

# Loras College Master of Athletic Training

**Program Student Handbook** 

# **Table of Contents**

	105
Introduction	2
Loras College Mission Statement	3
Loras College Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	3
Master of Athletic Training Program Mission, Outcome	s & Objectives 3
Student Learning Outcomes	6
CAATE Accreditation Status	8
Program Personnel & Responsibilities	8
Athletic Training Faculty	10
Master of Athletic Training Program Fees	11
Admission Requirements and Procedures	12
Acceptance Procedures	13
Procedures for Transferring	14
Background Check, Drug Screen & Physical Exam	14
Technical Standards	14
Retention Policy	15
Academic Probation Status	15
MAT Program Probation & Dismissal Policy	15
Loras Graduate Dismissal & Appeal Process	16
Program Graduation Requirements	16
Research & Professional Development Requirement	16
BOC Exam Testing & Approval Preparation Procedures	s 16
Master of Athletic Training Program Required Course L	
Curricular Plan	21
Clinical Education Experiences	21
Student Expectations	22
Athletic Participation	22
CAATE Standards (Clinical)	22
Clinical Experience Requirements	24
Attendance	25
Orientation	25
Proficiencies	25
Site Visits	25
Emergency Action Plans	25
Clinical Evaluation Requirements	25
Hour Documentation	26
Clinical Experience Rotations	26
Student Clinical Concerns	27
First Year MAT Student Clinicals	28
Second Year MAT Student Clinicals	28
Second Year Immersive Clinicals	29
Preceptor Policies	30
Preceptor Expectations	30
Preceptor Selection Guidelines	31
Professionalism as an Athletic Training Student	32

Personal Conduct Outside of School	33
Travel	33
Dress Code	33
Cell Phone Usage	34
CPR/AED Certification	35
Liability Insurance	35
NATA Membership	35
Additional Certifications	35
Outside Employment	35
Professional Relationships	36
Confidentiality	36
BBP Policy & Procedure	37
Infectious Disease Policy & Procedure	37
Electrical Modalities Policy	37
Mandatory Reporting Guidelines	37
Disciplinary Actions	40
Infraction Notification	40
Disciplinary Actions	40
Grievance Policy & Procedure	41
Grade Appeals	41
Non-Discrimination Policy	41
Sexual Harassment Policy	42
Awards, Scholarships, and Extra-Curricular Activity Selection	42
Semester Proceedings	43
Appendices	
Technical Standards Form	Appendix A
Immunization Review Form	Appendix B
HIPAA & FERPA Confidentiality Waiver	Appendix C
Bloodborne Pathogen Form	Appendix D
Infectious Disease Form	Appendix E
Mandatory Reporting Form	Appendix F
Student Infraction Form	Appendix G
NATA Code of Ethics	Appendix H

1

### **Introduction**

In 1990, Loras College first offered an Athletic Training Internship Program with a major in Physical Education. Beginning in the spring of 2000, Athletic Training became a major in the Division of Physical Education and Sport Studies. It was initially recognized as an accredited program in the fall of 2003 by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). CAAHEP was replaced by the Commission on the Accreditation on Athletic Training Education (CAATE) in 2006. The Loras College ATP was re-accredited by CAATE during the fall of 2008 and was given full re-accreditation status for ten years. In the spring of 2014, a new athletic training faculty position was created. This person serves as the full time Clinical Education Coordinator for the program. During the 2014-2015 academic year, the program moved into the new Division of Molecular, Life, and Health sciences. This move aligned the program with the most similar programs on campus. Also, during the 2014-2015 academic year, an entry-level Master of Athletic Training (MAT) program was proposed, designed, and approved by the college. The last cohort in the Bachelor's entry-level athletic training program was accepted in the spring of 2016. The first cohort of graduate athletic training students in the MAT program will be accepted in the fall of 2018.

The Loras MAT program was designed to be distinctive from other entry-level programs due to the strengths and educational backgrounds of the faculty in addition to the unique opportunities provided on the Loras campus and in the Tri-State area. The faculty will provide a quality background in athletic training based upon their varying career paths prior to entering academia. This includes a focus on health, wellness, and providing quality healthcare. This will allow the graduate of the Loras MAT program to be prepared for the ever changing field of athletic training. At the national level, the focus of athletic training is shifting toward a bigger seat at the table with other allied healthcare providers. This is provided by the Loras MAT program through the 9+ credits focused on health and wellness in both athletes and the general public. Additionally, the clinical experiences have been set up to provide quality experiences in a shortened time frame, and with immersive design.

The purpose of this handbook is to inform you of the policies and procedures of our program. You are strongly encouraged to read this handbook several times each year. By reading this handbook you will continue to be familiar with the roles and responsibilities that you have as an athletic training student, as well as decrease the chance of violating the policies and procedures. Once you have read and understood this information, please sign the MAT Student Handbook Acknowledgement form. In addition to this handbook, athletic training students must also read and be familiar with the policies, procedures, and resources provided by Loras College, and within the Loras College Graduate Student Bulletin.

# Loras College Mission Statement

Loras, as a Catholic liberal arts college, creates a community of active learners, reflective thinkers, ethical decision-makers and responsible contributors in diverse professional, social and religious roles.

# Loras College Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Loras is committed to creating an environment where every member is beloved and accepted. Grounded in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and guided by Catholic Social Teaching, the Loras community supports diversity, equity, and inclusion and together creates a culture of mutual respect and understanding for one another. This is a shared vision and a shared responsibility inspired by the life of Jesus.

The Loras College Master of Athletic Training program also supports the Loras College mission for diversity, equity, and inclusion. To read more about the Loras College diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, visit:

https://www.loras.edu/diversity/?msclkid=3674f4d5a94711ec901c32910ab30cef

# Master of Athletic Training Program Mission, Outcomes & Objectives

## **MAT Program Mission**

The mission of the Loras College Master of Athletic Training Program is to produce active learners, responsible contributors, and reflective thinkers that can provide exceptional healthcare to an active population through quality didactic and clinical athletic training educational experiences.

## Program Assessment Plan: Goals, Objectives & Student Learning Outcomes

# **Student Learning Outcomes:**

- 1. Students will demonstrate comprehension of concepts and skills vital to basic function in health sciences careers.
  - **1.1** express competency professional knowledge areas in athletic training clinical rotation

Clinical evaluations Scores on Five Domains of Board of Certification Exams Scores on Five Sub-sections of End of semester cumulative exams

## 1.2 – recall foundational concepts in the health sciences – classroom

End of semester cumulative exams

Fall cumulative test = foundational areas, nutrition, biomechanics, physiology, anatomy, etc.

Spring cumulative test = professional areas completed

2. Students will be be active learners and reflective thinkers who use common research techniques to discover and implement athletic training evidence based medicine.

# 2.1 – read, reflect and summarize research related to athletic training clinical practice – classroom

Critically Appraised Paper – Therapeutic Interventions I Critically Appraised Topic - Therapeutic Interventions II Final Research Paper

# 2.2 – formulate clinical treatment plans using evidence based medicine – clinical rotation

Clinical evaluations Critically Appraised Topic – Therapeutic Interventions II

#### 2.3 – use patient outcomes to determine quality of care – clinical rotation

Clinical evaluations Capstone Patients

#### 3. Students will transition classroom knowledge into effective clinical practice.

# 3.1 – employ prevention, diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation techniques for injuries and illnesses common in active populations – classroom and clinical

Clinical evaluations Scores on Five Domains of Board of Certification Exam Capstone Patients

- 3.2 use administrative techniques common in healthcare clinical rotations Clinical evaluations Score on Single Domain of Board of Certification Exam
- 4. Students will demonstrate professional communication skills in order to efficiently communicate with both patients and healthcare professionals throughout the program's didactic and clinical education and in post-graduate settings.

# 4.1 – utilize proper medical terminology in verbal and written communication – classroom

Critically Appraised Paper – Therapeutic Interventions I Critically Appraised Topic – Therapeutic Interventions II

#### **Program Goals, Objectives, and Outcomes:**

2. The program will cultivate students who are active learners and reflective and implement athletic training evidence based medicine.

# 2.4 – preceptors will assist the students in the discovery and implementation of evidence based medicine in their practice. – Clinical rotations

Student evaluations Clinical Coordinator evaluations

### 2.5- Faculty will provide a classroom environment that allows students to grow

Faculty Assessment Scores Exit Interviews/Focus Groups Program Director Evaluations Coordinator of Clinical Education Evaluations Alumni Surveys

**3.** The program's didactic and clinical education will develop and educate students with the ability to be responsible contributors by transitioning classroom knowledge into effective clinical practice.

3.1 – employ prevention, diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation techniques for injuries and illnesses common in active populations – classroom and clinical

Alumni Surveys Employer Surveys

3.2 - use administrative techniques common in healthcare - clinical rotations

Alumni surveys

3.3 – preceptors will provide quality education opportunities. – Clinical rotations

Student evaluations Clinical coordinator evaluations

# 5. The program will ensure that graduates are prepared for autonomous practice as a Certified Athletic Trainer in post-graduate settings.

#### 5.1 – practice effectively in post graduate jobs and post-professional settings

Alumni surveys Employer Surveys

#### 5.2 – demonstrate a BOC pass rate compliant with CAATE standards

BOC First Time Pass Rate

### 5.3- demonstrate an acceptable post-graduate employment rate

Annual employment rate

#### **Student Learning Outcomes**

<u>Clinical evaluations:</u> completed by students and preceptors at the end of each clinical rotation, the Clinical Evaluation is first completed by the student (self-evaluation), and then sent to the Preceptor to be completed by the preceptor. The Preceptor then sends the completed evaluation electronically to the Clinical Education Coordinator and the student and discusses the evaluation with the student. For first year MAT students 3 clinical evaluations are completed at the end of each clinical education rotation, and for second year MAT students 3 clinical evaluations are completed at the end of each clinical education rotation. Clinical evaluations are an invaluable indicator that reveal if students are connecting educational professional knowledge learned in the classroom with real-time patient experiences in the clinical education setting. Having an external evaluator such as a preceptor is also incredibly helpful in relaying program strengths and areas for improvement in education of professional knowledge areas. (Outcome & Objectives: 1.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3)

<u>Board of Certification Exams</u>: The BOC exam is taken by second year MAT students between Jan-October which is during or after completion of their final semester as athletic training students. This culminating exam easily relays competency of the five domains of professional knowledge in athletic training (Outcome & Objectives: 1.1, 3.1, 3.2)

End of semester cumulative exams: The end of semester cumulative exam incorporates information from all 5 domains of athletic training knowledge and all students in the program take this exam during the final two weeks of the fall and spring semesters. Scores are expected to vary based upon student level in the program and content, with first year students fall scores aiming for 70-80% is this first semester clinical cumulative exam focuses on foundational knowledge. First year spring exam scores aim for the 60-70% range as this focuses on professional areas completed. Fall second year student exam scores should be over 70%. This exam is used as an indicator for progress in foundational and professional knowledge (5 domains) areas of athletic training, and aids both students and educators in assessing areas of strength and weakness. For second year students the end of semester cumulative exam is also an indicator of readiness for the BOC exam. (Outcome & Objectives: 1.1, 1.2)

<u>Critically Appraised Paper - 1<sup>st</sup> Therapeutic Interventions course:</u> Students complete this research assignment in ATR 520 Therapeutic Interventions I during their first year fall semester. This assignment assesses the student's ability to read, reflect upon and summarize research related to athletic training clinical practice, and also supports active learning and reflective thinking in athletic training evidence based medicine. (Outcome & Objectives: 2.1, 4.1).

<u>Critically Appraised Topic - 2<sup>nd</sup> Therapeutic Interventions course:</u> Students complete this research assignment during their first year second semester in ATR 521 Therapeutic Interventions II. This assignment assesses the student's ability to read, reflect upon and

summarize research related to athletic training clinical practice, and also supports active learning and reflective thinking in athletic training evidence based medicine. (Outcome & Objectives: 2.1, 2.2, 4.1).

