students and athletes.

The ATEP at the University of Arkansas has been designed to meet the CAATE guidelines for instruction in athletic training. Students who are admitted to the GATEP will be required to complete clinical field base experiences as a student athletic trainer. The GATEP provides the student with a variety of clinical field base opportunities, including assignments at the collegiate level, high school, and local sports medicine clinic.

## **Athletic Training Clinical Instruction Program**

The purpose of the Clinical Instruction Program at the University of Arkansas is to place students in a structured clinical setting where they can develop their athletic training skills under the direct supervision of a National Athletic Training Association-Board of Certification (NATABOC) athletic training clinical instructors. The goal of the clinical education program is to provide students with the opportunity to put their didactic learning into practice.

## **Selective Admission Policy**

Selection for admission into the Clinical Instruction Program is determined every year as prospective students apply. Application may occur after/during the completion of an undergraduate degree, completion of required prerequisite/deficiency courses, completing the athletic training application and technical standards, and other program requirements that can be found on the University of Arkansas Athletic Training Web Site (<http://www.uark.edu/depts/atepweb/>), and the University of Arkansas Catalog. Notification of the application process will be announced in the University of Arkansas pre-athletic training undergraduate courses, the World Wide Web, the current University of Arkansas graduate catalog, and advertised at national and regional professional conferences.

## Admission Requirements/Procedures

The following are qualifying criteria for admission/procedures:

1. Completion of an undergraduate degree in Kinesiology or in related field
2. Acceptance into the University of Arkansas Graduate School  
Because of national accreditation standards/guidelines, admission into the athletic training program is selective. Therefore, admission to the Graduate School of the University of Arkansas **does not** guarantee admission into the graduate Athletic Training Education Program.
3. > Overall undergraduate GPA of 3.00  
> If the overall undergraduate GPA is between 2.70 and 2.99, and the student must have a 3.00 GPA on the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (excluding student teaching) or a GRE score of 1000 on the verbal and quantitative parts of the general test if the 60 hours are not over a 3.00
4. Students desiring admission to the Athletic Training Concentration must complete the following deficiency courses prior to admission into the Athletic Training Program:

HESC 1213 Nutrition in Health\*  
KINS 1002 Wellness Concepts\*  
KINS 2393 Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries\*  
KINS 3153 Exercise Physiology\*  
KINS 3353 Mechanics of Human Movement\*  
ZOOL 2213 2211L Human Physiology and Lab\*  
ZOOL 2443/2441L Anatomy and Lab\*

\*If the above courses were obtained at a college/university other than the University of Arkansas, course syllabi/outlines for courses they are requesting to meet the requirements must be submitted to the Program Director of Athletic Training for approval. It is imperative that students have the equivalent of the above undergraduate deficiencies in order to satisfy the competencies set forth by the National Athletic Trainers Association.

6. A minimum of 50 hours of observation under the direct supervision of a NATABOC certified athletic trainer.
7. Three professional letters of recommendation.
8. Students who are admitted to the athletic training education program will be required to begin course work July 1.
9. Copy of all official transcripts.
10. Completion of the athletic training application.
11. A pre-program physical examination by a board certified physician in accordance with the University of Arkansas athletic training technical standards.
12. Documentation of a Hepatitis B vaccine or waiver.
13. Documentation of a TB test
14. Documentation of a MMR shot

The selection process will result in one of the following scenarios for each student: Following the deadline for application acceptance, the athletic training selection committee, which is comprised of the two athletic training faculty and the Health Science, Kinesiology, Recreation, and Dance (HKRD) Graduate Coordinator. This rating is determined by a 5 point Likert scale and written verbal comments in the areas of GPA, work experience, letters of recommendation, and writing ability (essay requirement). Once a determination has been rendered concerning the applicant's desire for admission, a formal letter noting acceptance, denial, or placement on a wait-list will be sent to the applicant.

### **University of Arkansas Athletic Training Technical Standards**

Prior to acceptance into the athletic training education program, each student will be required to verify and sign that they can meet the required technical standards of the University of Arkansas athletic training education program or that reasonable accommodations can be made through the Center for Students with Disabilities. If a student states he/she can meet the technical standards with accommodation, then the University of Arkansas's GATEP in conjunction with the Center for Students with Disabilities will determine whether it agrees that the student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation; this includes a review a whether the accommodations requested are reasonable, taking into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, or the educational process of the student or the institution, including all coursework, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.

Reasonable accommodations cannot reduce the rigor of the academic component that can detract from measuring the student's cognitive and psychomotor ability to provide health care to an injured physically active person/athlete in a life threatening or non-life threatening situation.

#### **Technical Standards:**

The athletic training education program in the Department of Health Science, Kinesiology, Recreation, and Dance at the University of Arkansas is a rigorous and intense program that places specific requirements and demands on the students enrolled in the program. An objective of this program is to prepare graduates to enter a variety of employment settings and to render care to a wide spectrum of individuals engaged in physical activity. The technical standards set forth by the athletic training education program establishes the essential qualities considered necessary for students admitted to this program to achieve the knowledge, skills, and competencies of an entry-level athletic trainer, as well as meet the expectations of the program's accrediting agency CAATE. The following abilities and expectations must be met by all students admitted to the athletic training education program. In the event a student is unable to fulfill these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, the student will not be admitted into the program. Applicants who may not meet these technical standards are encouraged to contact the Program Director of Athletic Training Education, 303 HPER Building, University of Arkansas. The following are the technical standards:

