



Technical Standards for the Athletic Training Program

The professional Master's of Science in Athletic Training Program (MS in AT) at the University of Pittsburgh is a rigorous and intense program that places specific requirements and demands on the students enrolled in the program. The objective of this program is to prepare graduates to enter a variety of employment settings and to render care to a wide spectrum of individuals engaged in physical activity. The technical standards set forth by the professional Athletic Training Program establish the essential qualities considered necessary for students admitted to this program to achieve the knowledge, skills, and competencies of an athletic trainer, as well as meet the expectations of the program's accrediting agency (Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education [CAATE]).

The following abilities and expectations must be met by all students who are admitted to and matriculate through the MS in AT Program.

Candidates for selection to the Professional Master's of Science in Athletic Training Program must demonstrate:

1. the mental capacity to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts and problem solve to formulate assessment and therapeutic judgments and to be able to distinguish deviations from the norm, in both prepared and impromptu situations.
2. sufficient postural and neuromuscular control, sensory function, and coordination to perform appropriate physical examinations using accepted techniques (ability to stand for extended periods of time, carry up to 50 lbs.); and accurately, safely and efficiently use equipment and materials during the assessment and treatment of patients.
3. the ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients, preceptors, faculty, and peers including individuals from different cultural and social backgrounds; this includes, but is not limited to, the ability to establish rapport with patients and communicate judgments and treatment information effectively. Students must be able to understand and speak the English language at a level consistent with competent professional practice.
4. the ability to record the physical examination results and a treatment plan clearly and accurately.
5. the capacity to maintain composure and continue to function well during periods of high stress in both the classroom and the clinical experience.
6. the perseverance, diligence, and commitment to complete the Athletic Training Program as outlined and sequenced.
7. flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in clinical situations.
8. affective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care.

Candidates for selection to the professional MS in AT Program will be required to meet these technical standards with or without reasonable accommodation.

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards for selection listed above and believe to the best of my knowledge that I am able to meet each of these standards with or without reasonable accommodation. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards I will not be admitted to the program. If during the program, my status should change and I am unable to meet any one or more of these standards, I understand that I must initiate an appointment with the program director to discuss the possibility and implementation of reasonable accommodations.

Signature of Applicant

Date

The University of Pittsburgh, as an educational institution and as an employer, values equality of opportunity, human dignity, and racial/ethnic and cultural diversity. Accordingly, the University prohibits and will not engage in discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam era. Further, the University will continue to take affirmative steps to support and advance these values consistent with the University's mission.