<u>Final Research Paper:</u> Students complete this research assignment during their final semester in ATR 680 Research in Athletic Training. This assignment assesses the student's ability to read, reflect upon and summarize research related to athletic training clinical practice, and also supports creation, administration and reporting on original research. This research assignment and course supports active learning and reflective thinking in athletic training evidence based medicine. (Outcome & Objective: 2.1)

<u>Alumni surveys:</u> Alumni surveys are sent electronically to the graduating cohort of students within 1 year of graduation. Alumni survey questionnaires are sent to former students by the Loras ATP administrative assistant to ensure students may complete the survey anonymously and answer freely and honestly. The Loras administrative assistant then compiles data. The alumni survey addresses a wide array of knowledge areas and assesses student readiness to practice in those areas. For the Loras ATP Assessment plan, alumni surveys specifically address ability to formulate treatment plans using evidence based medicine, use of patient outcome surveys, faculty's ability to prepare students to practice in athletic training, employment of prevention, diagnostic, and therapeutic intervention techniques, administrative and professional behaviors, medical terminology, and overall ability to practice athletic training in a post baccalaureate setting. (Outcome & Objectives: 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1)

<u>Capstone Patients:</u> Capstone Standardized patient simulations occur during the final semester in ATR 606 Clinical Experience VI course. This is a week-long assignment where students are assigned to a simulated patient to evaluate, rehabilitate, and return to work or play over the course of the week. Patients are provided with scripts, and the PD or CEC attempts to attend each session with the student and patient. Each day students are responsible for the proper administrative task of evaluating and documents the patient progression and correlating rehabilitation. Documentation is submitted to the CEC daily during the week for grading and guidance. Capstone patients assist in the assessment of student ability to use patient outcome surveys to determine quality of care, and also assesses the student's ability to employ prevention, diagnostic, and therapeutic intervention techniques. (Outcome & Objectives: 2.3, 3.1)

<u>Student Preceptor Evaluations:</u> At the end of each clinical education rotation students complete an evaluation of their preceptor. This evaluation helps to ensure quality learning is occurring in the clinical education setting, and students are connecting didactic and clinical education. Preceptor evaluations are compiled by the administrative assistant and shared with preceptors annually in an anonymous manner. (Outcomes & Objectives: 2.4, 3.3)

<u>Clinical Coordinator Evaluations:</u> On an annual basis, typically at the end of each academic year, preceptors and clinical education sites are evaluated by the Clinical Education Coordinator in an effort to ensure a positive and educational learning environment is provided to students. The CEC then shares the evaluation with the preceptor. Clinical Education Coordinator Evaluations assist in the assessment of the preceptor's ability to assist students in the discovery and implementation of evidence based medicine and provide overall quality education opportunities.

(Outcome & Objectives: 2.4, 2.5, 3.3)

<u>Faculty Assessment Scores</u>: Loras ATP faculty have always been evaluated using IDEA assessment surveys at the end of each semester for each course that is taught. The IDEA rating system is an excellent tool measuring if Faculty are scored as above average in teaching, and also to show if each individual course is scored as above average by students. (Outcomes & Objective: 2.5).

<u>Exit Interviews/Focus Groups:</u> Exit surveys are sent electronically to all students graduating from the MAT program near the end of their final semester. Surveys are sent electronically by the ATP administrative assistant, completed by the student, and returned to the ATP administrative assistant for data compilation. Data is then used to determine how students rated the program. (Outcomes & Objective: 2.5)

<u>Program Director Evaluations:</u> The MAT Program Director will annually evaluate faculty who teach didactic courses in the MAT program. This data will serve to support a positive educational classroom environment that allows students to grow, learn and adequately prepare to serve as Certified Athletic Trainers. (Outcome & Objective: 2.5)

<u>Employer Surveys</u>: Employer surveys are sent to current employers of Loras ATP Alumni with the permission of the Alumni typically within 1 year following graduation from the MAT program. Employer surveys assist in the assessment of the former student's ability to employ prevention, diagnostic, and therapeutic intervention techniques and their overall ability to practice effectively in post baccalaureate settings. (Outcome & Objectives: 3.1, 5.1)

# **CAATE Accreditation Status**

The Loras College Athletic Training Program was initially accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in the fall of 2003. Effective July 1, 2006, existing CAAHEP accredited programs were transitioned into the new accrediting agency, or the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The Loras College AT Program was re-accredited by the CAATE as of 2008 for 10 years, through the 2018-2019 academic year. The program underwent re-accreditation procedures during the 2018-2019 academic year and also underwent substantive change procedures as it transitions to graduate degree status. The Loras Athletic Training Program was granted the change in degree status to a graduate degree program in the fall of 2018 by the CAATE. The same academic year, the CAATE conducted a comprehensive review and site visit and the program was re-accredited by the CAATE for 10 years, through the 2028-2029 academic year.

# Personnel & Responsibilities

The Athletic Training Program consists of administration, faculty athletic trainers, preceptors, team physicians, consulting medical specialists and graduate assistants.

#### **Loras College Provost**

The Provost is responsible for providing leadership to all academic programs and personnel. The Provost also participates in overall planning, implementation, and assessment of college-wide initiatives.

### **Director of Graduate and Continuing Education Programs**

The Director of Graduate and Continuing Education Programs oversees all aspects of graduate programming. This individual reports directly to the Provost.

### Loras College Molecular, Life and Health Sciences Division Chair

The Molecular, Life and Health Sciences (MLHS) Division Chair oversees all academic programs and personnel within the MLHS division. The MLHS Division Chair reports directly to the Provost.

#### **Athletic Training Program Director**

The MAT Program Director is responsible for the day-to-day operation, coordination, supervision, and evaluation of all aspects of the MAT Program. The program director reports to the MLHS Division Chair, and Provost.

## Athletic Training Coordinator of Clinical Education

The clinical experience coordinator (CEC) is responsible for the administration and management of the clinical education and clinical experience components of the MAT program. The CEC assists the program director in the day-to-day operation of the program. The clinical education coordinator reports directly to the MLHS Division Chair.

#### **Athletic Training Research Coordinator**

The athletic training research coordinator is responsible for coordinating the activities within the athletic training research laboratory. The coordinator is responsible for the organization of the laboratory as well as overseeing all of the research programs within the MAT Program.

#### **Athletic Training Faculty**

The athletic training faculty members are considered core faculty and teach within the MAT Program. The faculty assists the program director in the day to day operation of the program.

#### **Supporting Faculty**

The supporting athletic training faculty are those professors that teach supporting (pre-requisite) curricular courses such as Anatomy and Physiology, Physiology of Exercise, and Nutrition. The supporting faculty work closely with the AT Program director to assure that proper competencies are taught in each course when necessary.

#### **Adjunct Instructors**

Loras College employs adjunct instructors when necessary. These instructors primarily teach courses within the Loras Kinesiology program, however, may occasionally be needed in Athletic Training Courses.

#### Loras College Head Athletic Trainer

The Loras Head Athletic Trainer is responsible for overseeing all of the athletic training services at Loras. The Head Athletic Trainer reports to the Loras Athletic Director, but works closely with the Loras AT Program director on education related matters. The Head ATC can serve as a MAT program preceptor.

#### Preceptors

Preceptors are health care professionals who have completed the Loras College MAT Program Preceptor training and are an appropriately credentialed health care professional. These individuals are qualified to supervise clinical instruction during the clinical education courses within the curriculum and can also supervise the athletic training students during clinical experiences. The preceptors who supervise athletic training students during their main clinical experience rotations will be credentialed as Certified Athletic Trainer's or Physicians, and will be responsible for evaluating Athletic Training Students and required Clinical Proficiencies. These should be assessed in real-time as often as possible. Additional supplemental clinical experience opportunities may involve the supervision other credentialed health care professionals.

#### **Medical Director(s)**

The medical director(s) advises the athletic training program director in the education of athletic training students. He/she is directly involved in the athletic training student's education by frequently interacting with the students through guest lectures, surgical observations, practice and game attendance, as well as through other means.

#### **MLHS Division Secretary**

The MLHS Division Secretary assists faculty and staff with the daily operations of the MAT program. The secretary reports to the MLHS Division Chair.

#### Athletic Training Students (ATS's)

Athletic training students are those students whom have been accepted into the MAT Program and are current MAT Graduate Students.

#### **Observation Students**

Observation students are prospective athletic training students who have not been accepted into the MAT Program. These students may not, at any time, perform athletic training skills on patients while observing for hours required to be admitted to the program. Although an exposure is highly unlikely, these students must undergo OSHA or blood borne pathogens training, as well as FERPA training, prior to observing Loras or affiliated athletic trainers or athletic training students.

#### **Athletic Training Faculty**

Loras College Master of Athletic Training (MAT) Program 1450 Alta Vista LC Mail Box #127 Dubuque IA, 52001 563-588-7995

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Coordinator	Dubuque IA, 52001		
MAT Faculty	-		
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MAT Faculty	LC Mail Box #127		
	Dubuque IA, 52001		

## **Master of Athletic Training Program Fees**

Loras College Graduate Tuition and Fee information can be located at: <u>https://www.loras.edu/financial-aid/</u>

Additional MAT Program Fee Estimates (these fees are subject to change):

Item	Estimated Cost
Typhon Software Membership	\$100
Clinical Education Fee per credit hour for	\$21 (subject to change)
ATR 601-603 & 605-606	
ATR 604 General Medical Clinical	\$100
Liability Insurance	\$40
Equipment & Clothing Fees (vary by student)	\$100
BOC Practice Exam (s)	\$30
CPR Certification (every other year)	\$40
Background Check & Drug Screening	\$135
NATA Student Membership	\$80 (annually)
Clinical Education Travel	TBD

Typhon is a web-based software program designed specifically for CAATE-accredited programs that facilitates student and program assessment. Enrollment in Typhon and payment of the one-time fee provides student access to the program for 5 years and includes educational tools to assist students in their academic progression in the program and prepare them for employment post-graduation.

The CAATE accreditation standards require that students purchase a liability insurance policy during the professional phase of the entry level program. This requirement is consistent across all entry level programs regardless of level (bachelors or masters). Information regarding the purchase of liability insurance can be obtained from the MAT Program Director.

# Admission Requirements and Procedures

# **Eligibility:**

- Strong academic ability, evidenced by a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0.
- Completion of the following prerequisite course requirements before the start of the program:
  - Principles of Biology I
  - o General Chemistry I
  - Anatomy & Physiology I
  - Anatomy & Physiology II
  - Nutrition
  - Lifespan Development
  - o Biomechanics
  - Statistics
  - o Physics I
  - Exercise Physiology

All students must apply through the ATCAS web-site. Applicants must submit the following application materials:

- 1) Visit the ATCAS website: https://caate.net/apply-now/, click on "Apply Now" button, then click "Create Account", and complete the online application. (Preferred browsers are Google Chrome or Firefox).
- 2) As part of the ATCAS application, we require you to submit the following supplemental documents:
  - a. Official transcripts from each institution attended

i. Download a Transcript Request Form in the "Academic History" section of your ATCAS online application for each institution attended. Send the Request Form to the Registrar's Office of each institution (along with any associated transcript fee). The Registrar's Office will then send your official transcript directly to ATCAS.

b. Two Letters of Recommendation

i. Create two Recommendation Requests in the "Supporting Information" section of your ATCAS online application, which will then be emailed to your references. Your references will upload their recommendation directly to an Evaluator Portal which will then automatically get sent to ATCAS.

ii. One of the letters needs to be from a Certified Athletic Trainer.

c. Personal Statement

i. The typewritten personal statement should outline your professional goals, both short-term and long-term, including why you have chosen Athletic Training as a career (maximum two pages double-spaced). Upload this file to the "Supporting Information" section of your ATCAS online application.

d. Resume

i. Upload this file to the "Supporting Information" section of your ATCAS online application.

e. Completed Observation Hour Log

i. Students must complete observation hours in two different Athletic Training settings with two different Certified Athletic Trainers (ATC). Examples of differing settings include but are not limited to: high school, college or university, clinics, industrial, professional or minor league sports. A total of 50 observation hours are required by December 1. Each athletic trainer observed will need to sign an Observation Hour Log form. Upload your completed Observation Hour Log form to the "Documents" tab within the "Program Materials" section of your ATCAS online application. (You do not need to manually enter your observation hours in the "Supporting Information" section).

# **Acceptance Procedures**

# **Application Deadline:**

Summer cohort enrollment: the ATCAS online application should be submitted and all supplemental application documents should be received by December 1. *Applications submitted after the deadline will be considered on an individual basis.* 

## Interview and Admission Decision:

We have rolling admissions for this program (up until the deadline), therefore after your application is complete and verified in ATCAS, your file will be reviewed by the Program Director to determine whether to move forward with an interview. You will then be contacted with information about your next steps. After completion of your interview (or after review of your file), you will be notified of an admission decision via email within two weeks.

Please note that acceptance is contingent upon the completion of the following items:

- Evidence of a valid American Red Cross CPR/AED certification for the Professional Rescuer OR American Heart Association Lifesaver Certification OR an equivalent certification from another organization
- Must pass a routine background check and drug screening
- Must sign a technical standards form (See Appendix A)
- Must purchase professional liability insurance
- Must complete a routine physical examination
- Immunization Review verifying MMR, Tdap, 1<sup>st</sup> in series of 3 hepatitis B, and the COVID-19 vaccines completed. A signed immunization review form (see appendix B) or a printed copy of the student's immunization record is required.