- A. Candidates must be able to actively learn from observations, demonstrations, and experiments in the basic sciences.
- B. Candidates must be able to learn to analyze, synthesize, solve problems, and reach assessment and therapeutic judgments distinguished from the norm.
- C. Candidates must have sufficient sensory function and coordination to perform appropriate physical examinations using acceptable techniques.
- D. Candidates must be able to relate effectively to athletes and the physically active and to establish sensitive, professional relationships with them.
- E. Candidates are expected to be able to communicate the results of the assessment to the injured or ill exerciser, to responsible officials, to parents or guardians, and to colleagues with accuracy, clarity, and efficiency.
- F. Candidates are expected to learn and perform routine prevention, assessment, emergency care, therapeutic procedures.
- G. Candidates are expected to be able to display good judgment in the assessment and treatment of injured or ill athletes and physically active individuals.
- H. Candidates must be able to learn to respond with precise, quick, and appropriate action in emergency situations.
- I. Candidates are expected to be able to accept criticism and respond by appropriate modification of behavior.
- J. Candidates are expected to possess the perseverance, diligence, and consistency to complete the athletic training degree curriculum as outlined and sequenced, to attempt NATABOC certification within the year of program completion, and to enter the practice of athletic training.

### **Health Status**

Prior to admission the student must submit to the program director of athletic training education a completed health evaluation (physical examination) by either a MD or DO in light of the University of Arkansas Technical Standards. In addition, the health evaluation must document the student's immunizations history recommended by the Center for Disease Control for health care workers before being exposed to patients/athletes and to blood or blood contaminated products. As of 2001, these immunizations include hepatitis B, measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, and diphtheria. The University of Arkansas Student Health Center does offer a physical examination based on the University of Arkansas athletic training technical standards; which is covered by the student's administrative fees as a part of their tuition.

### **Selective Retention Policy of Students Admitted to ATEP**

The student will be evaluated each semester in terms of academic performance, clinical performance, reliability, productivity, communication skills, and progression of athletic training skills by faculty and clinical instructors. Failure to perform at a satisfactory level may result in probation, suspension or dismissal from the Athletic Training Program. Students must have a cumulative and major GPA of at least 3.0 with no grades lower than "C" in required courses, and no "incompletes" in required courses to be recommended for graduation. In addition the following retention standards must be maintained:

1. Enrolled as a full-time student
2. Achieve satisfactory evaluations in each clinical level before progressing
3. Successfully complete coursework in the sequence indicated by the program unless approved by ATEP Program Director
4. Abide by the Code of Ethics of the National Athletic Trainers Association
5. Obtain Hepatitis B vaccination or sign a waiver prior to clinical experiences
6. Show proof of passing a medical examination based on the U of A technical standards from an approved physician
7. Maintain CPR and First Aid certification
8. Maintain personal professional liability insurance.
9. Maintain current immunizations (MMR, diphtheria, and TB)

Failure to meet the above retention standards may result in probation, suspension, or termination from the ATEP. See Status in athletic training program policy on page 18.

### **Transfer Policy:**

Transfer students wishing to enter the program must submit an athletic training program application, three recommendation forms, as well apply to the graduate school and submit all undergraduate transcripts. Transfer students will be assessed on an individual basis.

## **Student Logistical Procedures**

### **Advising**

Students who are admitted into the graduate athletic training education program will be advised by the Program Director of the athletic training program. An advisor will assist students with registration and scheduling matters as well as many other academic matters. Advising is much more than just scheduling.

### **Outside Employment**

The professional component of the curriculum requires students to complete required extensive afternoon, evening, and weekend clinical rotations. These clinical rotations will likely interfere with the student's ability to hold outside employment. Students are not prohibited from holding outside employment, but such employment must not interfere with the student's ability to complete their clinical assignments.

### **Student Liability Insurance**

All students that are admitted into the ATEP must purchase a liability insurance providing \$1M/\$3M coverage. Students can purchase the liability coverage offered by the university for \$14.00 a year. See the athletic training Program Director for contact information. Students may not register for the athletic training clinical courses until they show proof of insurance coverage.

## **Transportation to Clinical Sites**

Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from their clinical field base assignments. On-campus assignments are typically at sites on the campus university bus (Razorback Transit) loop and in walking distance from the HPER building.

**Professional Associations** – Students are **strongly advised** to join appropriate professional associations. The association of choice is the National Athletic Trainers' Association. Membership is two part; national membership and district memberships (Southwest Athletic Trainer's Association – NATA District 6). Both parts are included in the NATA membership dues (\$75 for full year; part-year membership fees are prorated). Membership in the NATA provides numerous benefits including a subscription to the *Journal of Athletic Training* as well as discounts on conference registration and the national certification exam. Most district and national scholarships require membership for eligibility. Students are also encouraged to join the Arkansas Athletic Training Association (\$10 per year). See the program director for membership applications or on the web (<http://www.swata.com/~aata/>).

### **Financial Assistance:**

The Graduate Athletic Training Education Program offers financial assistance to prospective students on an equal basis. Such financial assistance is defined as a nominal stipend to which can be used towards the student's educational expenses. Notification of the financial assistance awarded to the student will be determined following the review of all application materials by the athletic training education program selection committee. In addition, all applicants are encouraged to apply for financial aid through the [University of Arkansas Financial Aid Office](#) and professional organizations. The financial assistance does not cover the cost of tuition and fees. The required texts books for the student's academic study are provided to each student except for the summer semesters. At the end of the semester students are required to return the books or they can be purchased at reduced cost.

Students that are traditionally underrepresented in Graduate Degree Programs are eligible to apply for Benjamin Franklin Leaver Graduate Tuition Fellowship. Please consult the University of Arkansas Graduate School at 575-4401 for an application. The ATEP has two endowed scholarships. They are the William Ferrel and Dean Weber athletic training scholarships. These scholarships are available to second year athletic training education students.

