

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
ATHLETIC TRAINING PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM
STUDENT SELECTION & ADMISSION STANDARDS



The Western Michigan University Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation offers an entry-level professional program leading to a Bachelors of Science Degree from the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation in Athletic Training. This program **seeks** to prepare students to be able to sit for and successfully pass the Board of Certification Exam (BOC) for Athletic Training and enter the profession as a Certified Entry-level Athletic Trainer¹. Eligibility requirements for admissions to the Athletic Training Professional Program enjoin prospective students to obtain admission to the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, successfully complete Pre-program requirements, submit a completed Program application, and be interviewed. Admission into the Athletic Training Professional Program is selective with the annual enrollment limited to 15 students each year. Due to the competitive nature of this Program, the criteria for admittance should be regarded as **minimum** standards for admittance.

Application packets for the Athletic Training Professional Program will be available September 2009. Students that wish to apply must obtain the application materials from the Athletic Training Program Director and return the **completed** application by October 15, 2009 by 5:00 pm. **No incomplete** applications will be accepted after this date. The selection committee will be comprised of the 1) Athletic Training Program Director, 2) Clinical Coordinator, and 3) selected faculty/staff members. The selection committee will evaluate and determine which candidates will be accepted to the Athletic Training Professional Program.

Academic honesty is central to WMU's educational mission. It enables each of us to fulfill our potential, learn effectively with and from one another, acquire specialized knowledge and skills, become informed, responsible and creative thinkers and have pride in our institution's standing. To these ends I require that students in this program represent their own work accurately and truthfully without cheating, fabrication, falsification or forgery, multiple submission, plagiarism, complicity and computer misuse, according to the policies in WMU's Student Code that pertain to Academic Integrity (Undergraduate Catalog pp. 274-276). If there is reason to believe you have been involved in academic dishonesty you will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. You will be given an opportunity to review the charge(s). If you believe you are not responsible you will have the opportunity for a hearing.

This particular Program includes multiple courses. The requirements for these courses include multiple assignments, quizzes and examinations. The final answers that you turn in for grading must be written independently by you, and reflect your own efforts, knowledge, understanding and expression of ideas. Any student who **does not** abide by these statements and is found responsible for academic dishonesty **will not** gain acceptance into Western Michigan University's Undergraduate Athletic Training Professional Program. If a student is found responsible for academic dishonesty **after** their acceptance, they will **immediately be expelled** from the Program and will be **unable** to pursue a degree in Undergraduate Athletic Training from Western Michigan University **from that day forward**.

If you have questions or are confused about what is or is not appropriate regarding this, or other issues of academic integrity, please consult with me during office hours or after class. I am available at those times to discuss anything pertaining to this course. The WMU Writing Center can give you additional help with paraphrasing and citing sources correctly. If you observe other students in this class engaging in any form of academic dishonesty I invite you to approach me in confidence about it.

The criteria listed below should be completed or in the process of completion at the time of application to be considered for admission in the Athletic Training Professional Program. Students who have transferred from

¹ Acceptance and graduation from the WMU Athletic Training Professional Program does not guarantee successfully passing the BOC exam and entering the Athletic Training profession.

other institutions will be reviewed on a per-case basis. The criteria for acceptance will include a minimum 2.5 overall grade point average, a minimum of “C” grade in selected cognate and core requirements, an interview, letters of recommendation, positive clinical instructor evaluations, fulfillment of clinical education rotation hours, and a completed application.

After the interview, each candidate will receive notification from the Program Director regarding admission status. Students that are accepted to the Professional Program will be required to schedule an appointment with their academic advisor and register for the required advanced Athletic Training courses. Matriculation for those students accepted will begin the Spring semester of the new year and will continue for a **minimum** of two full academic years; a **minimum** of four sequential semesters. Candidates that have not been accepted to the Athletic Training Professional Program can appeal the decision by submission of a formal response to the Program Director within 30 days of the notification. It should be noted however, that the submission of an appeal does not guarantee or indicate that the candidate will be reconsidered for admission. Students that are not granted admission may reapply the next admissions period.

1. Pre-Program Requirements:

- a) Accepted to Western Michigan University and submission into the University’s HPER Department with eventual acceptance once requirements have been met.
- b) Attainment of sophomore status (26 credits).
- c) Attain the minimal academic requirements.
- d) Complete 75 hours of supervised observation, with an Approved Clinical Instructor (ACI), in an environment that provides Athletic Training services. An ACI must provide verification of these hours.
- e) Application submitted to the Athletic Training Professional Program by October 15th.