## **Conditional Admission**

Students who have a GPA between 2.75 and 2.99 may be offered a conditional admission to the program. These students will be required to demonstrate minimal academic achievement during the summer session in order to be fully admitted into the program. Students on a conditional admit must achieve a GPA of 3.00 during the first summer session in the required graduate level courses. If a GPA of 3.00 in the graduate courses is not achieved during the summer session, the offer of admission will be withdrawn.

# **Procedures for Transferring from another Athletic Training Program**

Students interested in transferring to the Loras MAT from another graduate CAATE accredited athletic training program must contact the MAT Program Director to determine if transferring is attainable depending on the student's current academic progress. Up to 12 credits of coursework where a GPA of 3.0 or above has been achieved, can be transferred from another CAATE Accredited program if approved by Program Director. Due to the competency-based nature of accredited athletic training programs, student transfer may not be feasible. All applicants must meet the pre-requisite requirements and complete the application process

# **Background Checks**

Upon admission to the Loras College MAT program, students must complete a routine background check prior to full acceptance. Directions for completion will be provided to the student. The student will complete the background check with Loras' designated compliance vendor, Certiphi Screening. The background check will be reviewed by the MAT Program Director to determine any concerns regarding full acceptance. Any background check identifying a conviction of a felony will prevent the student from being admitted into the program. These background checks will be shared with MAT program affiliated clinical sites upon their request so that students may participate in clinical education at the site. It will be the student's responsibility to pay any associated fees incurred from the background check.

# **Physical Examination**

Upon admission to the Loras College MAT program, students must complete a routine physical examination with a physician. A physical form will be provided to the student. Physical exam results may be shared with MAT program affiliated clinical sites if warranted based on any restrictions identified by the physician. (ie: temporary lifting restrictions, etc.).

# **Drug Screening**

Students will be required to complete a drug screening after admission and prior to the start of program coursework in order to meet MAT program clinical site requirements. Directions for completion will be provided to the student. The student will complete the drug screening with Loras' designated compliance vendor, Certiphi Screening. It will be the student's responsibility to pay any associated fees incurred from this drug screening. Results of the drug screening will be shared with the program director and clinical site. Positive drug screening results may result in student dismissal or suspension from the program or clinical education assignment as determined by the Program Director, Clinical Education Coordinator and Director of Graduate Programming.

## **Technical Standards**

Technical Standards for Admission (see Appendix A). Each student must read, and sign the technical standards form.

# **Retention Policy**

Students enrolled in the MAT program must maintain a 3.0 GPA, and receive a grade of C or above in all MAT courses required for degree completion. In addition to maintaining a 3.0 GPA students are expected to achieve success in assigned clinical education courses and experiences. This includes but is not limited to a score of 75% or higher on all clinical evaluation performed by preceptors, professional behavior, and adherence to all program clinical education policies and procedures.

# Academic Probation Status

Students who fail to achieve a 3.0 GPA during a given semester are placed on academic alert, and must achieve a minimum 3.0 GPA the following semester, and MAT course grades with a C or above the following semester. Students who fail to meet the 3.0 GPA requirement for two consecutive semesters are placed on academic probation and will be removed from clinical education courses. The student may continue in didactic coursework. Probationary status will be reviewed at the conclusion of the next academic term. The student will be required to demonstrate that any cause of probationary status has been remedied through the submission of a written statement, and achievement of satisfactory grades and GPA. The written statement will be reviewed by program faculty who will make a recommendation for return to good academic standing or dismissal. If the student is taken off probation, s/he will return to clinical coursework. Any missed clinical education experiences will have to be made up at a future time and will result in a delay in program completion.

## MAT Program Dismissal & Probation Policy

Students in the Athletic Training graduate program may be placed on probation based on any one of the following criteria:

1. Cumulative graduate level GPA falls below 3.0 or a student earns more than 2 C's in graduate level coursework for more than 2 consecutive semesters.

2. A student has been negatively evaluated by two or more preceptors.

3. A student has been found to be in violation of the College's student code of conduct.

4. A student has been found to violate BOC or NATA ethical guidelines during coursework or during clinical education experiences.

5. Other grounds for program probation or dismissal may include: failure to adhere to technical standards, professional misconduct, or failure to successfully pass other programmatic requirements.

Graduate Athletic Training students may be dismissed from the program in the event of repeated or serious offenses, given that those who hold a Master of Athletic Training degree require a high level of professional competence and personal integrity. This probation/dismissal policy is not exclusive of other academic or professional deficiencies.

# Loras College Graduate Dismissal and Appeal Policy

Please refer to the Loras College Graduate Bulletin.

# **Program Graduation Requirements**

Each student is assigned a faculty advisor who is the director of that student's program. The student is to meet with the advisor at the beginning of enrollment and prior to registration thereafter to design an individualized program of courses, clinical experiences, etc. A minimum of 64 credits for the degree program are required. Up to 12 credits of coursework can be transferred from another CAATE Accredited program if approved by Program Director. A 3.0 GPA is required to graduate from Loras College Graduate Programs.

# Research & Professional Development Requirement

Each student will complete a research project that is arranged and agreed upon with the MAT Research Coordinator, MAT Faculty, or an assigned Research Advisor. The research component must be satisfactorily completed to graduate from the MAT Program. In addition, students are required to present research at the Loras College Legacy Symposium and must attempt to present research at one external conference. The MAT program research requirements may or may not be associated with course assignments.

Regardless of the outcome of student's research being accepted for presentation at an external conference, students must attend one professional conference prior to graduating from the MAT program. Conference attendance and external research presentation is contingent on funding.

## **BOC Exam Testing & Approval Preparation Procedures**

BOC Exam Readiness Assessed by the following measures:

- GPA
- End of Semester Clinical Cumulative Exams
- Study preparedness with assigned faculty
- BOC Practice Exams

During the fall semester of MAT student's final year in the program, they will be individually assigned to a MAT faculty member to coordinate BOC exam study with once per week for a minimum of 30 minutes weekly.

During the initial study session, the student will discuss the planned testing window for taking the BOC (Winter, Spring or Summer of their final semester), and determine a study plan by month and week. For example during week 1 of September, student will study emergency care chapters 1-3. Each domain of the BOC exam should be studied for no less than 1 month, and depending on the individual student, sometimes longer. Additional sub-topics should also be studied such as pharmacology, nutrition, pathophysiology, and all related subject matter listed in *Athletic Training Exam Review* Book.

Every student will be required to purchase *Athletic Training Exam Review* Book. (Van Ost, Lew Feirman, Manfre').

# Exam Readiness Measure Criteria

- GPA: 3.0 or above
- End of Semester Clinical Cumulative Exams: Must meet assessment measures throughout curriculum. Scores will be provided throughout each clinical course.
- Study preparedness with assigned faculty: Faculty BOC advisor will assess progress throughout the year based on student readiness and engagement in study sessions.
- BOC Practice Exams: The number of practice exams required will vary from student to student and students are responsible for the purchase of these exams, and taking them on dates assigned as discussed with Faculty BOC advisor. These exams must show improved progress in scores throughout the academic year, and in order for BOC exam approval to be granted a final score of 80% or above in every domain on the BOC practice exam must be achieved. Decreasing scores throughout the academic year will result in a meeting with the student's faculty BOC advisor to discuss postponing the exam test date. Only exams from the BOC web-site are considered accurate measures of exam readiness. www.bocatc.org.

# Master of Athletic Training Program Required Courses & Course Descriptions

(64 semester credits)

# L.ATR-510 Evaluation of Injuries I

In this course, students are introduced to the injury evaluation process and the assessment of athletic injuries found in the lumbar spine and lower extremity.

# L.ATR-511 Evaluation of Injuries II

In this course, students are introduced to the assessment of conditions affecting the upper extremity, head and neck. Additionally, management of emergency care of head and neck injuries is covered.

# L.ATR-520 Therapeutic Interventions I

This is an introduction to the theory and practical use of therapeutic modalities in sports medicine. Classroom instruction and laboratory practical components will allow the students to learn and develop necessary athletic training competencies regarding therapeutic modalities and therapeutic agents.

# L.ATR-521 Therapeutic Interventions II

This course will focus on methods and techniques in the selection and application of rehabilitation techniques in sports medicine. Key components will focus on the overall functional progression of rehabilitative exercise, specific rehabilitative exercises, and the addition of advanced techniques such as joint manipulations will be also be taught.

# L.ATR 530 Evidence Based Practice of Athletic Training

This course will serve as a foundation to the research aspect of the MAT program. Students will

be exposed to the need for research, common research techniques in athletic training, and outline a research question to serve as their capstone project.

# L.ATR-540 Epidemiology

This course is intended to enhance the students' understanding of the role of epidemiologic study in evaluating the relationships between physical activity and health and/or disease outcomes. Students will learn about the development of current physical activity recommendations, trends in physical activity in the U.S., epidemiologic study designs and the techniques used to measure physical activity, and most importantly, will learn to critically evaluate the evidence and literature in this topic area.

# L.ATR-541 Public Health

Students will be introduced to the concept of public health and the importance of improving the lives of people where they live, work, and play. The methods to track diseases, prevent illnesses, and understand the etiologies and risk factors for conditions that effect health are also discussed.

# L.ATR-542 Health and Wellness Promotion

This course is intended to enhance student understanding of chronic disease, public and community health, and health and wellness promotion. The course will focus on methods used in disease prevention in the form of preventative healthcare, and behavior change in nutrition, and exercise in relation to the individual, in the workplace, and greater society. Students will learn and develop health and wellness promotion programming to reduce health risks and chronic disease, including fitness prescription, weight management, body composition, and disordered eating.

# L.ATR-575 Advanced Care of Athletic Illness and Injury

This course is designed to give students advanced skills necessary to provide healthcare to an active population. Key topics will focus on emergency care, injury prevention, and administrative tasks associated in the provision of healthcare.

# L.ATR-580 Pathophysiology

This course will focus on common diseases and illnesses that impact the human body and impact homeostasis. The common etiology, signs and symptoms, diagnostic testing and appropriate referrals and treatment will be examined for each disease covered. Diseases covered in this course cover the entire lifespan.

# L.ATR-601 Clinical Experience I

Clinical Education practical hours in an athletic training setting for the athletic training student are a large component of this course. Clinical experiences are provided in a variety of athletic training settings but can include a variety of sports on the Loras College campus, and at local high schools. Athletic Training Students are to adhere to all Loras MAT policies concerning clinical assignments. These policies can be located in the Loras MAT Handbook. Students will meet once a week during this Clinical Experience to review clinical progress and proficiencies. This Clinical Experience will focus on Pre-participation exams, Concussion baseline testing, Advanced Care of Athletic Injury & Illness skills, Evaluation of Lower Extremity.

# L.ATR-602 Clinical Experience II

Clinical Education practical hours in an athletic training setting for the athletic training student are a large component of this course. Clinical experiences are provided in a variety of athletic training settings but can include a variety of sports on the Loras College campus, local high schools, Dubuque Fighting Saints Hockey, Paramount Ambulance Service, and Finley Hospital. Athletic Training Students are to adhere to all Loras M.A.T policies concerning clinical assignments. These policies can be located in the Loras M.A.T Handbook. Students will meet once a week in the classroom during this Clinical Experience to review clinical progress, proficiencies, and practice skills. This clinical experience will focus on emergency care of athletic injury, lower extremity orthopedic evaluation, therapeutic modalities, and surgical observations.

# L.ATR-603 Clinical Experience III

Clinical Education practical hours in an athletic training setting for the athletic training student are a large component of this course. Clinical experiences are provided in a variety of athletic training settings but can include a variety of sports on the Loras College campus, local high schools, Dubuque Fighting Saints Hockey, local Geriatric Care Facilities, Spine & Sport Chiropractic, Clarke & Associates Orthotics, Dubuque Physical Therapy, and Finley Hospital. Athletic Training Students are to adhere to all Loras MAT policies concerning clinical assignments. These policies can be located in the Loras MAT Handbook. Students will meet once a week in the classroom during this Clinical Experience to review clinical progress, proficiencies, and practice skills. This Clinical Experience will focus on rehabilitation of athletic injury, orthotics, surgical observations, and upper extremity & spinal evaluation.

## L.ATR- 604 Clinical Experience IV

Clinical Education practical hours in an athletic training setting for the athletic training student are a large component of this course. Clinical experiences are provided in a variety of athletic training settings but can include Crescent Community Health Center, Finley Occupational Health, Finley Convenient Care, or additional general medical care sites. Athletic Training Students are to adhere to all Loras MAT policies concerning clinical assignments. These policies can be located in the Loras MAT Handbook. Students will meet once a week in the classroom during this Clinical Experience to review clinical progress, proficiencies, and practice skills. This Clinical Experience will focus on general medical conditions and appropriate treatment for general medical illness and injury.

# L.ATR- 605 Clinical Experience V

Clinical Education practical hours in an athletic training setting for the athletic training student are a large component of this course. Clinical experiences are provided in a variety of athletic training settings but can include a variety of sports on the Loras College campus, local high schools, Dubuque Fighting Saints Hockey, or additional sports medicine sites. Athletic Training Students are to adhere to all Loras MAT policies concerning clinical assignments. These policies can be located in the Loras MAT Handbook. Students will meet once a week in the classroom during this Clinical Experience to review clinical progress, proficiencies, and practice skills. This Clinical Experience will focus on rehabilitation of athletic injury, evaluation of injury and illness, and administration.

# L.ATR- 606 Clinical Experience VI

Clinical Education practical hours in an athletic training setting for the athletic training student are a large component of this course. Clinical experiences are provided in a variety of athletic training settings but can include a variety of sports on the Loras College campus, local high schools, Dubuque Fighting Saints Hockey, or additional sports medicine sites. Athletic Training Students are to adhere to all Loras MAT policies concerning clinical assignments. These policies can be located in the Loras MAT Handbook. Students will meet once a week in the classroom during this Clinical Experience to review clinical progress, proficiencies, and practice skills. This Clinical Experience will focus on rehabilitation of athletic injury, evaluation of injury and illness, and administration.

# L.ATR- 610 Advanced Psychology of Injuries

This course serves as an exploration in the psychological aspect of working with patients in a healthcare setting. Specifically, how patients recovering from injuries deal with the many factors that influence their recovery and what impact and specific strategies the athletic trainer can have and use.

# L.ATR- 611 Topics in Athletic Training

This course will allow students to discuss the most pertinent and evolving topics in the profession. This will likely include changes in the standards of practice, professional regulation, interprofessional education, and emerging areas of practice.

## L.ATR- 640 Healthcare Administration

This course provides experience in healthcare administration. Key components focus on reimbursement for services, legal concepts associated with healthcare, and planning, coordinating, and supervising all administrative components of a healthcare organization.

## L.ATR- 680 Research in Athletic Training

This course provides a capstone experience for students in healthcare research. Students will use skills in evidence based medicine to propose, conduct, and analyze a research project. Students will be required to disseminate this research at a minimum at local research symposiums

# <u>Curricular Plan</u>

Students with Loras general education or Kinesiology program requirements remaining will also need to include those courses in their curricular plan. This will not be applicable to every student. Students should regularly discuss their curricular plan with their academic advisor and the MAT program director.

SUMMER SEMESTER 1	
Title	CR
ATR 510 Evaluation of Injuries I	3
ATR 575 Advanced Care of Athletic Illness & Injury	3
ATR 601 Clinical Experience I	2

FALL SEMESTER 1		SPRING SEMESTER 1	
Title	CR	Title	CR
ATR 520 Therapeutic Interventions I	3	ATR 580 Pathophysiology	3
ATR 511 Evaluation of Injuries II	3	ATR 521 Therapeutic Interventions II	3
ATR 530 Evidence Based Practice of Athletic Training	3	ATR 603 Clinical Experience III	3
ATR 602 Clinical Experience II	3		

SUMMER SEMESTER 2	
Title	CR
ATR 540 Epidemiology	3
ATR 541 Public Health	3
ATR 604 Clinical Experience IV	2

FALL SEMESTER 2		SPRING SEMESTER 2	
Title	CR	Title	CR
ATR 605 Clinical Experience V	6	ATR 606 Clinical Experience VI	6
ATR 610 Advanced Psychology of Injuries	3	ATR 680 Research in Athletic Training	3
ATR 542 Health and Wellness Promotion	3	ATR 611 Topics in AT	3
ATR 640 Healthcare Administration	3		

## **<u>Clinical Education Experiences</u>**

Loras College Internship, Practica, and Clinical Experience Course Credit Policy

Internships, practica, field and clinical experiences provide students the opportunity to integrate theoretical classroom learning with applied workplace experiences that relate to the students' area of study. Eligibility for and expectations of students applying for these opportunities may vary by academic program. The academic standard requires that students complete a minimum of 50 hours of on-site internship, practica, field or clinical experience per credit hour. A 3-credit experience would thus require a minimum of 150 hours of on-site work. Information on internship, practica, field and clinical options may be obtained from the faculty director of a student's program. These experiences may be credit-bearing or non-credit-bearing, paid or unpaid, and they may be arranged locally or in other geographic areas either during the academic year or the summer. Credit for the internships, practica, field and clinical experiences 13 may be arranged through a student's academic program, in conjunction with the office of the registrar. Applications for these opportunities must be completed and approved before registration takes place. Registration must be completed before the student begins the work.

#### Expectations of Student Clinical Duties

Clinical education experiences are educational opportunities. Students should take advantage of every opportunity to learn. Do not wait to be asked to help, be outgoing, helpful, and eager to learn. Additionally, students should use preceptors as resources. Ask questions, when appropriate, in order to enhance learning. Duties assigned to students may vary between clinical

sites and preceptors. The preceptor will inform students of their expectations and goals for the clinical experience during the first week of the rotation. Duties will include anything from treatments, rehabilitation, taping, practice coverage, game coverage, documentation of preparticipation exams and injuries and many others. Students must be under the supervision of their preceptor at all times at each rotation. Students should not perform any actions or duties that are beyond what they have learned in the classroom. If a student feels they are in an uncomfortable situation, they should immediately stop and report this to their preceptor. The goal of the clinical experience is to practice the competencies and proficiencies acquired in the classroom and prepare students for future careers in athletic training.

#### Participation in Athletics

Loras College students in their 4<sup>th</sup> year at Loras will be allowed to participate in athletics during their first year in the MAT program during their primary athletic season. Students may only participate in one sport for one season. Students may not participate in two sports during their 4<sup>th</sup> year at Loras (first year in the MAT program). Students may not participate in two seasons of one sport (ie: fall and spring tennis or golf), during their 4<sup>th</sup> year at Loras. Arrangements for completion of clinical hour requirements for student-athletes who are enrolled in the MAT program will be made with the Clinical Education Coordinator, and communicated with the assigned Preceptor(s), Coaches, and Program Director. Athletic participation during the second year of the MAT program is not permitted due to required immersive clinical experiences. Athletes may have to extend their time in the program by an additional semester, or create an alternative plan to ensure all required clinical experience requirements have been completed. Participation in athletics and a plan to fulfill all clinical experiences will be discussed with the Program Director and Clinical Education Coordinator upon acceptance into the program. MAT students should be prepared to prioritize academic requirements upon beginning graduate coursework.

## <u>CAATE 2020 Clinical Education Standards (For a complete listing of all CAATE Educational</u> <u>Standards visit https://caate.net/pp-standards/</u>

Standard 9: All courses used to fulfill athletic training clinical experience requirements and to meet the curricular content standards (Standards 56 through 94) are delivered at the graduate level.

Standard 10: Students fulfill all athletic training clinical experience requirements and curricular content standards (Standards 56 through 94) within the professional program.

Standard 11: The program uses clearly written syllabi for all courses that are part of the professional program.

Standard 12: Course credits are consistent with institutional policy or institutional practice.

Standard 13: The program ensures that the time commitment for completing program requirements does not adversely affect students' progression through the program.

Standard 14: A program's clinical education requirements are met through graduate courses and span a minimum of two academic years.

Standard 15: A program's athletic training clinical experiences and supplemental clinical experiences provide a logical progression of increasingly complex and autonomous patient-care and client-care experiences.

Standard 16: The clinical education component is planned to include at least one athletic training immersive clinical experience.

Standard 17: A program's clinical education component is planned to include clinical practice opportunities with varied client/patient populations. Populations must include clients/patients:

- throughout the lifespan (for example, pediatric, adult, elderly),
- of different sexes,
- with different socioeconomic statuses,
- of varying levels of activity and athletic ability (for example, competitive and recreational, individual and team activities, high- and low-intensity activities),
  who participate in nonsport activities (for example, participants in military, industrial, occupational, leisure activities, performing arts).

Standard 18: Students gain experience with patients with a variety of health conditions commonly seen in athletic training practice.

Standard 22: All sites where students are involved in clinical education (excluding the sponsoring institution) have a current affiliation agreement or memorandum of understanding that is endorsed by the appropriate administrative authority at both the sponsoring institution and site.

Standard 29: The program ensures that each student is oriented to the policies and procedures of their clinical site.

Standard 30: Educational opportunities and placements are not prejudicial or discriminatory.

Standard 31: Athletic training clinical experiences are supervised by a preceptor who is an athletic trainer or a physician.

Standard 32: Regular and ongoing communication occurs between the program and each preceptor

Standard 33: All active clinical sites are evaluated by the program on an annual basis.

Standard 45: Preceptors are health care providers whose experience and qualifications include the following:

- Licensure as a health care provider, credentialed by the state in which they practice (where regulated) BOC certification in good standing and state credential (in states with regulation) for preceptors who are solely credentialed as athletic trainers
- Planned and ongoing education for their role as a preceptor
- Contemporary expertise

Standard 46: Preceptors function to supervise, instruct, and mentor students during clinical education in accordance with the program's policies and procedures. Preceptors who are athletic trainers or physicians assess students' abilities to meet the curricular content standards (Standards 56 through 94).

Standard 47: The number and qualifications of preceptors are sufficient to meet the clinical education needs of the program.

Standard 48: Program faculty and preceptors receive regular evaluations and feedback on their performance pertaining to quality of instruction and student learning.

# **Clinical Experience Requirements**

The clinical education component of the Loras Athletic Training Program is designed to provide authentic, real-time opportunities to practice and integrate athletic training knowledge, skills, and clinical abilities. Following classroom and laboratory competence, students will have the opportunity to practice those skills in clinical rotations and interact with a variety of patient populations, care providers, and health care settings.

On a typical day, students must be available in the morning for class (8am-12pm) and in the afternoons for clinical experience (2pm-7pm) Times will vary depending on site. Students must also be available nights and weekends for clinical education assignments and requirements as needed. Students may need to travel off-campus to various clinical education sites for primary or supplemental clinical experiences. Off-campus clinical sites can be up to roughly 40 miles away from campus. These sites are located within Dubuque and greater tri-state area which includes eastern Illinois and southwest Wisconsin.

Students are responsible for arranging their own travel and for any costs associated with travel. Carpooling to clinical sites is not a reliable transportation option. At some clinical sites, only one student will be assigned, and when multiple students are assigned to an off-campus clinical site, student clinical schedules will vary.

Within the first year of the MAT program, several clinical experiences may be located offcampus. In the second year of the MAT program, students complete immersive clinical experiences that may both be located on-campus, in the tri-state area, or across the country, depending on student goals and clinical site availability. For more information on immersive clinical experiences, see the Clinical Experience Rotation section.

Students must be aware that the practice of athletic training is regulated under licensure in the state of Iowa, as it is in most states. Therefore, providing athletic training services without the direct supervision of a preceptor is in direct violation of the State of Iowa Athletic Training Practice Act, and CAATE educational standards. All violators are subject to legal ramification. Students will be required to wear identification (ie: name tag or badge) while engaged in clinical education in order to identify themselves as students and not clinicians.

## Clinical Education Attendance Policy

In the event a student is aware of a planned absence from clinical education (wedding, funeral, etc.), their preceptor and the CEC must be notified 1 week, or 7 calendar days in advance. If a student is ill and unable to attend their assigned clinical education rotation, they must notify their preceptor and the CEC the same day of their absence. Notification of any absences via email is acceptable. It is the student's responsibility to communicate with their preceptor in order to make-up any missed clinical education hours. Failure to notify preceptors and/or the CEC of planned absences or absences related to illness may result in a program infraction.

#### **Clinical Rotation Orientation**

At the start of each new clinical experience, preceptors must provide students with an orientation session. This session must cover bloodborne pathogen policies for that clinical site, emergency action plans for that clinical site, preceptor expectations for athletic training students, and a normal schedule for athletic training students. A signed orientation form must be returned to the CEC by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of each clinical rotation.

## Clinical Proficiencies & Educational Competencies

Proficiencies and educational competencies will be completed during clinical experiences with preceptors, and in some cases, during courses with MAT faculty. All clinical proficiencies and competencies must be signed-off by a certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) or physician (MD/DO). Further details regarding proficiency requirements can be located in the MAT Clinical Proficiency book provided to each student.

#### Clinical Site Visits:

All clinical education sites must be evaluated by the program on an annual and planned basis. The Coordinator of Clinical Education will conduct regular site visits (minimum of 1 per year) throughout the year as a means to communicate with the preceptor, ensure compliance of policies and procedures, and observe the athletic training student(s) in the clinical setting.

## Emergency Action Plans (EAP)

Students will have access to an EAP at each clinical site they are assigned to. The exceptions to this rule are the Finley Emergency Room. Emergency action plans are updated as needed. They can be found on the student eLearn website under Athletic Training program information. Students should review the EAP prior to the start of their clinical rotation and discuss the EAP with their preceptor.

## Clinical Experience Evaluation Requirements

Clinical experience evaluations can be located on eLearn. Students will complete a selfevaluation at the start of their final week of their assigned rotation. The self-evaluation will be emailed to their preceptor and the CEC will be copied on the email. The preceptor will complete the student evaluation by the final day of the student's assigned rotation. The completed evaluation will be emailed to the CEC and the student will be copied. The preceptor will also coordinate a time to discuss the evaluation with the student. For second year MAT students enrolled in immersive Clinical Experiences ATR 605 & 606, a mid-clinical evaluation will also be required at week 4. The same procedure applies to these student evaluations. Students must also complete a preceptor evaluation during the final week of the assigned clinical rotation. The preceptor evaluation can be located on eLearn. The preceptor evaluation must be submitted to the CEC via email by the final day of the clinical experience. The CEC will collect all preceptor evaluations, review them, address issues if needed, and then send to the MLHS Administrative Assistant for compilation. At the end of each semester, confidential compiled preceptor evaluation data will be shared with each preceptor.

Evaluation grading scales vary based upon the Clinical Experience Course the student is enrolled in. Evaluation grading is outlined in detail on Clinical Experience Course syllabi, as well as on student evaluations.

## Clinical Experience Hour Documentation

Students are expected to record clinical education hours daily on the provided student hour log. If an AT student will not be able to achieve the minimum number of hours in a week, or if he/she chooses to volunteer over the maximum hours in a week, he/she must obtain approval from an AT Program administrator. Disciplinary action may ensue for achieving less than the minimum or greater than the maximum requirements without approval. Students can go over maximum amounts if the STUDENT desires so and classroom performance is above expected levels. Expected classroom performance indicate that the student is at a minimum, meeting the program retention policy. Students must be provided 1 day off every 7 days on average over the course of a month, and this must be reflected in student hour logs. Clinical hours will be turned in to the CEC on a weekly basis. Students cannot be provided monetary remuneration for any clinical education experience. Hour guidelines for each Clinical Experience Course are as follows:

ATR 601 Clinical Experience I, 2 credit hours: 100 hours minimum-120 hours maximum
(25/week-35/week)
ATR 602 Clinical Experience II, 3 credit hours: 150 hours minimum-300 hours maximum
(20/week-30/week)
ATR 603 Clinical Experience III, 3 credit hours: 150 hours minimum-300 hours maximum
(20/week-30/week)
ATR 604 Clinical Experience IV, 2 credit hours: 100 hours minimum-150 hours maximum
(25/week-40/week)
ATR 605 Clinical Experience V, 6 credit hours: 8-week Immersive Clinical Experience
300 hours minimum- 340 hours maximum
(37.5/week-42.5/week)
ATR 606 Clinical Experience VI, 6 credit hours: 8-week Immersive Clinical Experience
300 hours minimum- 340 hours maximum
(37.5/week-42.5/week)
References:

University of Northern Iowa Athletic Training Student Handbook: <u>https://coe.uni.edu/sites/default/files/matr\_student\_handbook\_2018-2019.pdf</u>

The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine: https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/som/offices/registrars/Registration/ClinicalCurriculumAttendance.pdf

## **Clinical Experience Rotations**

Clinical education requirements will be completed over the course of two years (6 academic semesters). The required clinical education rotations and educational focuses are outlined below but may vary for each student.

MAT Year 1					
Summer Semester	Fall Semester	Spring Semester			
Clinical Experience I – 2 credits 100 hours minimum, 120 hours maximum	Clinical Experience II – 3 credits 150 hours minimum, 300 hours maximum	Clinical Experience III – 3 credits 150 hours min., 300 hours max.			
College FB, SOC, VB, XC, Local High Schools, Ambulance Ride-Alongs <b>Focus:</b> PPEs, Concussion Baseline Testing, AT Skills I & II, Evaluation of LE	College FB, SOC, VB, BB, WR, Saints, Local HS, Finley Hospital, Medical Associates & Dubuque Orthopaedics <b>Focus:</b> Emergency Care, Lower Extremity Eval, Modalities, & Surgical Observations	College BSB, SB, LAX, MVB, DBQ Fighting Saints, Local HS, Stonehill, Spine & Sport Clinic, DBQ PT Clinic, Finley Hospital, Medical Associates & Dubuque Orthopaedics <b>Focus:</b> Rehabilitation, Orthotics, Surgical Observations, & Upper Extremity			
MAT Year 2					
Summer Semester	Fall Semester	Spring Semester			
Clinical Experience IV – 2 credits 100 hours min., 150 hours max.	Clinical Experience V – 6 credits, 8 wk immersive experience 300 hours min, 340 hour max.	Clinical Experience V – 6 credits, 8 wk immersive experience 300 hours min, 340 hour max.			
Crescent Health, Finley (various departments), Southwest Health, Grant Regional, High Point Family Medicine <b>Focus:</b> General Medical Rotations	College, DBQ Fighting Saints, Local HS, Out of Town Sites <b>Focus:</b> Administration, Evaluations, Rhb	College, DBQ Fighting Saints, Local HS, Out of Town Sites Focus: Administration, Evaluations, Rhb			

At a minimum, students will be exposed to:

Lower Extremity Injuries Upper Extremity Injuries Clients/Patients of different sexes Clients/Patients of varying socioeconomic status Clients/Patients of varying levels of activity & athletics (competitive, recreational, individual and team activities, high and low intensity activities) Non-sport populations (e.g. participants in military, industrial, occupational, leisure activities) Equipment Intensive Sport General Medical Rehabilitation Intensive Orthopedic Emergency Medicine Surgical

# During clinical assignments, students must always be in auditory and visual contact with their preceptor.

## Student Concerns

The following processes should be followed regarding student concerns during clinical education experiences.

- 1. Unprofessional behavior or clinical experience concerns regarding a student
  - a. First should be dealt with by the preceptor.

- b. If the concern continues or is unresolved, it should be referred to the Clinical Education Coordinator.
- 2. Unprofessional behavior or clinical experience concerns regarding a preceptor
  - a. The student may consult the Clinical Education Coordinator regarding the concern, or the student may bring the concern to the attention of that preceptor if they feel comfortable. The Clinical Education Coordinator may advise the student to have a conversation with the Preceptor depending on the scope of the concern.
  - b. If conduct continues or the single instance is major (i.e. NATA Code of Ethics or BOC Standards of Practice violation) then the Clinical Education Coordinator should be notified immediately.
- 3. Unprofessional behavior or clinical experience concerns between a student and the preceptor or others
  - a. First, the matter should be dealt with directly between those two parties.
  - b. If an agreeable solution is not reached, the Clinical Education Coordinator should be notified, and a conversation between all involved parties will occur.
  - c. If the problem concerns an employee at a clinical education site other than the Preceptor (ie: coach or administrator), the Preceptor should attempt to resolve the concern. If the concern is not resolved, the Clinical Education Coordinator should be notified.

## First Year Students

First year MAT students will rotate through one immersive 4-week clinical experience and three 10-12 week clinical rotations on or off-campus. These rotations may include non-sport patient populations. Several clinical experience assignments may be off-campus. Additionally, students will complete supplemental clinical experiences which will be located off-campus. For further information on required travel, see the Clinical Experience Requirements section. Students are responsible for meeting hour requirements, documentation of hours, completion of clinical orientation checklists, completion of student evaluations, preceptor evaluations, clinical outcome summaries for additional clinical experiences, patient encounter tracking, and additional requirements as listed in individual clinical course syllabi. The minimum hour requirement listed is the minimum number of hours to pass the course. Requirements are further outlined in individual clinical syllabi.

## Second Year Students

Second year MAT students will rotate through 3 clinical rotations on or off-campus, which may include non-sport patient populations. Clinical experience begins during the summer prior to the second academic year with a 4–6-week general medical experience(s). As per CAATE Standards, general medical experiences allow students the opportunity to interact with non-sport patient populations; and a variety of conditions (e.g., behavioral, musculoskeletal, neurological, endocrine, dermatological, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, etc.). They will take place in various health care facilities, acute and urgent care clinics, hospital emergency rooms, and community health clinics where the majority of cases include general medicine, family medicine, or acute physical ailments. General medical clinical experiences in ATR 604 may also be supplemented with online simulation and case studies.

# Second-Year Immersive Clinical Experiences

During the fall and spring semesters, students will complete 8-week immersive clinical experiences during each semester, which could be located on or off-campus depending on student educational needs, and professional goals. MAT program faculty will take student preferences into consideration for immersive clinical experiences, but the final assignment is at the discretion of program faculty. Immersive clinical experiences may be located anywhere in the country; however, the MAT student must meet the following requirements to qualify for an immersive clinical experience outside of the Loras clinical education network:

- 1. Good academic standing
- 2. No previous conduct issues
- 3. History of strong clinical evaluations from previous clinical experiences

Establishment of Immersive Clinicals Outside of the Loras Clinical Education Network If students qualify for an immersive clinical experience outside of the Loras clinical education network, the following steps must be taken:

Out of Loras Network Immersive Set Up

# Please note that steps 1-4 must be completed by April 1<sup>st</sup>, for all immersive clinical experiences for the following academic year for consideration of placement.

- 1. Locate contact person at desired clinical education site and confirm there is an opportunity to complete an 8-week immersive clinical rotation, and obtain the name and contact information for a potential preceptor.
- 2. Student then needs to interview over phone or in person with the potential preceptor.
- 3. Following completed interview, student needs to email contact information for the potential preceptor to the Clinical Education Coordinator.
- 4. CEC will meet with potential preceptor via zoom or in-person to determine qualification to serve as preceptor. This will include thorough vetting of the clinical education site, and supervising preceptor.
- 5. If potential preceptor qualifies AND student agrees to work with preceptor, then a written affiliation agreement can be initiated by the CEC. This must be signed by all parties prior to the student starting the clinical education experience.
- 6. CAATE required information and documents will need to be collected from the preceptor and clinical education site prior to the student starting the clinical education experience.
- 7. Preceptor training will need to occur prior to student starting the clinical education experience.

The MAT student is responsible for any additional costs related to travel and housing should an immersive experience be established away from campus. Students are responsible for meeting hour requirements, documentation of hours, completion of clinical orientation checklists, completion of student evaluations, preceptor evaluations, clinical outcome summaries for additional clinical experiences, and patient encounter tracking. Requirements are further outlined in individual clinical syllabi.

Upon completion of immersive clinical experiences, second year MAT students must report back to the Loras College campus for second quarter courses in both the fall and spring semesters. If a student wishes to continue to attend their immersive clinical site for additional experience beyond the scheduled end date of the first quarter of each term, the student must first be in good academic standing, have no previous conduct issues, and a written plan must be established between the MAT faculty, CEC, and student. This is to ensure the student is adequately balancing didactic and clinical education. If the student, MAT faculty, and CEC determine that the student is able to continue attending their immersive clinical experience site, the student will receive a grade of IP for the clinical course until the student is no longer attending the clinical site.

# **Preceptor Policies**

Being a preceptor is a service that is provided to the Loras College MAT program. All preceptors should work by the professional guidelines of their own personal employment contracts. Loras College MAT program preceptors are given a contract and a stipend to provide athletic training clinical education and supervision to MAT students. Preceptors must adhere to the following expectations and requirements when working with MAT students in order to fulfill the duties of the contract.

# Preceptor Expectations & Requirements per CAATE Standards and MAT Program Policies

- 1. Complete student clinical orientation within first 3 days of start of student's clinical rotation.
- 2. Preceptors must provide the program with an emergency action plan.
  - a. EAP should be reviewed with each student during the first week of each new clinical rotation.
  - b. EAPs should be posted or readily available to all students.
- 3. Preceptors must provide the students with appropriate blood borne pathogen barriers and sanitation precautions.
  - a. Preceptor should review bloodborne pathogen training with each student during the first week of each new clinical rotation.
  - b. Students should have access to bloodborne pathogen policies during clinical education.
- 4. Assess student learning in a timely manner and provide regular, and consistent feedback on student skills.
- 5. Preceptors must complete required student evaluations and assessments in a timely fashion and discuss the assessment with the student.
  - a. Student evaluations and discussions of evaluations should be completed within 10 working days from the end of a clinical rotation.
- 6. Promote analysis and critical thinking whenever possible in the clinical setting.
- 7. Communicate regularly and effectively with students regarding expectations, scheduling, performance, professionalism, and any other items related to their education or the profession of athletic training.

- 8. Allow students to have as much "supervised" independence and freedom to work with athletes as the Preceptor sees fit.
- 9. Promote/discuss CEU opportunities with students.
- 10. Act in a professional manner according to the contract of your employer, NATA Code of Ethics, and BOC Standards of Practice.
- 11. Adhere to all CAATE 2020 Educational Standards.
- 12. Adherence to HIPAA as related to patient care.
- 13. Adherence to FERPA as related to student education information and requirements.
- 14. Preceptors will receive planned and ongoing education from Loras MAT program faculty.a. Preceptors must attend program meetings and allow for at a minimum, annual clinical site evaluation and visit.

b. Preceptors must participate in annual training that occurs before the start of each academic year.

- 15. Preceptors must maintain direct supervision of students.
- 16. Preceptors are health care providers whose experience and qualifications include the following:

a. Licensure as a health care provider, credentialed by the state in which they practice (where regulated)

- b. BOC certification in good standing
- c. Planned and ongoing education for their role as a preceptor, and clinician
- d. Contemporary expertise

# Preceptor Selection Guidelines

Loras College MAT Preceptors will be selected based on the following criteria:

- 1. Previous experience serving as a preceptor.
- 2. Minimum of one year of experience post-graduation as a Certified and Licensed Athletic Trainer at current institution or organization.
- 3. Strong evaluations from previous students and/or clinical education coordinators. (References may be requested).
- 4. Consultation with MAT Clinical Education Coordinator.
- 5. No history of professional conduct issues including HIPAA or FERPA violations, or NATA Code of Ethics or BOC Standards of Practice violations.
- 6. BOC Certification and state licensure (where regulated), that are both active and in good standing.
- 7. Background Check (if current employer has not conducted one).

## Professionalism as an Athletic Training Student

## Conduct, Behavior & Professionalism

Athletic training students are expected to always act in professional manner during all clinical experiences, conferences, observations, MAT program related events, activities, and in the classroom. This includes being present and on time for all classes, events, and clinical experiences, appropriate dress and appearance (see dress code), professional conduct, body language, speech, and tone. Unprofessional behavior will be addressed immediately, and infractions will be issued when deemed necessary by MAT faculty, preceptors, or administrators. Unprofessional behavior includes, tardiness, unexcused absences, poor behavior, insubordination, perceived substance abuse, inappropriate relationships with athletes, preceptors, or administrators, coming to classes or clinical experiences unprepared, inappropriate dress, etc.

In addition, students will be held to the Board of Certification (BOC), Standards of Professional Practice and the National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) Code of Professional Ethics throughout the entirety of their time in the MAT program. For complete information on those guidelines, see the web-sites listed below. In short, additional conduct, behavior and professionalism issues could arise from:

<u>Incompetence</u>: a deficiency or lack of demonstrated ability including professional, interpersonal skill, or academic achievement. The provision of athletic training services below level of competence is a violation of ethical standards.

<u>Ethical Misconduct</u>: noncompliance or lack of following the NATA Code of Ethics, and BOC Standards of Practice, laws pertaining to the athletic training profession, or other relevant ethics codes or standards of conduct. Athletic trainers and graduate students in training are responsible for reading, understanding, and integrating all ethical standards to the highest level.

<u>Problematic or Inappropriate Behavior:</u> behaviors, attitudes, statements, expressions, characteristics, or encouragement of any of these, that are likely to call for addressing and/or remediating, yet have been demonstrated to not be excessive or unexpected for graduate students' in training such as performance anxiety, discomfort with diversity in any form, or other similar behaviors that are not causing or demonstrating impairment as defined above.

BOC Standards of Professional Practice: <u>http://www.bocatc.org/public-protection/standards-discipline/standards-of-professional-practice</u>

[Lamb, Cochran, & Jackson (1991). <u>Professional Psychology: Research and Practice</u>, 22, 291-296.]

NATA Code of Professional Ethics: <u>https://www.nata.org/membership/about-membership/member-resources/code-of-ethics</u>

Additionally, the student should expect professional treatment. If a faculty or preceptor is unprofessional, the student should bring this to the attention of that individual if they feel comfortable. If conduct continues or the single instance is major (i.e. sexual harassment,

substance abuse) then the Program Director should be notified. Additionally, if a dispute over any matter occurs between a student and preceptor, or student and faculty, the matter should first be dealt with directly between those two parties. If an agreeable solution is not reached, and it is an academic problem, the Program Director should be notified. If the problem concerns an individual other than a preceptor or faculty, the student's preceptor or an MAT faculty should be notified.

# Personal Conduct Outside of School

Students in the MAT program are graduate students in an accredited program and are expected to conduct themselves with acceptable behavior in all situations. Prior to acceptance MAT students must pass a criminal background check. Repeated offenses of poor judgment (i.e. multiple underage drinking tickets) or serious legal offenses (i.e. violence and drug use) will result in an immediate review of the student's status in the MAT program. These offenses may result in a student's dismissal from the program. Students are allowed to appeal any such offense. This should be done by contacting the Program Director. The program faculty reserve the right to request an additional drug screen or background check at any time during a student's enrollment in the MAT program.

# <u>Travel</u>

During clinical experiences many athletic training students will have the opportunity to travel with their assigned athletic teams, and preceptors. Students may accompany their preceptor; however, students must be directly supervised by a preceptor while they are traveling for an MAT clinical experience. Unsupervised student travel for a clinical experience is strictly prohibited. The athletic training student may not travel with the team in the event that the preceptor is not traveling. When traveling, all program policies and procedures remain in effect. For information regarding traveling to and from clinical sites, please see the clinical experience travel policy.

# Dress Code

At all times, students are expected to dress like medical professionals in the classroom, athletic training clinic, off-campus sites, observations, surgical experiences, meetings, clinical experience practices, and games.

## Minimum Dress Code Expected at All Times:

- Khaki pants, or dress slacks that maintain fit at the waist-level (do not sag or fall down), that offer mobility
- In the warm months, khaki shorts that are least mid-thigh length
- Loras Athletic Training Polo, or Loras College Polo
- Loras Athletic Training Gear, or Loras Athletic Team Gear \*
- Business attire: Dress pants, shirts, ties, shoes, blouses
- Name tag
- Hats (when appropriate to season and location)

\* Athletic training gear, specifically athletic pants (joggers or warm-ups) can be worn during cold weather or rainy events, or off-days when a student is only coming in for treatment hours.

Please note, some clinical experience sites may provide you with clothing for that team or site, and request that you wear that. This is acceptable; however, students must still abide by all other dress code requirements.

# Examples of Inappropriate Clothing

- Clothing that is too large (baggy sweatshirts and polos), or too tight
- Sweatpants
- Athletic shorts or pants
- Slippers
- Sandals
- Tank tops
- Low cut shirts
- Shorts shorter than mid-thigh
- Hats in class
- Hoods up during class, clinicals or other events
- Loras clothing unrelated to athletics or athletic training

# Grooming

- Students are expected to bathe regularly, prior to class, and clinical experiences
- Facial hair should be neatly groomed
- Hair should be clean and neatly groomed, and tied back when necessary. Hair should not be in the way during an emergency situation
- Please be conscious of body odor
- Brush teeth regularly
- Cover piercings and tattoos that are unprofessional in nature

This is the minimum dress code required for all MAT students at all MAT clinical sites, and in courses. Students may bring clothes to change into for labs in the classroom, or for cold weather events. It will be the responsibility of each student to keep his/her clothing clean and presentable. Failure to abide by this dress code will result in an infraction. Although many clinical experience sites may not require this type of dress code, this is the MINIMUM requirement for MAT students at all times.

A neat, clean professional personal appearance is an important step in gaining respect of athletes, coaches, administrators, allied healthcare professionals, and the general public.

# Cell Phones

It is the Preceptors discretion however, generally, cell phones should be carried during clinical rotations but personal/professional calls, or texts are not allowed. Texting and social media posts are not allowed. The cell phone should be kept in vibrate or silent mode. In the event a student

has a personal emergency, the student is required to notify the preceptor of the emergency. This policy can be modified by the preceptors as they see fit.

# \*\*\*Cell phones are not allowed in class\*\*\*

## CPR/AED Certification

Every student must be certified in American Red Cross First Aid and CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer/Healthcare Provider, or equivalent, prior to the start of their first clinical rotation. The student must maintain this certification throughout their time in the program. A copy of each card must be on file with the program director.

# Liability Insurance

Students are required to purchase a liability insurance policy annually. This will cover the student when they are participating in athletic training clinical education experiences and assignments. The policy purchased must be for athletic training student coverage. Information regarding purchase can be found on eLearn, or obtained from the program director.

# NATA Membership

The National Athletic Trainers Association's mission is to enhance the quality of healthcare provided by athletic trainers and advance the athletic training profession. As such future members of this profession, all students would benefit from membership in this organization. Benefits include access to the Journal of Athletic Training, access to CEUs, access to the career center and many more. Student membership is required. Membership can be attained by going to www.nata.org

# Additional Certifications

Students are always encouraged to pursue additional education and certifications. While currently enrolled in the Loras MAT however, students are not yet licensed healthcare professionals, and may not perform certain skills unless directly supervised, and given permission by a licensed and certified healthcare professional who is also certified in those skills. (ie: Graston, Astym).

## Outside Employment

When a student is enrolled in the MAT program, outside employment is highly discouraged due to the rigorous, and intense nature of the MAT didactic and clinical format. If a student is employed elsewhere, employment must not conflict with MAT courses, labs, ANY clinical experience hours (including morning treatment hours, practices, games, meetings, or any other necessary clinical hours), meetings, events, observation, or any MAT program related requirement.

Failure to adhere to any of the requirements, policies, rules, regulations, or procedures listed in the Professionalism as an Athletic Training Student Section will result in at a minimum, a

program infraction, or possible program dismissal depending on the severity of the offense as determined by program faculty, preceptors, or administrators.

# **Professional Relationships Policy**

## Relationship of ATS toward Preceptors and Team Physicians

It is important to remember that students can learn both the science and art of athletic training from preceptors and team physicians. Although students are there to learn, student should never question preceptor or physician procedures in front of a patient. Students will have legitimate questions as to the whys and wherefores of treatment, but remember that there is a time and place for such questions. Ask when it would be an appropriate time to have a discussion. Always act and converse with preceptors and team physicians in a professional manner.

# Relationship of ATS toward other ATS

Remember that it is necessary to have a good working relationship with everyone in the athletic training profession, including fellow ATS's. As with other staff, do not question or criticize in front of a patient. Any criticisms should be offered in a constructive manner, and students should be cognizant of the situation and circumstances when discussing differences of opinion. If students have a difference of opinion go directly to the other student to address the situation and reach a conclusion. If mediation is necessary, request the presence of a preceptor or athletic training faculty member.

## Relationships with Athletes & Patients

Relationships with athletes and/or patients are not allowed. This is stated in in the NATA code of Ethics, and BOC Standards of Practice. However, because of the nature of a small campus, and program format, it is understood that some relationships may exist prior to a student entering the MAT program. Any relationship must be disclosed to the Clinical Education Coordinator, in order to allow for best clinical experiences for students. These relationships should not interfere with clinical experiences. A preceptor should not be able to determine whether you are dating an athlete through your actions in the athletic training clinic. Keep all relationships with athletes professional.

# **Confidentiality**

## **Confidentiality Policy**

In accordance with HIPPA/FERPA laws, under no circumstances should a student provide any health information to the coaching staff, media, parents, general public, students or Loras College faculty/staff. If anyone asks, direct them to the preceptor.

## Confidentiality Wavier

Each athletic training student must sign a confidentiality waiver annually, prior to the start of clinical experiences for that year (see appendix C). If confidentiality is breached this may be grounds for dismissal from the MAT Program.

# **Bloodborne Pathogen Policy & Procedure**

BBP Policy (see Appendix D). Each student must read this policy and sign an acknowledgement form.

# **Infectious Disease Policy & Procedure**

Infectious Disease Incident Protocol (see Appendix E). Each student must read this policy, and sign an acknowledgement form.

# **Electrical Modalities Policy**

Policy Objectives:

- 1. Provide clear procedures for calibration and inspection of electrical therapeutic modalities and GFIs.
- 2. Provide clear procedures in case of any lapse in inspection/calibration schedule.
- 3. Provide a log of electrical therapeutic modalities and their maintenance.

