

University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Masters of Science in Athletic Training

Technical Standards Verification

Certified Athletic Trainers are medical professionals who are experts in injury prevention, assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation, particularly in the orthopedic and musculoskeletal disciplines. They provide care to athletes and other patients in a variety of settings and situations. The University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point offers an entry-level Athletic Training Program. This program is rigorous and intense and places specific requirements and demands on the students enrolled in the program. Athletic Trainers and Athletic Training Students must possess certain mental, physical, and other abilities that are essential in providing care for their patients.

The technical standards set forth in this document by the UWSP Athletic Training [AT] Program establish the essential functional requirements that are necessary for accepted students to acquire the knowledge, skills, competencies and values of an entry-level Certified Athletic Trainer. They are also required to meet the expectations of the program's accrediting agency – the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education.

The following essential functional requirements must be met by all students after acceptance into the AT Program in order to enroll in or complete the athletic training curriculum. In the event that a student is unable, or becomes unable to fulfill these technical standards with or without reasonable accommodation, the student cannot enroll or remain enrolled in the program.

Athletic Training Students 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. This includes, but is not limited to the ability to convey and set-up equipment for clinical or on-field use (includes lifting up to 50 lbs), to reach injured patients who are down on athletic fields in a timely fashion, to assess their condition where they lie, to perform appropriate emergency procedures, to fully participate in patient extrication and transport, to perform appropriate therapeutic and prophylactic procedures, and to demonstrate rehabilitative exercises;
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 education program 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.

Following their acceptance into the Athletic Training Program, students are required to verify that they understand and meet these technical standards or that they believe that, with certain accommodations, they can meet the standards. This is accomplished using the Technical Standards Verification Statement. For students who believe they can meet these standards with accommodation, Disability Services Office will validate their need for accommodation and will work with the AT Program – specifically the Program Director - to determine if reasonable accommodation can be made. This determination will take into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety or undercut an essential element of a course, clinical experience or internship deemed necessary to complete the AT Program.

I certify that I have read and understand the Technical Standards for Athletic Training Students, and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I **meet each of these standards without accommodation**. I also understand that if I am unable to meet these standards with or without accommodation, I cannot enroll and remain enrolled in the Athletic Training Program.

I certify that I have read and understand the Technical Standards for Athletic Training Students, and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I **meet each of these standards with accommodations**. I will contact the Disability Services Offices [DSO] to have my need for accommodations validated and work with the DSO and the AT Program to examine accommodation options. I understand that in some cases accommodation might not be possible. I also understand that if I am unable or become unable to meet these standards with or without accommodation, I cannot enroll and remain enrolled in the Athletic Training Program.

Signature of Student

Date