## **Student Conduct and Appearance**

All athletic training education students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. Personal conduct and appearance are considered to be an important aspect of preparing for a professional career in athletic training. Professionalism and first impressions in any work situation are important to maintain a positive work environment. We require that all student athletic trainers follow this policy to promote quality and professionalism in each athletic training facility and/or clinical site.

## **Personal Appearance\***

All student athletic trainers must practice good hygiene and be concerned with personal appearance. The following rules are to be expected:

1. Hair should be kept neat and out of the face.
2. Mustaches must be kept trimmed.
3. Student athletic trainers are expected to use discretion to avoid being socially offensive with hair-style, make-up, perfume, cologne, and jewelry.
4. Neat clothing is to be worn in the athletic training facilities. No torn or excessively worn jeans or pants, shirts are to be clean and without stains or holes.
5. The appropriate is as follows: Each student must wear their University of Arkansas ATEP polo shirt and or sweat shirt, unless the specific sport team provides clothing to wear. These two types of clothing can be switched interchangeably.
6. All shirts must be tucked into the pants or shorts at all times.
7. Hats worn in the athletic training facilities must be worn forward and be part of the University of Arkansas uniform.
8. Body piercing that is noticeable, other than in the lower earlobes, is not acceptable. Small studded earrings can be worn in the lower earlobes in the athletic training facility and at events.
9. Tennis shoes issued by the University of Arkansas are required for competitions and other closed laced up shoes are acceptable for practice only. Sandals and slip on shoes will not be allowed in the athletic training facilities.
10. All male student athletic trainers need to be clean and shaved. Make-up will be allowed for the female student athletic trainers but must be within reason.

Game/Event Dress Code. Check with the clinical instructor, or an GATEP faculty as to appropriate dress at games/events. Generally, athletic trainers wear comfortable street attire for the court sports such as volleyball, basketball, etc. (Example: females should wear dress pants and dress shirt, and males should wear dress pants, dress shirt, and/or tie). University of Arkansas ball caps are acceptable as outdoor apparel, only.\*

## **Professional Confidentiality\***

Athlete confidentiality is of the utmost importance, particularly in athletics where the press is a constant presence. At no time should that confidentiality be breached. To this end, students should not discuss confidential athlete/patient information to anyone (including the press, professional scouts, roommates, parents, significant other, etc) other than their supervisors and overseeing physicians without the permission of the patient / athlete.

When in doubt, the student should consult their clinical supervisor prior to releasing any information. Likewise, all records are confidential and should never be removed from the clinical site without permission of the clinical supervisor/instructor.

Any information about an athlete's medical condition or treatment that you may acquire in locker rooms, athletic training rooms, physician's offices or otherwise is considered confidential. The unique opportunity the student has to observe and participate in intercollegiate athletics as a health care professional can and will be terminated if students violate this confidentiality. Furthermore, the professional rapport students establish with athletes, coaches, and physicians is jeopardized by the student's lack of discretion and violation of this ethical conduct. At the high school level, this confidentiality is equally, if not more important. Students must never forget that they are working with minors and their parents.

### **Personal and Social Conduct\***

When traveling with an athletic team, students are to conduct themselves by the rules that the coach of the assigned team has established, and in accordance with the ethical standards of the National Athletic Trainers' Association (See the NATA Code of Ethics).

### **Transportation of Student Athletes to Medical Appointments Policy\***

Students admitted to the athletic training education program at the University of Arkansas may not utilize their personal vehicle or any other student's vehicle to transport student athletes to medical appointments. However, following approval from the Men's and Women's Athletic Departments, the athletic training student may utilize a university owned vehicle to transport a student athlete to medical appointments.

### **Relationships with Athletes/Patients\***

Students should conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. At no time should they engage in conduct that would undermine their patients' confidence or cause a conflict of interest in their patients' care. This includes social interaction with athletes outside of the student's clinical field base experience. Students will follow the rules and procedures of their clinical site regarding social interactions with athletes. The GATEP will support the rules implemented by the clinical sites. However, the GATEP strongly prohibits fraternizing with any student athlete either within their clinical site or at another clinical site. The students of the GATEP are considered an extension of the University of Arkansas Sports Medicine Staff and are to conduct themselves as staff and in a professional manner at all times. If a student is in violation of fraternizing with a student athlete and is dismissed from their clinical site then they will fail the didactic clinical portion of their semester and will be on probation from the program.

### **Relationships with Coaches\***

It is important that students develop professional relationships with the coaches of teams with which they work. Generally, the clinical supervisor will provide status reports to coaches although students will be required to do this on occasion. One should discuss how to handle coaches' questions with your clinical supervisor. Generally, students' interaction with coaches should increase with their

clinical experience. Occasionally such interactions can present difficulties. If a student has difficulty with a coach or athlete, he/she should make this known to the clinical supervisor immediately. Most problems can be easily resolved if approached early. Delaying dealing with a problem makes it more difficult to resolve.

### **Public Relations and the Press\***

While in the clinical field base experience with University of Arkansas athletics, students may find themselves in situations where a member of the press asks them to provide information about an athlete. At all times, students should be very mindful about patient / athlete confidentiality in dealings with the press. In dealing with members of the press, 1) always be polite, 2) refer them to your clinical supervisor without providing any patient / athlete information, and 3) **Nothing** one says to the press is ever “off the record.”

### **Relationships with other Medical Professionals\***

Students should be very professional when interacting with physicians and other medical professionals. These interactions are very important to the clinical education of the student and they are to be actively sought out. Students are encouraged to ask questions when appropriate and to use appropriate professional jargon. Avoid using laymen’s terms with professionals and avoid using jargon with patients/athletes.