Calibration and Inspection:

- 1. Electrical therapeutic modalities will be inspected on an annual basis. This is per OSHA requirements.
- OSHA guidelines concerning therapeutic modalities: <u>http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\_document?p\_table=STANDARDS&p\_id=9787</u>
- Testing of electrical equipment: <u>http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\_document?p\_table=STANDARDS&p\_id=9787</u>
- 2. Clinical rotation sites will be evaluated on annual basis by the Clinical Coordinator. As a part of the evaluation, they will ensure all therapeutic modalities are up to date in the inspection of therapeutic modalities.
- 3. Any clinical rotation found to be deficient in this regard will be notified by the program director and a plan to have the therapeutic modalities inspected will be established. The students will be removed from that clinical site until modalities have been inspected.
- 4. The program director will keep on file a matrix of the therapeutic modalities at each clinical site and there last inspection.

# **Mandatory Reporting Guidelines**

Each student must read these guidelines and sign an acknowledgement form.

## MANDATORY REPORTING OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT BY HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS REPORTING ABUSE OF ADULTS

Most U.S. states have enacted mandatory reporting laws, which require the reporting of specific injuries and wounds, and suspected abuse or domestic violence for individuals treated by a health care professional. This pertains to all individuals to whom health care professionals provide

treatment or medical care, or those who come before the health care facility.<sup>4</sup> Since state laws vary from state to state, the AT is strongly advised to check his or her state's mandatory reporting laws for specifics and clarification.

# SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE AN ASSAULT

The AT must be aware of his or her mandated duty to report sexual abuse, regardless of the patient's age. Therefore, an important first step in fulfilling a mandatory reporting obligation is ability to recognize associated signs and symptoms. These signs and symptoms can be: 1) witnessed in person, 2) having a patient or another person with whom you interact with reporting the signs and symptoms, or 3) clear statements that one has felt sexually abused by another person.

The first step in helping patients or others who have been sexually abused, be it minor children or adults, is learning to recognize the signs and symptoms of abuse. The list below, though not fully inclusive, provide examples of signs and symptoms of a victim who has experienced sexual abuse or assault. The important point is to be aware of any changes in behavior that may be suggestive of sexual abuse or assault.

Child or teenager:

- Has difficulty walking or sitting
- Suddenly refuses to change for gym or to participate in physical activities
- Experiences a sudden change in appetite
- Demonstrates bizarre, sophisticated, or unusual sexual knowledge or behavior
- Becomes pregnant or contracts a venereal disease, particularly if under age 14
- Reports sexual abuse by a parent or another adult caregiver
- Behaves secretive or isolated
- Exhibits trouble in school with grades or behavioral issues
- Talks of death or suicide
- Shows little attachment to parent, guardian or other significant adult in their life
- Avoids being around or making eye contact with certain individuals

Adult:

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) symptoms such as loss of appetite, trouble sleeping, hypervigilance, easily agitated over minor issues
- Declining grades or withdrawal from school
- Substance or alcohol abuse
- Risk taking behavior
- Loss of interest in activities that they used to enjoy, including sports participation
- Self-harm such as cutting or burning oneself
- Talk of death or suicide ideation

# DUTY TO REPORT AND AVENUES FOR REPORTING OF SEXUAL ABUSE OR ASSAULT

The next step is to take action on the knowledge or suspicion of sexual abuse or assault. Mandatory reporting of child sexual abuse is a legal and ethical responsibility of all athletic trainers.<sup>5, 1</sup>

All states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands have statues that identify persons who are required to report any suspected child maltreatment to an appropriate agency, such as child protective services or law enforcement, or toll-free reporting hotline.<sup>6</sup> A good resource on mandatory reporting of child sexual abuse is Child Welfare Information Gateway, Mandatory Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect.<sup>6</sup> In this report, mandated reporters per state and American territories are defined. Clearly, athletic trainers fit into the health care provider categories listed in the report.

In the event that an adult patient or an adult with whom the AT comes in contact is known to be, or suspected to be, a victim of sexual abuse or assault, the AT should report this to the proper authorities per state and federal law such as law enforcement or a toll-free hotline.

A mandatory report must be made when an AT suspects, or has reason to believe, that a child or adult has been sexually abused. The AT must immediately notify the Department of Children's Services or a law enforcement agency of the suspected abuse. What is NOT required in these laws is for the reporting chain to go through the ATs supervisor or administration. The place of employment, per employment guidelines, can also be notified, but there is no legal mandate to report to the employer. Notification to the proper legal authorities must come first if an employment guideline mandates reporting any sexual abuse to employment administration.

In the event that an athletic trainer is the one suspected of committing sexual abuse or assault, in addition to reporting to the authorities identified previously, the individual also has a duty to report to the NATA and Board of Certification.

# Summary

The ATs primary responsibility is to the patient, and this responsibility goes beyond providing quality health care; patient safety and advocacy are paramount. The athletic trainer must remain vigilant in recognizing and reporting possible sexual abuse or assault. It is important to remember that duty to report is based on the suspicion of abuse; evidence is not required. We recommend that ATs take a proactive approach in working with employers and school systems in establishing a protocol for employees to report suspected or known sexual abuse or assault of their patient, child or adult affiliated with the organization.

## Note

This paper does not provide legal advice; athletic trainers and other affected individuals should consult appropriate counsel to clarify their obligations in situations discussed herein.

# **References and Resources**

- 1. National Athletic Trainers' Association. www.nata.org/codeofethics. Accessed February 12, 2018.
- 2. Child Welfare Information Gateway. What Is Child Abuse and Neglect? Recognizing the Signs and Symptoms. Children's Bureau. www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/whatiscan.cfm. Accessed February 12, 2018.
- S.534-Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017. 115<sup>th</sup> United States Congress. www.congress.gov/bill/115-congress/senate bill/534/text?format=txt. Accessed February 12, 2018.

- 4. Compendium of State Statutes and Policies on Domestic Violence and Health Care; Produced by Family Violence Prevention Fund. 2010.
- 5. Colston M.A., Neal TL. (2016). Mandatory reporting and cyber-safety issues (part 1). *NATA News*. April 2016;28(4):38-39.
- 6. Child Welfare Information Gateway. MandatoryReporters of Child Abuse and Neglect. Children's Bureau. www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws\_policies/statutes/manda.cfm. Accessed February 12, 2018.
- 7. National Athletic Trainers Association: <u>https://www.nata.org/practice-patient-care/risk-liability/integrity-in-practice</u> (Retrieved July 2, 2019).

# Loras MAT Program Disciplinary Actions

At Loras College, athletic training students are expected to follow the student code of conduct as is outlined in the Loras Student Handbook, Graduate Student Bulletin, in the Loras MAT Handbook, and also comply with rules and regulations at assigned clinical education sites. In addition to these policies, athletic training students must comply with all athletic training major requirements and procedures. In order to maintain a professional atmosphere for learning the following procedures have been developed for infractions, and disciplinary actions.

There are two levels of disciplinary procedures: Infractions and Disciplinary Actions. The criteria for both are listed below. Three Infractions will constitute a Disciplinary Action. Three Disciplinary Actions of the same type (Behavioral/Professional) will result in dismissal from the AT Program. However, the AT Program Director in conjunction with the Provost reserves the right to dismiss a student from the program for determined gross misconduct. Any clinical education site in conjunction with the Program Director, has the right to dismiss a student from that clinical site for professional or behavioral misconduct.

## Infraction Notification

An infraction form may be electronically submitted to the Program Director by a Preceptor or classroom instructor due to inappropriate attire/appearance, misconduct, unexcused absence, repeated tardiness, failure to submit evaluations and/or requested documents on time, or other violations as deemed necessary per AT Program administrators. The form will be placed in the student's file. As a result, there may be a significant reduction in the clinical experience course grade.

## Infraction Procedures:

Each infraction will be documented on an infraction form and submitted to the Program Director. The third infraction will result in a disciplinary action.

## Behavioral/Professional Disciplinary Action

## Criteria:

Three infractions documented in the students file Not maintaining current first aid and CPR certifications Not attending the annual OSHA training course Not turning in *any* required document or certificate Not providing annual proof of professional liability insurance Unexcused absence from classes or clinical experiences Conduct unbecoming of an athletic training student Providing health care interventions as an athletic training student while not being properly supervised by a qualified preceptor

# *Behavioral Disciplinary Action Procedures:* 1st Action:

- 1. Meeting with program director
- 2. Probation period for improvement (As determined by the program director)
- 3. Contract for improvement

# 2nd Action:

- 1. Meeting with program director
- 2. Probation for one semester
- 3. Contract for improvement
- 4. Consideration of one year hold option on MAT student status

3rd Action:

1. Expulsion from the program

## **Grievance Policy & Procedure**

Please refer to the Loras College Graduate Bulletin.

## **Grade Appeals**

Please refer to the Loras College Graduate Bulletin.

## Non-Discrimination Policy: Race, Disability & Gender

Loras College admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs. Loras College does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of qualified disability or gender in its admission or access to, treatment of, or employment in its educational programs or activities. Loras College is required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and by the Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 not to discriminate in such a manner. Inquiries concerning the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to Loras College may be referred to Loras College's Human and 20 Organizational Development Office or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Health and Human Services.

## **Sexual Harassment Policy**

Loras College is committed to having a positive learning and working environment for its students and employees and will not tolerate sexual discrimination or sexual harassment. This principle is consistent with the mission of the College that recognizes the human dignity of each individual and challenges men and women to grow with purpose and direction. Sexual harassment is demeaning, degrading, and can have a negative impact on a person's performance at work or in class. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated. Disciplinary sanctions will be taken up to and including discharge for College employees and expulsion of students. Academic presentations of the Catholic Church's moral teaching regarding sexuality are very appropriate and consistent with the College's mission, and may not be claimed as violations of this policy.

# Awards, Scholarships, and Extra-Curricular Program Activities

# Loras College Doc Kammer Athletic Training Scholarship

Each fall, athletic training students who are enrolled at Loras as undergraduate students, are nominated by an athletic training, kinesiology, and sport management faculty committee for the Doc Kammer Scholarship award. This scholarship was generously set up by the family of Doc Kammer, who served as an athletic trainer for Loras College from 1929-1971. Nominated students compete and are selected for the award based on their involvement in extracurricular activities, academic achievements, professional involvement in athletic training and future career goals. This award is only available to Loras students who are currently classified as undergraduate students (ie: 4<sup>th</sup> year Loras students in the MAT)

# NATA RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Application Deadline: Annually during January Download application form from www.natafoundation.org

# MAATA DISTRICT V SCHOLARSHIP

Application Deadline: Annually during January Applications available at https://www.maatad5.org/student-section/maata-scholarships/

<u>IOWA ATHLETIC TRAINERS' SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP</u> Application deadline: Annually during March Applications available: https://www.iowaats.com/AWARDS

# **Extra-Curricular Program Activities**

At different times throughout the two-year period students who are enrolled in the program, with a strong record of academic performance, professional and ethical behavior, and quality clinical evaluations will be asked to participate in various extra-curricular activities such as Quiz Bowl, Hit the Hill Day, and various professional conferences, in addition to other activities.

## Semester Proceedings

#### APPOINTMENTS

Each semester students will have one formal meeting with their academic advisor and one or more meetings with their preceptor(s). Below is an outline of what will take place during each meeting.

#### Advisor Appointments:

At the beginning of each semester students should have an informal meeting with their athletic training advisor within the first half of the semester. During this appointment students will discuss their progress within the program by going over their cumulative record as well as their clinical experience evaluations. This appointment could be a group appointment during class time.

The first formal appointment will occur towards the mid-point of the semester before registration. Each student should make a preliminary schedule of courses they will take and have it approved by their advisor. Each student should follow the suggested athletic training academic plan.

Although all AT students are assigned a faculty advisor, it is ultimately the student's responsibility to ensure they are meeting the College, MAT program, and course requirements.

#### Preceptor Appointments:

At the beginning of each clinical experience the preceptor and student should discuss their expectations, schedule, EAP(s), communicable disease policy/exposure control plan, all of which will be documented using the Clinical Experience Orientation Form. At the end of the clinical experience the preceptor will evaluate each student's performance.

