

**Athletic Training Education Program**  
**TECHNICAL STANDARDS WAIVER**

**I. Overview**

The Athletic Training Educational Program at Ball 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 Educational Program establish 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 (Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education [CAATE]).

**II. Admission/Retention Requirements**

The following abilities and expectations must be satisfied by all students admitted to the Athletic Training Educational Program. In the event a student is unable to fulfill these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation; the student will not be retained in the program. Compliance with the program's technical standards does not guarantee students eligibility for the BOC athletic trainer certification exam.

Candidates for retention in the Athletic Training Educational Program 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 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 education program as outlined and sequenced.
7. Flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in clinical situations.
8. Effective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care.

Student compliance with these standards will be assessed through the midterm and final clinical performance evaluations completed by the student's clinical instructors. Along with the clinical performance assessments in the areas of knowledge, general skills and duties, administration tasks, general quality, the technical standards will be evaluated in the clinical education experience as follows:

1 = Unacceptable 2 = Improvement needed 3 = Satisfactory 4 = Good 5 = Outstanding

- a. Mental capacity to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts and problem solve.
- b. Sufficient postural and neuromuscular control, sensory function, and coordination to perform appropriate physical examinations.
- c. Ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and colleagues.
- d. Ability to record the physical examination results and a treatment plan clearly and accurately.
- e. Capacity to maintain composure and continue to complete the athletic training education program.
- f. Perseverance, diligence and commitment to complete the athletic training education program.
- g. Flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in clinical situations.
- h. Affective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care.

### **III. Student and Health Care Provider Verification**

Candidates for selection to the athletic training educational program will be required to verify they understand these technical standards. If a student or the program later identifies actual or potential mental, psychological, or physical difficulties in meeting the standards established for the program, the student, with assistance from the office of Disabled Student Development, will use this information to determine if the student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation; this review will take into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, or the

educational process of the student or the institution, including all course work, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation. At time of admission to Ball State, students must possess a history of immunizations for measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, and diphtheria. Immunization for hepatitis B is recommended.

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**IV. Certification**

**The student must read and sign a statement of understanding of the technical standards.**

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards listed above (section II) and recognize that they must be satisfied in this educational program. If I need an adaptation or accommodation for this program based on a disability, I will make an appointment with the Office of Disabled Student Development for review of that request.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Physician verification that applicant can meet the general intent (e.g., orientation, clear speech, intact memory, and ability to reach heights ranging from the head of someone sitting down to the floor - for purposes of examining an athlete) of the technical standards, with or without accommodations:

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE