Technical Standards for Admission

The Athletic Training Program at Oklahoma State University is a rigorous and intense program that places specific requirements and demands on the students enrolled in the program. An objective of this program is to prepare graduates to enter a variety of employment settings and to render care to a wide spectrum of individuals engaged in physical activity. The technical standards set forth by the Athletic Training Program establish the essential qualities considered necessary for students admitted to the program to achieve the knowledge, skills, and competencies of an entry-level certified athletic trainer, as well as meet the expectations of the programs’ accrediting agency. The following abilities and expectations must be met by all students admitted to the ATP. In the event a student is unable to fulfill these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, the student will not be admitted into the program. Compliance with the program’s technical standards does not guarantee a student’s eligibility for the OSU ATP or BOC® certification exam.

Candidates for selection to the ATP must demonstrate:
1. The mental capacity to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts and problem solve to formulate assessment and therapeutic judgments and to be able to distinguish deviations from the norm.

2. Sufficient postural and neuromuscular control, sensory function, and coordination to perform appropriate physical examinations using accepted techniques; and accurately, safely and efficiently use equipment and materials during the assessment and treatment of patients.

3. The ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and colleagues, including individuals from different cultural and social backgrounds; this includes, but is not limited to, the ability to establish rapport with patients and communicate judgments and treatment information effectively. Students must be able to understand and speak the English language at a level consistent with competent professional practice.

4. The ability to record the physical examination results and a treatment plan clearly and accurately.

5. The capacity to maintain composure and continue to function well during periods of high stress.

6. The perseverance, diligence and commitment to complete the Athletic Training education program as outlined and sequenced.

7. Flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situation and uncertainty in clinical situations.

8. Affective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care. Copies of the Technical Standard form for review and signature can be found in the Student Forms section of the Handbook and on the OSU ATP Website. *These Technical Standard are adopted from the NATA Education Council.

PHYSICAL CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT

All Athletic Training students must complete a health history form prior to beginning any clinical observation. The student is responsible for scheduling and completing a complete health evaluation by a licensed physician (MD, DO). If the physician identifies a student as having actual or potential mental or psychological difficulties in meeting the standards established by the program, the student will have access to a health care providers to determine the implication of such difficulties and completing the program. Additional components of the health evaluation will include immunization, prior injuries and current existing conditions. All records will be kept confidential. A copy will be kept in the program director’s office.
Assumption of Risk

***Please note that this must be signed by the same licensed physician conducting the health physical.***

I, ________________________________, understand that participating in the field of athletic training as a student at Oklahoma State University may be physically demanding, requiring me to sometimes lift heavy objects (i.e. lifting an athlete on a spine board, coolers of water, medical bags), run (i.e. get to an injured athlete on the field of play), and otherwise engage in activity or positions to perform necessary medical and facility related tasks (i.e. evaluating an injury and cleaning the athletic training clinic respectively). The physically demanding activities pose an inherent risk of injury, and I acknowledge that these risks exist. I am willing to assume these risks and will not hold Oklahoma State University and its personnel responsible for any pre-existing medical condition(s) that I may have.

Student Printed Name________________________ Signature __________________________ Date ___/___/____

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Physician Clearance

I, ________________________________, have examined and medically cleared this individual to participate as an athletic training student in the Athletic Training Program at Oklahoma State University. Furthermore, I have verified that the above mentioned individual is physically capable of performing all tasks herein described, and that he/she meets the physical and mental requirements without reasonable accommodation of an athletic training student as outlined in the Technical Standards for Admission.

Physician (MD, DO) Printed Name________________________

Signature __________________________ Date ___/___/____