### **Differences of Opinion\***

It is foreseeable that students will have differences of opinion with other students or supervisors regarding patient/athlete care. In such cases, students are encouraged to discuss the difference privately with the other person (i.e. clinical instructor). Never argue in the presence of the patient/athlete – it only serves to undermine the patient’s confidence in you and the other person.

### **Blood Bourne Pathogen and Community CPR and AED Training**

All students will be required to be trained and certified in BBP (OSHA standards) and Community CPR and AED training annually regardless if the certifying agency granting time is more than one year (ie: American Heart Association). In addition, students will be required to be current at all times during their clinical field base assignment.

### **Clinical Component\***

Once admitted to the Athletic Training Program, the student will obtain most of the clinical hours as part of course requirements. Additional hours will be necessary to complete the educational competencies and qualify for the NATABOC examination. **Generally, students must be available between the hours of 12:00-7:00 pm.** to accumulate clinical hours and structured learning opportunities. Clinical experience does include some nights, early to mid morning, weekends and travel. Students are expected to obtain at least 20-30 hours per week of clinical experience. Clinical experience is obtained over a minimum of 2 years (4 academic semesters). The athletic training students are given one day out of the week as a relief from their clinical responsibility based on their course loads. Depending on the ATS’s course load additional relief is granted from

clinical hours based on individual needs. Relief is based on the recommendation of the clinical coordinator.

The student will be evaluated each semester in terms of academic performance, clinical performance, reliability, productivity, communication skills, and progression of athletic training skills. Failure to perform a satisfactory level may result in probation, suspension or dismissal from the Athletic Training Program. Students must have a cumulative and major GPA of at least 3.0 no grades lower than "C" in required courses, and no incompletes in required courses to be recommended for graduation.

### **Guidelines for Students during Clinical Field Base Experience\***

#### **a. General Guidelines**

- i. Students are referred to the Appearance & Behavior guidelines above.
- ii. Students are expected to be punctual for clinical assignments. In the event that you will be late or cannot be present for an assignment, you must notify your clinical supervisor immediately. Interference with outside employment is not a valid reason for attendance problems in your clinical assignment. Ongoing punctuality problems are grounds for removal from the clinical assignment.
- iii. Students must work to develop proficiency in their clinical skills and professionalism. To this end, clinical proficiency and professionalism will be an ongoing evaluation. In addition, two written evaluations will be completed in each semester from your clinical instructor/supervisor. Students will be provided with copies of all evaluations and will discuss these evaluations with their supervisors to clarify areas that need improvement. Likewise, students will evaluate their clinical instructors at regular intervals to provide feedback to increase the effectiveness of the clinical site.

#### **b. Clinical Proficiencies:**

- i. Specific guidelines for demonstrating mastery over time of clinical proficiencies will be distributed to the student during clinical classes. Students may not perform a skill/procedure with an athlete/patient until they have been deemed proficient in that skill

#### **Safety policy for athletic training student encountering an infective illness/exposure:**

At any time during the clinical field experience or not and an athletic training student is effected by an illness (non or infectious disease), or blood-borne pathogen (ie: needle stick, contact with bodily fluids), the student is to notify the site approved clinical instructor or Program Director of Athletic Training Education. At that time, the athletic training student must be transported to the nearest medical facility. If the incident is on campus, the nearest medical facility is the University Health Center. At that time the University Health Center will take control of the situation in terms of documentation and contacting the Health and Environmental Safety department at the University of Arkansas. In addition, action will occur accordingly to solidify confidentiality of the infected athletic training student as well as protect any athletes/patients the student may have direct contact.

**\* Violation of any of the above rules/policies may result in suspension or immediate dismissal from the athletic training education program.**

## **Status in the ATEP**

### **Academic Probation**

Consult the University of Arkansas Graduate Catalog for such policies of academic probation and dismissal page 27.

### **Disciplinary Probation**

Legal, moral, unethical or unprofessional conduct, failure to meet the retention standards may be a cause for placing a student on probation. The seriousness and/or circumstances of the conduct will determine the length of time a student may be dismissed from the clinical program, and may range from a few weeks to a full year. Specific examples of conduct which might necessitate restrictive action could include, but not be limited to, the use of drugs, alcohol, or other conduct against school or team policy; or conduct considered unethical and/or detrimental to the GATEP. Less serious examples may include excessive or unexcused absenteeism, disrespect, the use of obscene language, dress code violations, etc. Disciplinary probation may be necessary when repeated warnings have been given for a particular behavior which does not result in changed behavior. All disciplinary actions will be deliberated by the clinical instructors and the University of Arkansas athletic training faculty. Any dismissal or probation from the University will result in automatic probation from the GATEP.

### **Infraction Policy**

According to the GATEP Student Athletic Training Agreement, signed by the student at the time of their application, each student has agreed to the policies and procedures outlined in the ATEP Policy and Procedures Manual. Any student who displays inappropriate behavior (i.e., breaking policy), at any time or place, commits an infraction (violation) against the requirements and expectations. In addition to a verbal warning for the first infraction, the clinical instructor and/or athletic training faculty will also complete an infraction policy report that is placed in the student's academic file. If a second infraction (same or different behavior) should occur, a second report form will be completed, and the student will be required to meet with the athletic training faculty/clinical instructor to discuss the infraction and plan for remediation. If a third infraction should occur, a third report form will be completed and the student will be placed on probation (similar to academic probation = immediate removal from their clinical site). The athletic training faculty, and clinical instructor will decide the conditions and length of the probation. If a fourth infraction should occur, the student will be dismissed from the GATEP.