2. Application Procedures:

- a) Obtain application from the Athletic Training Program Director or on E-learning.
- b) Complete and return the application materials to the Athletic Training Program Director by October 15th, 5:00 pm². The application will be complete with the following materials:
 1. Application Form This form will be issued by the Program Director or on E-learning.
 2. Two letters of recommendation (Letters may not be from staff Athletic Trainers/CI’s or GA’s currently employed by WMU).
 3. Clinical Experience Verification Hours Forms These forms will be issued in HPER 1530: Introduction to Athletic Training.
 4. Clinical Experience Evaluation Forms This form will be completed by each designated ACI upon completion of each rotation. The student applying for admission must submit the original evaluation form or a copy of the original.
 5. Essay One page **typed** essay that addresses the following question.
What skills and characteristic traits do you feel you possess to be a strong athletic training student?
 6. Technical Standards Form The candidate shall read and sign the *Technical Standards* document.

² Unless such date falls on a weekend. If this is the occurrence the completed application will be due on the Monday following the prescribed due date by 5:00 pm.

7. Curriculum and Clinical Education Guidelines Policy (Appendix W) Signed and dated by applying student and the Program Director.
 8. Official Advising Sheet Obtained from the Advising Department in 2504 Sangren Hall. This sheet must show your progression in and plan for taking Program courses.
- c) The selection committee will review your application. An interview will be scheduled for the candidates **that have a completed application** filed and **meet the minimum admission requirements**.
 - d) Each student will be contacted of his or her status by the end of the application semester. A student **may**, but is not guaranteed, obtain a conditional admittance until Program requirements have been obtained.
 - e) Candidates that have not been accepted to the Athletic Training Professional Program can appeal the decision by submitting a formal response to the Athletic Training Program Director within 30 days of the notification. As stated previously, the submission of an appeal does not guarantee or indicate that the candidate will be reconsidered for admission. Students that are not granted admission may reapply the next admissions period.

3. Minimum criteria for acceptance:

- a) Demonstrated knowledge and interest in the Athletic Training profession.
- b) Experience in the health care field. Seventy-five clock hours of observation are required under the supervision of an ACI.
- c) Grade point average. A minimum **overall** grade point average of 2.5.
- d) Space available in the Athletic Training Professional Program.
- e) Special considerations i.e. transfer student from another Program.
- f) Meet all requirements provided in section 2.
- g) Completion of Athletic Training Pre-program requirements with a 2.5 overall grade point average, and a minimum "C" grade in each of the required courses³:

a. BIOS 1120	Principles of Biology
b. BIOS 2110	Human Anatomy
c. Psy 1000	General Psychology
d. HPER 1100	Athletic Taping & Bracing
e. HPER 1110	Healthy Living
or HOL 1000	Choices in Living
f. HPER 1490	Computer Applications for HPER
g. HPER 1810	First Aid/CPR
h. HPER 1530	Introduction to Athletic Training

³ PHYS 1130/1140 has been waived but a student may take these courses in order to fulfill general education requirements, otherwise they should take BIOS 1100.

Students must favorably complete all applicable coursework: refer to advising and course progression sheet.

*** HPER 2530 is taken the semester of application to the program, unless student is under special consideration, i.e. direct accepted transfer from another institution's program.

4. Minimum Professional Requirements:

The candidate will receive verification of acceptance to the Athletic Training Professional Program by mail. Once this letter has been received, the student will be required to schedule an appointment with their academic advisor to register for the required courses. Courses will begin the spring semester of the subsequent academic semester/new year and will continue for a **minimum** of four sequential semesters; equaling two academic years (spring/fall).

Graduation requirements are consistent with the University standards for graduation with the following exceptions:

1. A 2.5 overall grade point average.
2. A minimum of "C" grade in each required and core course; a student may repeat a course **only once** in order to obtain the minimum of a "C" grade. If the student receives a grade of less than a 2.0/C, and the student has been accepted into the Program, they will be academically dismissed from the Program.
3. Completion of the following coursework (coursework should be completed following the *Four-Year Instructional Guide*):

a. BIOS 2400	Human Physiology
b. HPER 2400	Motor Development & Learning
c. HPER 2530	Injury/Illness Survey & Management***
d. HPER 2540	Medical Conditions in Athletic Training
e. HPER 2950	Biomechanics
f. HPER 2960	Stress Mgmt & Flexibility
g. HPER 3150	Measurement & Evaluation
h. HPER 3830	Athletic Injury Evaluation of the Upper Extremity
i. HPER 3840	Therapeutic Modalities
j. HPER 3850	Athletic Injury Evaluation of the Lower Extremity
k. HPER 2980	Exercise Physiology
l. HPER 3950	Aerobic Conditioning
m. HPER 3960	Muscular Strength & Endurance
n. HPER 3970	Body Comp. & Weight Control
o. HPER 4000	Fieldwork in Athletic Training (I-IV)
p. HPER 4860	Therapeutic Ex. of Athletic Injuries
q. HPER 4870	Sports Medicine Seminar
r. HPER 4500	Cultural Dynamic of HPER