

Clinical Education Parameters

Student Health | Technical Standards | Practicum Attendance

Student Health

For their own safety, athletic training students should be aware of potential risks related to some learning experiences such as, but not limited to, communicable disease[s], strenuous activity, toxic substances, and the potential for bodily harm. The student should consult with the Program Director, Clinical Education Coordinator and clinical preceptors prior to the clinical education experience to be made aware of any clinical agency policies related to potential risks. Neither The Pennsylvania State University nor its affiliating clinical agencies assume responsibility for any harm that might occur.

Technical Standards

The athletic training major at The Pennsylvania State University 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 major establish the essential requirements 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 (Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education {CAATE}). The following abilities and expectations must be met by all students admitted to the athletic training major.

Compliance with the program's technical standards does not guarantee a student's eligibility for the BOC certification exam.

Candidates for selection to the athletic training major must demonstrate:

1. The mental capacity to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts and problem solve to formulate assessment and therapeutic judgments and to be able to distinguish deviations from the norm.
2. Sufficient postural and neuromuscular control, sensory function, and coordination to perform appropriate physical examinations using accepted techniques; and accurately, safely and efficiently use equipment and materials during the assessment and treatment of patients.
3. The ability to communicate effectively and sensitively 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 judgments and treatment information effectively. Students must be able to understand and speak the English language at a level consistent with competent professional practice.
4. The ability to record the physical examination results and a treatment plan clearly and accurately.

5. The capacity to maintain composure and continue to function well during periods of high stress.
6. The perseverance, diligence and commitment to complete the athletic training major as outlined and sequenced.
7. Flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in clinical situations.
8. Affective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care.

Practicum Attendance

As part of the athletic training major, students must complete clinical rotations at various affiliated clinical education sites, both on and off campus. These clinical rotations, which are assigned by the Clinical Education Coordinator and Program Director, are associated with practica that are designated as academic courses in the curriculum. The ability to regularly attend these related clinical rotations is necessary to fulfill the clinical education requirements of the practica to earn academic credit for completing these courses. Regular attendance is described as reporting to the clinical education site as directed by supervising preceptors within the scope of the weekly contact hour standards set forth by the athletic training major in compliance with CAATE guidelines.

Please read and sign this statement. A copy will be retained by the athletic training major.

My signature indicates the following:

- I have received and read the document: Student Health | Technical Standards | Practicum Attendance, and understand that the Technical Standards presented are as stated by the "Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education".
- I accept full responsibility to notify the Office for Disability Services (814-863-1807) at this campus to request reasonable accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act should I require reasonable accommodation(s) in coursework, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.
- I understand that if I am unable to meet the Technical Standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, I may not be able to receive an athletic training degree.
- In the event of pregnancy, I understand that it is my responsibility to contact the Affirmative Action Office (814-863-0471) for consideration of related accommodations should I require it in coursework, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.
- I understand that in instances of health conditions not considered a disability, written documentation by a licensed physician may be necessary to verify my ability to meet the program's Technical Standards.

- I understand that an inability to regularly attend clinical education practical experiences within the program's established parameters may prevent me from receiving an athletic training degree.

Name	PSU ID#	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
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Clinical Education Coordinator	PSU ID#	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
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Program Director	PSU ID#	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
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