### **Inactive Status**

Reasons for an inactive status may vary. A student may become sick, injured, or unable to complete their clinical assignment, and therefore, may request inactive status until he/she is able to resume the Athletic Training Education Program assignment. For example, if a student accepts a position as a foreign exchange student, he/she must request inactive status until he/she returns. There may

be other circumstances for which inactive status may be granted at the discretion of the GATEP faculty.

### **Dismissal**

Dismissal from the GATEP will only be necessary if the student has not dropped-out of the program voluntarily after repeated warnings and probation. Repeated academic probation, disciplinary probation, or dismissal from the University will result in dismissal from the program.

### **Right of Appeal**

Students who have been dismissed or placed on probation from the GATEP, or placed on the waiting list for admission to GATEP, will have the right to appeal the decision in writing to the Program Director Athletic Training Education and/or the University of Arkansas Graduate School. The Program Director/Graduate Dean may consult with the GATEP faculty, clinical instructors, or a Student Review Board, if necessary. Likewise, students in the ATEP have the same rights as any other graduate student in the University, and may appeal the decision to the Dean of the Graduate School.

### **Reinstatement**

A student who has been placed on probation or dismissed from the program, or denied admittance to the GATEP, has the right to apply for reinstatement. He/she must submit a letter to the Program Director of Athletic Training indicating the reason for reinstatement to the GATEP, and schedule a meeting with the GATEP Program Director and/or the HKRD Academic Advisor to review the student's options. If a student is unsatisfied with the result of the meeting with the Program Director and advisor, he/she may ask to go before the GATEP faculty. The ATEP faculty will then make a recommendation to the HKRD Department Head in conjunction with the graduate coordinator who shall make the final decision.

### **Student Athletes**

Since students applying to the GATEP must have completed a bachelors degree prior to admission to the graduate school thus an application of a student athlete would be highly unlikely to occur. However, the possibility for an athlete who graduates early from their academic program and has completed all the pre-requisite course work and has not completed athletic eligibility the following accommodation will be made in relation to their the clinical component:

If a student athlete participates in the clinical class, but does not complete the clinical hour requirement component of the course (field experience), they will receive an incomplete in the clinical course. This typically should happen during their traditional season. If this happens, the student athletes could make up these hours in the summer at a clinical site. During their off-season, these student athletes will not practice and forfeit their off-season so that they can fully participate in the next clinical class and complete their hour requirement.

## **Clinical Field Base Rotation Experience**

In order to be in compliance with athletic training accreditation guidelines, students admitted to the athletic training education program are required to be exposed to an upper extremity, lower extremity, an equipment intensive experience, and general medical experience during the clinical field base rotations. **Upper extremity** is defined as a high-risk sport to the upper extremity based upon injury statistics. Traditionally, this would include throwing sports, swimming, gymnastics, etc. that require extensive stresses of the upper extremity of both genders. **Lower extremity** is defined as a high-risk sport to the lower extremity based upon injury statistics. Traditionally, this would include soccer, cross-country, track, basketball, etc. that require extensive stresses of the lower extremity of both genders. **Equipment intensive** is high risk sports where all participants where all participants are required to wear protective equipment for the head and the shoulders. Traditionally, this would include football, ice hockey, and men's lacrosse. **General medical** experiences of both genders are those associated with physicians, physician assistants, or nurse practitioners at the Men's and Women's athletic training facility and Team Physician or physician assistant's office. During the two and half year clinical field base experience students will be rotated throughout the University of Arkansas Athletic Departments' athletic training facilities, one of five local high schools, and one of two local private sports medicine facilities. The rotation occurs as follows:

- A portion of students will be randomly assigned to University of Arkansas Athletics each semester.
- A portion of the students will be randomly assigned to one of five high schools each semester.
- During the summer semester students will be randomly assigned to area physical therapy facilities
- All clinical assignments are determined by the needs of the students required accreditation experiences of an upper extremity, lower extremity, equipment intensive sport, and general medical.
- During the clinical field base experience, an Approved Clinical Instructor that has successfully completed the University of Arkansas Approved Clinical Instructor Workshop must directly supervise athletic training students. Supervision is adhered to by the following mandated definition of the NATA athletic training Education Council and CAATE:
  - **Direct supervision:** This applies to the instruction and evaluation of the clinical proficiencies by an ACI. Constant visual and auditory interaction must occur between the student and the ACI. The instructor shall be physically present for proficiency instruction and evaluation and maximizing teachable moments. **Supervision:** This applies to the field experiences under the direction of an ACI. Daily personal/verbal contact at the setting of supervision between the athletic training student and the ACI who plans, directs, advises, and evaluates the students' athletic training field experience.
- If at anytime during the clinical field base experience an ACI, ATC with more than one year NATABOC certification, or other appropriate health care/medical professional is not the student will be serving as a first aider. The student is a first aider and must act as such until the ACI is present with the student. Note that the first aider's roles are not part of the

required academic/clinical experience and the use of students in these roles is not required or supported by the CAATE.

- A first aider has additional, specialized training that allows him/her to assist in the evaluation or recognition, stabilization, initial treatment, and disposition of an individual who is injured or suddenly takes ill; these tasks are achieved using minimal equipment.
- First aiders are trained in first aid and CPR techniques. A first aider's responsibilities include referral to appropriate medical personnel or facility. An unsupervised athletic training student would therefore be limited to activities such as prophylactic taping, stretching, first aid, and referral of injured/ill athletes. Without supervision, performance expectations and restrictions of the student can be compared to those of a coach traveling with the team unaccompanied by an ATC. Other athletic training functions such as return-to-play decisions, modality or rehabilitation treatments are out of the realm of an unsupervised student.
- See Athletic Training Student – First Aider Contract/Policy in this manual **page 30**
- Students must be available between the hours of 12:00-7:00 pm. to accumulate clinical hours and structured learning opportunities. Clinical experience does include some nights, weekends, early morning, and travel. Students are expected to obtain at least 20-30 hours per week of clinical experience. During the summer months students must be available from 12:00 – 6:00 pm M-F for their clinical rotation at the local sports medicine clinics. Clinical experience is obtained over a minimum of 2 years (4 academic semesters).

### **Athletic Training Academic Clinical Levels**

The purpose of establishing Athletic Training Levels (ATL) in the University of Arkansas GATEP, is two-fold: first, to provide athletic training students with a clearly defined clinical educational system for advancement; and secondly, to provide the athletic training faculty and ACIs with a system of assigning students to a clinical site which is appropriate for the student to acquire the clinical education necessary to sit for the National Athletic Trainers Association Board of Certification (NATA-BOC) Examination. ATL's will range from an introductory level of policy and procedures to basic taping skills to technical operation of various equipment (ATL -1), to those students who are in their final semester of completing the didactic coursework, final validation of the clinical competencies/proficiencies, and research thesis or project required in the athletic training plan of study (ATL – 6). **As the student progress through clinical education program they may only perform skills with athletes/patients that have been successfully evaluated by an ACI.**

Courses are designed for students to progress through each clinical level. The following are detailed descriptions and requirements for each Clinical Athletic Training Level.

**ATHLETIC TRAINER CLINICAL LEVEL: 1** (KINS 5212 Athletic Training Clinical I – Application of Athletic Preventive Devices/Equipment)

### **ATL - 1**

**This student is in the first semester of course work in the athletic training cohort. This course is only offered in the summer session every year that student begins the athletic training cohort program KINS 5212 (July) and serves as an introduction to the policy and procedures of each clinical site and basic technical techniques of athletic training. In addition, the student is to enroll in didactic course KINS 5593 Lab Practicum in Exercise Science.**

During this clinical course students are introduced to and provided opportunities to practice, the application of basic taping, wrapping, protective padding, and protective equipment (helmet and shoulder pads). Furthermore, in this class students are introduced, trained, and evaluated on their competence of each clinical facility's daily operational policies and procedures. Also, students introduced, trained, and evaluated on the technical protocols of specific rehabilitative and pain reducing equipment located at each clinical facility. Such equipment includes ultrasound units, paraffin bath, whirlpools, electrical stimulation units, Progressive Resistive Exercise (PRE) machines, (slide board, upper body cycle, Swimex, isotonic weight equipment, rubber tubing, and BAPS board). Moreover, students will be introduced, trained, and evaluated on writing SOAP notes, injury reports, and/or injury tracking software as required by each clinical site. Students will also be trained or retrained in CPR and first aid, and trained or retrained in blood borne pathogens, wound care environmental and emergency spinal injury packaging.

Requirements for completion of ATL –1:

- Students will be required to complete a proficiency competency exam and clinical course. Proficiency Requirements are identified in the KINS 5212 syllabus
- Enroll in KINS 5212 and 5453 (Earn a “C” or better grade), pass all clinical proficiencies at 80% or better, and maintain a 3.00 minimum GPA.

**ATHLETIC TRAINER CLINICAL LEVEL – 2 (KINS 5222 Athletic Training Clinical II – Evaluation Lab – Lower Extremity)**

### **ATL – 2**

**The student is placed at an approved clinical site and must enroll in didactic courses KINS 5363 Evaluation of Athletic Injuries – Lower Extremity, KINS 5222 Biomechanics I, and KINS 5453 Therapeutic Modalities.**

Requirements for completion of ATL –2:

- Students will be required to complete a proficiency competency exam, Problem Based Learning Scenarios (PBLs), and clinical course. Proficiency Requirements are identified in the KINS 5222.
- Students are required to wear the required uniform deemed by the approved clinical site.
- Complete a minimum of 300 clinical hours working at an approved clinical site.
- Enroll in KINS 5222, 5373, 5323, 5453 (Earn a “C” or better grade), pass all clinical proficiencies at 80% or better, and maintain a 3.00 minimum GPA..

**ATHLETIC TRAINER CLINICAL LEVEL - 3 (KINS 5232 Athletic Training Clinical III – Evaluation Lab –upper Extremity)**

### **ATL – 3**

**The student is placed at an approved clinical site and must enroll in didactic courses KINS 5363 Evaluative techniques in Athletic Training - Lower Extremity, KINS 5232, and EDFD 5393 Applied Educational Statistics during this semester.**

- Students will be required to complete a proficiency competency exam, Problem Based Learning Scenarios (PBLs), and clinical course. Proficiency Requirements are identified in the KINS 5232 syllabus.
- Students are required to wear the required uniform deemed by the approved clinical site.
- Complete a minimum of 300 clinical hours working at an approved clinical site.
- KINS 5373, 5232, and EDFD 5393 (Earn a “C” or better) pass all clinical proficiencies at 80% or better, and maintain a 3.00 minimum GPA.

