

The University of Akron  
Athletic Training

Technical Standards Release Form

The Athletic Training Education Program at The University of Akron is a rigorous and intense program that places specific requirements and demands on the student 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 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 expectation 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 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.

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

Candidates for selection to the Athletic Training Education Program must demonstrate the following:

- I. *Observation:* Visual ability must be sufficient to observe demonstrations in Athletic Training skills and to observe patient condition accurately at a distance and close at hand. Observation requires the functional use of the senses of touch and hearing. Tactile ability must be sufficient to perform palpation. Auditory ability must be sufficient for auscultation of body sounds. Observation is enhanced by functional use of the sense of smell.
- II. *Communication:* The student should be able to speak, hear, and to see patient to elicit information, describe change in mood, posture skin appearance, and perceive nonverbal communications. The student must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients using verbal language. The student must be able to interact with individuals, coaches, athletic training personnel, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and

intellectual backgrounds. Reading and writing skills must be effective for patient communication, record keeping, and professional health care team interaction. Auditory ability must be sufficient to hear alarms, emergency signals, and calls for help.

- III. *Motor:* Motor function should be sufficient to elicit information from patient by palpation, auscultation, percussion and other assessment maneuvers. A student should be able to execute motor activities in a confined space reasonably required to provide general physical care and to provide emergency treatment to patients. Physical and emergency care activities reasonably required of an athletic training student may include cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), application of pressure to stop bleeding, calibration of instruments, ability to grasp and stabilize joints for laxity tests and sufficient strength to properly perform manual muscle tests. Also required, is the ability to lift 50 pounds from the floor to 4 feet frequently, positioning and transfer of patients including two man chair or walk used to assist athletes from the field. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, the ability to move quickly, equilibrium, functional use of the sense of touch and vision. The student must be able to physically perform for at least eight hours in clinical settings.
- IV. *Intellectual-Conceptual, and Quantitative Abilities:* A student must possess the emotional health required for full use of intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities related to the care of patients, and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients from diverse social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. Students must be able to tolerate physically and mentally taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress. They must be able to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility, and learn to function in rapidly changing clinical patient care situations. Student must possess awareness of ethical actions related to the well being of others and the patient service role of Athletic Trainer's.

A student may not progress in the curriculum if the disability will pose a direct threat to the health or safety of others, and the threat cannot be eliminated by modifying policies, practices, or procedures. Under these circumstances, the student is not otherwise qualified to progress in the program.

Candidates for selection to the Athletic Training Education Program will be required to verify they understand and meet these technical standards of that they believe that, with reasonable accommodations, if applicable, they can meet the standards.

Candidates who believe that a reasonable accommodation is needed to meet the Program's technical standards should contact the Office of Accessibility, 125 student and Administrative Services Building for information.

If the student states he/she meets the technical standards with accommodation, then The University of Akron will determine whether it agrees that the student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation; this includes a review of whether the accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, or the educational process of the student of the institution, including all coursework, clinical experiences and internship deemed essential to meeting the graduation requirements.

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards for selection listed above, and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I meet each of these standards without accommodation. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards, I will not be admitted into the Athletic Training Education Program.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Alternate statement for student requesting accommodations.

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards of selection listed above and I believe to the best of my knowledge, that I can meet each of these standards with certain accommodations. I will contact the Office of Accessibility to determine what accommodations may be available. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards with or without accommodations, I will not be admitted into the Athletic Training Education Program.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_