## References

University of Northern Iowa Athletic Training Student Handbook https://coe.uni.edu/sites/default/files/matr\_student\_handbook\_2018-2019.pdf

The John Hopkins School of Medicine

https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/som/offices/registrars/Registration/ClinicalCurriculumAttenda nce.pdf

# Appendix A

Technical Standards Form:

# Loras College Master of Athletic Training Program

# **Technical Standards for Admission**

The Master of Athletic Training Program (MAT) at Loras College is a rigorous and intense program that places specific demands and requirements on its enrolled students. An objective of the program is to prepare students for the field of Athletic Training and all of the possible employment settings that involve rendering care to a variety of individuals. The technical standards set forth by the MAT establish the essential qualifications considered necessary for admitted students to achieve the knowledge, skills and competencies of an entry-level Athletic Trainer. These standards are also necessary for meeting the expectations of the program's accrediting agency, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Programs (CAATE). All students admitted to the MAT must meet the following abilities and expectations. In the event that a student is unable to fulfill these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, the student will not be admitted to 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 ATP must demonstrate:

1. The ability 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. The ability to perform appropriate physical examinations using accepted techniques; this includes, but is not limited to, the ability to observe, position, lift and carry or otherwise transport patients. Students must be able to 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 form 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 physical examination results and a treatment plan clearly and accurately.

5. The ability 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 settings.

Date

Date

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards for selection into the

Alternative statement for students requesting accommodations

Signature of Applicant

- --

8. Affective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care.

9. Students must possess or obtain, and submit to the MAT Program Director an immunization record that demonstrates up to date vaccinations for MMR, Tetanus, and Hepatitis B for program admittance. Additional vaccinations such as TB testing, and the Influenza vaccine may be required upon admittance.

Candidates for selection to the ATP will be required to verify that that understand and meet these technical standards or that they believe that with certain accommodations, they can meet the standards.

The Loras College Student Health Center will evaluate a student who states he/she could meet the program's technical standards with accommodation, refer them to a physician, and confirm that the stated condition qualifies as a disability under applicable law.

If a student states h/she can meet the technical standards with accommodations, then Loras College will determine whether it agrees that a student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation. This includes a review of whether the accommodations requested are reasonable, taking into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, or the education process of the student or the institution, including all coursework, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards for selection into the Athletic Training Program 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 program.

Athletic Training Education Program, and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I can

meet each of these standards with certain accommodations. I will contact the Loras College Student Health Center to determine what accommodations may be available. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards with or without accommodations, I

Signature of MD/DO/NP/PA

Signature of Applicant

will not be admitted into the program.

# Appendix **B**

Immunization Review Form



# Loras College MAT Immunization Review Form

Patient's Name:
Date:
Have you reviewed the patient's immunization record? Are they up to date or the following immunizations: MMR Tetanus Hepatitis B COVID-19
Signed:
(Please circle) MD DO PA ARNP Date:
Address:
Telephone:
Fax:

# Appendix C

**Confidentiality Statement** 

#### LORAS COLLEGE ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM CONFIDENTIALITY WAIVER HIPAA & FERPA TRAINING

I understand that as a member of the Athletic Training Program I will be privileged to private medical information regarding athletic injuries of Loras College athletes. I understand that at no time may I discuss athlete injury information with any individual outside the Athletic Training Program. I have also participated in annual HIPAA and FERPA Training, and understand HIPAA and FERPA policies and procedures. Penalty for breaching confidentiality may result in dismissal from the Athletic Training Program.

I have read, understand and agree to the above statement.

Name

Date

Witness

Date

# **Appendix D**

# Blood Borne Pathogen Training Form

# Loras College Athletic Training Blood Borne Pathogen Training Acknowledgement

Bloodborne pathogens are microorganisms in the blood or other body fluids that can cause illness and disease in people. These microorganisms can be transmitted through contact with contaminated blood and body fluids.

When bloodborne diseases are mentioned, most people think automatically of AIDS, but actually HBV, or the hepatitis B virus, is much more common. AIDS is usually fatal, though it may take years for symptoms to appear. HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, is primarily transmitted through sexual contact, though it may also be contracted through contact with contaminated blood or some body fluids. HBV attacks the liver, and is sometimes fatal. It is transmitted through saliva, blood and other body fluids.

Bloodborne pathogens are transmitted when contaminated blood or body fluids enter the body of another person. This can occur through a number of pathways, such as:

- An accidental puncture by a sharp object contaminated with the pathogen.
- Open cuts or skin abrasions coming in contact with contaminated blood or body fluids
- Sexual contact
- Indirect transmission (a person touches dried or caked on blood and then touches the eyes, mouth, nose or an open cut) (HBV only)

•

There are also many ways that these diseases are **not** transmitted. For instance bloodborne pathogens are not transmitted by touching an infected person, through coughing or sneezing or by using the same equipment, materials, toilets, water fountains or showers as an infected person. It is important that people are educated as to which ways are viable means of transmission of these dangerous diseases, and which are not.

One can protect themselves from acquiring a bloodborne pathogen by using standard precautions. Standard precautions included: gloves, gowns, masks, proper hygiene and proper cleaning of spilled bodily fluids.

If one is exposed to a bodily fluid that is possibly infected here is what you should do:

•immediately wash the area with soap and water

•contact your preceptor to alert them of the incident

•be referred to either the Loras College Health Center during normal business hours or to the Convenient Care at Finley Hospital after normal business hours and on weekends.

# I have read through this entire document, and the Loras College Health Center Blood Borne Pathogen Policy and fully understand the material about bloodborne pathogens.

Date

Signature

Date

Witness

# Appendix E

Infectious Disease Training Form

# Loras College Athletic Training Education Program

#### **Infectious Disease Incident Protocol**

#### Key goals to the handling of an infectious disease case within the Athletic Training Program (ATP):

1. To identify and provide care and treatment for athletic training students (ATS)

- 2. To prevent the spread of infection or illness to other ATS, preceptors, or athletes/patients.
- 3. To determine when it is safe for ATS to return to clinical rotations following an illness.

#### Index Case Suspected/Diagnosed

- 1. The Health Center identifies or is notified by a Preceptor or fellow student that an ATS might have an infectious disease. An ATS is to report any significant changes in their health status to their clinical instructor. Additionally, a Preceptor is expected to identify any major changes in the health status of the athletic training students assigned to work with them.
- 2. Upon knowledge of a possible infectious disease, the Preceptor will refer the ATS to the Loras College Health Center for evaluation. If it is outside of normal hours, the student will either be referred to a doctor or follow up with the Health Center the following morning.
- 3. If it is outside of normal hours and the ATS is suspected of having an infectious disease and they are not being directly referred to a doctor, the student will not stay at their clinical rotation if they have any of the following signs and/or symptoms: fever above 100 degrees, frequent coughing/sneezing, obvious infected skin lesion that cannot be covered, colored discharge from the eyes, nausea/vomiting or other common symptoms of an infection.
- 4. The Loras College Health Center will evaluate, treat and create a plan of care.
- 5. The student will be referred to a physician, if necessary. The student will be assisted in identifying local providers who are included in their medical insurance plan during the day and after hours, if the need arises.
- 6. The Loras College Health Center will stay in contact with the physician until the diagnosis is confirmed.
- 7. The Loras College Health Center will communicate any diagnosis and treatment plan to the Program Director (PD). This information will be passed along with consent from the ATS.

## **Return to Clinical Rotation:**

- 1. Upon a diagnosis of a communicable infection, the ATS will follow the physican's orders in returning to their clinical rotation. The Health Center or ATS will provide a note of clearance to the PD.
- 2. If the student is not diagnosed with a communicable infection, the ATS will be allowed to return to their clinical rotation immediately unless the above symptoms persist. The Health Center or ATS will provide a note of release to participate to the PD.

I have received and understand the infectious disease policy, and understand the infectious disease policy as outlined by the ATP and Loras College Student Health Center. I will follow the policy.

Signature

Date

# Appendix F

# Loras College Master of Athletic Training Program Student Mandatory Reporting Acknowledgement Form

I acknowledge that I have received, read, and understand all information in the NATA Mandatory Reporting information. I understand it is my duty to report any suspected sexual abuse or assault of a child or adult to the appropriate legal authority. I agree to abide by this requirement as a student in the Loras College Master of Athletic Training Program.

Signed

Date

Witness

Date

# Appendix G

Loras College Master of Athletic Training Program Student Infraction Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty/Preceptor/Administrator Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria and/or Reason for Infraction:

**Description of the issue:** 

**Probation Period for Improvement:** 

**Contract for Improvement:** 

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty/Preceptor/Administrator Signature:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Appendix **H**

## NATA Code of Ethics

#### Preamble

The National Athletic Trainers' Association Code of Ethics states the principles of ethical behavior that should be followed in the practice of athletic training. It is intended to establish and maintain high standards and professionalism for the athletic training profession. The principles do not cover every situation encountered by the practicing athletic trainer, but are representative of the spirit with which athletic trainers should make decisions. The principles are written generally; the circumstances of a situation will determine the interpretation and application of a given principle and of the Code as a whole. When a conflict exists between the Code and the law, the law prevails.

# 1. MEMBERS SHALL PRACTICE WITH COMPASSION, RESPECTING THE RIGHTS, WELL-BEING, AND DIGNITY OF OTHERS

1.1 Members shall render quality patient care regardless of the patient's race, religion, age, sex, ethnic or national origin, disability, health status, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

1.2. Member's duty to the patient is the first concern, and therefore members are obligated to place the well-being and long-term well-being of their patient above other groups and their own self-interest, to provide competent care in all decisions, and advocate for the best medical interest and safety of their patient at all times as delineated by professional statements and best practices.

1.3. Members shall preserve the confidentiality of privileged information and shall not release or otherwise publish in any form, including social media, such information to a third party not involved in the patient's care without a release unless required by law.

#### 2. MEMBERS SHALL COMPLY WITH THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PRACTICE OF ATHLETIC TRAINING, NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION (NATA) MEMBERSHIP STANDARDS, AND THE NATA CODE OF ETHICS

2.1. Members shall comply with applicable local, state, federal laws, and any state athletic training practice acts.

2.2. Members shall understand and uphold all NATA Standards and the Code of Ethics.

2.3. Members shall refrain from, and report illegal or unethical practices related to athletic training.

2.4. Members shall cooperate in ethics investigations by the NATA, state professional licensing/regulatory boards, or other professional agencies governing the athletic training profession. Failure to fully cooperate in an ethics investigation is an ethical violation.

2.5. Members must not file, or encourage others to file, a frivolous ethics complaint with any organization or entity governing the athletic training profession such that the complaint is unfounded or willfully ignore facts that would disprove the allegation(s) in the complaint.

2.6. Members shall refrain from substance and alcohol abuse. For any member involved in an ethics proceeding with NATA and who, as part of that proceeding is seeking rehabilitation for substance or alcohol dependency, documentation of the completion of rehabilitation must be provided to the NATA Committee on Professional Ethics as a requisite to complete a NATA membership reinstatement or suspension process.

# **3. MEMBERS SHALL MAINTAIN AND PROMOTE HIGH STANDARDS IN THEIR PROVISION OF SERVICES**

3.1. Members shall not misrepresent, 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 through education or experience and which are allowed by the applicable state athletic training practice acts and other applicable regulations for athletic trainers.

3.3. Members shall provide services, make referrals, and seek compensation only for those services that are necessary and are in the best interest of the patient as delineated by professional statements and best practices.

3.4. Members shall recognize the need for continuing education and participate in educational activities that enhance their skills and knowledge and shall complete such educational requirements necessary to continue to qualify as athletic trainers under the applicable state athletic training practice acts.

3.5. Members shall educate those whom they supervise in the practice of athletic training about the Code of Ethics and stress the importance of adherence.

3.6. Members who are researchers or educators must maintain and promote ethical conduct in research and educational activities.

#### 4. MEMBERS SHALL NOT ENGAGE IN CONDUCT THAT COULD BE CONSTRUED AS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST, REFLECTS NEGATIVELY ON THE ATHLETIC TRAINING PROFESSION, OR JEOPARDIZES A PATIENT'S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

4.1. Members should conduct themselves personally and professionally in a manner that does not compromise their professional responsibilities or the practice of athletic training.

4.2. All NATA members, whether current or past, shall not use the NATA logo or AT logo in the endorsement of products or services, or exploit their affiliation with the NATA in a manner that reflects badly upon the profession.

4.3. Members shall not place financial gain above the patient's well-being and shall not participate in any arrangement that exploits the patient.

4.4. Members shall not, through direct or indirect means, use information obtained in the course of the practice of athletic training to try and influence the score or outcome of an athletic event, or attempt to induce financial gain through gambling.

4.5. Members shall not provide or publish false or misleading information, photography, or any other communications in any media format, including on any social media platform, related to athletic training that negatively reflects the profession, other members of the NATA, NATA officers, and the NATA office.

Reference:

https://www.nata.org/membership/about-membership/member-resources/code-of-ethics