**ATHLETIC TRAINER CLINICAL LEVEL - 4 (KINS 5242 Athletic Training Clinical IV Athletic Training Clinical V – Emergency Procedures**

#### **ATL – 4**

**The student is placed at an approved clinical site and must enroll in didactic courses, KINS 5242 Athletic Training Clinical V Emergency Procedures and KINS 5483 Administration in Athletic Training. These courses are only offered during the summer sessions between the first spring semester and second fall semester of the two-year athletic training cohort rotation of courses.**

Requirements for completion of ATL – 4:

- Students will be required to complete a proficiency competency exam, Problem Based Learning Scenarios (PBLs), and clinical course. Proficiency Requirements are identified in the KINS 5242 syllabus.
- Students are required to wear the required uniform deemed by the approved clinical site.
- Complete a minimum of 300 clinical hours working at an approved clinical site.
- KINS 5242, 5353, (Earn a “C” or better grade), pass all clinical proficiencies at 80% or better, and maintain a 3.00 minimum GPA.
- **Students must present to the athletic training faculty there intended research thesis or independent research project proposal before the completion of ATL 4. The student will receive an incomplete (I) grade if the research thesis or independent research project is not completed by the end of ATL 4. Students will enroll in KINS 589v independent research if not sooner.**

**ATHLETIC TRAINER CLINICAL LEVEL – 5 (KINS 5252 Athletic Training Clinical VI - Rehabilitation Lab**

#### **ATL –5**

**The student is placed at an approved clinical site of the opposite gender athlete that differs from the previous academic year and must enroll in didactic courses KINS 5483 Medical Conditions in Athletic Training, KINS 5463 Therapeutic Exercise and Rehabilitation of Athletic Injuries, , KINS 589V (independent research project) or KINS 600V Thesis, and KINS 5262.**

Requirements for completion of ATL –5:

- Students will be required to complete a proficiency competency exam, Problem Based Learning Scenarios (PBLs), and clinical course. Proficiency Requirements are identified in the KINS 5252 syllabus.
- Students are required to wear the required uniform deemed by the approved clinical site.
- Complete a minimum of 300 clinical hours working at an approved clinical site.
- Enroll in KINS 5463, KINS 5252, KINS 5483 medical conditions, and 589V or 600V (Earn a “C” or better grade) pass all clinical proficiencies at 80% or better, and maintain a 3.00 minimum GPA.

**ATHLETIC TRAINER CLINICAL LEVEL – 6 (KINS 5262 Athletic Training Clinical VI athletic training seminar)**

### **ATL –6**

**The student is placed at an approved clinical site and must enroll in didactic courses KINS 589 V or KINS 600V, and KINS 5242, and KINS 5773 Performance and Drugs**

Requirements for completion of ATL – 6:

- Students will be required to complete a proficiency competency exam, Problem Based Learning Scenarios (PBLs), and clinical course. Proficiency Requirements are identified in the KINS 5262 syllabus.
- Students are required to wear the required uniform deemed by the approved clinical site.
- Complete a minimum of 300 clinical hours working at an approved clinical site.
- Enroll in KINS 5773 (Performance and Drugs), KINS 5262 AT Clinical VI, 589 V or 600 V (Earn a “C” or better grade), pass all clinical proficiencies at 80% or better, and maintain a 3.00 minimum GPA.
- Student is engaged in preparation stages for the BOC examination.
  - Final validation of the educational proficiencies mandated by the NATA competencies and proficiencies).

## GRADUATE ATHLETIC TRAINING EDUCATION PROGRAM ACADEMIC PLAN

### Year 1- Summer 1 (July 1)

### Year 1- Fall 1

KINS 5212	Athletic Training Clinical I	2		KINS 5323	Biomechanics I	3
KINS 5593	Lab Practicum	3		KINS 5222	Athletic Training Clinical II	2
				KINS 5453	Therapeutic Modalities in Athletic Training	3
				KINS 5333	Evaluation Techniques of Athletic Injuries-Lower Extremity	3
		<b>5</b>				<b>11</b>

### Year 1 – Spring 1

### Year 1 – Summer 2

EDFD 5393	Applied Educational Statistics	3		KINS 5242	Athletic Training Clinical IV	2
KINS 5232	Athletic Training Clinical III	2		KINS 5353	Research in HKRD	3
KINS 5363	Evaluation Techniques of Athletic Injuries – Upper Extremity	3		KINS 5473	Administration in Athletic Training	3
		<b>8</b>				<b>8</b>

### Year 2 – Fall 2

### Year 2 – Spring 2

KINS 5463	Therapeutic Exercise and Rehabilitation of Athletic Injuries	3		KINS 4773	Performance and Drugs	3
KINS 5483	Medical Conditions in Athletic Training	3		KINS 5262	Athletic Training Clinical VI	2
KINS 5252	Athletic Training Clinical V	2		KINS 589 V or KINS 600 V	Independent Research Project Thesis	3
KINS 600 V	Thesis	3				
		0-3				<b>8</b>
		<b>11-14</b>				

**Total: 51-54**

### Register for Classes Outside of the Athletic Training Cohort Policy

No student may register for any other course other than what is required in the AT education masters program of study without prior approval. The approval process is as follows:

1. Prior to enrolling in the course the student is required to submit the course syllabi to the Program Director of athletic training that will be issued during the semester the student enrolls.
2. Decisions on approval will occur after the case has been fully reviewed by the athletic training education program faculty (AT program director and Clinical Coordinator). These persons are one in the same.
3. If a student enrolls in a course other than the approved Masters AT program of study without prior approval, they are susceptible to and not limited to termination from the athletic training education program.

#### **PREAMBLE:**

The Code of Ethics of the National Athletic Trainers' Association has been written to make the membership aware of the principles of ethical behavior that should be followed in the practice of athletic training. The primary goal of the Code is the assurance of high quality health care. The Code presents aspirational standards of behavior that all members should strive to achieve.

