

Technical Standards for Admission

PennWest University
Athletic Training Program

The Athletic Training (AT) Program at PennWest University of Pennsylvania is a rigorous and intense program that places specific requirements and demands on the students enrolled in the program. This program aims to prepare graduates to enter a variety of employment settings and to render care to a broad spectrum of individuals engaged in physical activity. The technical standards set forth by the AT Program establish the essential qualities considered necessary for students admitted to this program to achieve the knowledge, skills, and competencies of an entry-level athletic trainer, as well as meet the expectations of the program's accrediting agency (Commission on Accreditation for Athletic Training Education [CAATE]). The following abilities and expectations must be met by all students admitted to the AT Program. 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 Board of Certification (BOC) examination.

Athletic Training Students must demonstrate:

1. The mental capacity to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts and problem solve to formulate assessment and therapeutic judgments and to be able to distinguish deviations from the norm.
2. Sufficient postural and neuromuscular control, sensory function, and coordination to perform appropriate physical examinations using accepted techniques and accurately, safely, and efficiently use equipment and materials during the assessment and treatment of patients. Examples include but are not limited to sufficient strength to perform manual muscle tests, operate goniometers and isokinetic testing devices, utilize electrical and mechanical devices to treat injuries, and transport injured persons.
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, establishing rapport with patients and communicating 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, typically in handwritten or typed format.
5. The capacity to maintain composure and continue to function well during periods of high stress, including but not limited to providing health care during adverse weather conditions and emergencies.
6. Flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in clinical situations.
7. Affective skills, appropriate demeanor, and rapport related to professional education and quality patient care.

Candidates for selection to the athletic training program are required to verify that they understand and meet these technical standards or that they believe they can meet them with reasonable accommodation.

It is the responsibility of the student to request reasonable accommodations through the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) and to adhere to appropriate DSS procedures. The DSS Office (814/393-2095) will work with the Athletic Training Program to evaluate, on a case-by-case basis, a student's request for reasonable accommodations based on disability. PennWest is committed to providing equal access/opportunity for students with disabilities while, at the same time, reserving the right to identify situations or accommodations that compromise clinician/patient safety and/or fundamentally alter the nature of the program.

For more information, please visit the official PennWest accommodation process at:

- [PennWest Disability Support webpage](#)

Student Statement: *Check **only one** of the boxes*

- Decline Accommodations:** I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards listed 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 or become unable to meet these standards with or without accommodation, I cannot enroll or remain enrolled in the program.
- Request for Accommodations:** I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards listed above and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I can meet each of these standards with **accommodations**. I will contact the University of Charleston's ADA Coordinator to have the need for accommodation evaluated. I understand that in some cases accommodation might not be possible. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards with or without accommodations, I cannot enroll or remain enrolled in the program.

AT Student's Full Name (Printed)

AT Student Signature

Date