The principles cannot be expected to cover all specific situations that may be encountered by the practicing athletic trainer, but should be considered representative of the spirit with which athletic trainers should make decisions. The principles are written generally and the circumstances of a situation will determine the interpretation and application of a given principle and of the Code as a whole. Whenever there is a conflict between the Code and legality, the laws prevail. The guidelines set forth in this Code are subject to continual review and revision as the athletic training profession develops and changes.

#### **PRINCIPLE 1:**

**Members shall respect the rights, welfare and dignity of all individuals.**

- 1.1 Members shall not discriminate against any legally protected class.
- 1.2 Members shall be committed to providing competent care consistent with both the requirements and the limitations of their profession.
- 1.3 Members shall preserve the confidentiality of privileged information and shall not release such information to a third party not involved in the patient's care unless the person consents to such release or release is permitted or required by law.

#### **PRINCIPLE 2:**

**Members shall comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of athletic training.**

- 2.1 Members shall comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws and institutional guidelines.

2.2 Members shall be familiar with and adhere to all National Athletic Trainers' Association guidelines and ethical standards.

2.3 Members are encouraged to report illegal or unethical practice pertaining to athletic training to the appropriate person or authority.

2.4 Members shall avoid substance abuse and, when necessary, seek rehabilitation for chemical dependency.

**PRINCIPLE 3:**

**Members shall accept responsibility for the exercise of sound judgment.**

3.1 Members shall not misrepresent in any manner, either directly or indirectly, their skills, training, professional credentials, identity or services.

3.2 Members shall provide only those services for which they are qualified via education and/or experience and by pertinent legal regulatory process.

3.3 Members shall provide services, make referrals, and seek compensation only for those services that are necessary.

**PRINCIPLE 4:**

**Members shall maintain and promote high standards in the provision of services.**

4.1 Members shall recognize the need for continuing education and participate in various types of educational activities that enhance their skills and knowledge.

4.2 Members who have the responsibility for employing and evaluating the performance of other staff members shall fulfill such responsibility in a fair, considerate, and equitable manner, on the basis of clearly enunciated criteria.

4.3 Members who have the responsibility for evaluating the performance of employees, supervisees, or students, are encouraged to share evaluations with them and allow them the opportunity to respond to those evaluations.

4.4 Members shall educate those whom they supervise in the practice of athletic training with regard to the Code of Ethics and encourage their adherence to it.

4.5 Whenever possible, members are encouraged to participate and support others in the conduct and communication of research and educational activities that may contribute knowledge for improved patient care, patient or student education, and the growth of athletic training as a profession.

4.6 When members are researchers or educators, they are responsible for maintaining and promoting ethical conduct in research and educational activities.

**PRINCIPLE 5:**

**Members shall not engage in any form of conduct that constitutes a conflict of interest or that adversely reflects on the profession.**

5.1 The private conduct of the member is a personal matter to the same degree as is any other person's except when such conduct compromises the fulfillment of professional responsibilities.

5.2 Members of the National Athletic Trainers' Association and others serving on the Association's committees or acting as consultants shall not use, directly or by implication, the Association's name or logo or their affiliation with the Association in the endorsement of products or services.

5.3 Members shall not place financial gain above the welfare of the patient being treated and shall not participate in any arrangement that exploits the patient.

5.4 Members may seek remuneration for their services that is commensurate with their services and in compliance with applicable law.

## **Graduate Athletic Training Student – First Aider Contract/Policy**

### **Athletic Training Educational Program**

#### **University of Arkansas**

The purpose of this contract is to clearly define the roles and responsibilities of University of Arkansas athletic training students during unsupervised field experiences.

#### Terminology

1. Direct Supervision: the constant visual and auditory interaction between athletic training student and certified athletic trainer (ATC). Therefore, the ATC is available on location to physically intervene in an emergency or educational experience.
2. Clinical Supervision: a clinical experience that involves daily visual and auditory interaction between the athletic training student and a non-certified athletic trainer (e.g., physician, physical therapist, EMT, nurse, coach).
3. Unsupervised: any clinical experience in which the athletic training student is acting without the physical presence of a certified athletic trainer or clinical supervisor; thus making it impossible to intervene immediately. (See First Aider below)

#### First Aider - Unsupervised Field Experiences

1. Acceptable Services – the AT student acting without the direct supervision
  - a. Application of all first-aid skills for the treatment of acute injuries.
  - b. Provide assistance to the athlete with the application of a stretching program, but may not establish a new plan.
  - c. Application of tape to prevent an injury and support an existing injury.
  - d. Application of a brace already being used.
  - e. Application of splints for stabilization of an acute injury or for the protection of an existing injury provided that the splint has been previously applied to the athlete for the same injury.
  - f. Conduct a history evaluation to determine the need for referral.
  - g. Conduct a brief injury assessment to determine the need for splinting, bracing, or crutch use for safe referral.
  - h. Application of ice or hot packs per protocols.
  - i. Refer injured athlete to appropriate medical help or facility.
2. Unacceptable Services (examples) when not supervised
  - a. Initiate, change, or progress a rehabilitation plan
  - b. Initiate or change electrical or ultrasound modality parameters
  - c. Conduct a full, new evaluation of an injury
  - d. Making return-to-play decision



\_\_\_\_\_  
Program Director of Athletic Training Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**University of Arkansas**  
**Athletic Training Student**  
**Policy and Procedure Manual**  
**Understanding Agreement**

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read, understood, and agree to abide by the current University  
*Athletic Training Student*

of Arkansas's Athletic Training Education Policy and Procedure Manual. Failure to comply with such policies and procedures will result in an infraction. See infractions policy of this manual.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athletic Training Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Program Director of Athletic Training

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date