Athletic Training
Certified/Licensed Athletic Trainer

Information below is for pre-health advisement only. Students are responsible for verifying admissions information for their programs of interest. All information is subject to change.

Career Description:
Athletic training encompasses the prevention, examination, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of emergent, acute or chronic injuries and medical conditions. Athletic trainers (ATs) are highly qualified, multi-skilled health care professionals who collaborate with physicians to provide preventative services, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions. Athletic trainers work under the direction of a physician as prescribed by state licensure statutes. Athletic trainers are sometimes confused with personal trainers. There is, however, a large difference in the education, skillset, job duties and patients of an athletic trainer and a personal trainer. The athletic training academic curriculum and clinical training follows the medical model. Athletic trainers must graduate from an accredited baccalaureate or master’s program.

Basic Education Path to Career:

4 year undergraduate degree → 2 year Master’s degree*

*Athletic training is an academic major or graduate equivalent major program that is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The current minimum entry point into the profession is baccalaureate level. It was decided recently that the minimum degree will be a master’s degree, to be implemented in the next years.

Matriculant Statistics:
- Average overall GPA of matriculants in 2015: 3.50
- Exam Required: GRE
- Average Exam Score of matriculants for 2015: >300 composite
- To be competitive for this career, schools want to see at least 2 years of pre-health semesters, which include multiple 3000/4000 level science courses before applying.
  - Pre-health semesters are: semesters consisting of minimum 14-16 credit hours, with 8-11 hours of science courses. Science courses consist of biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics.

Required extra-curricular activities:
1) Complete and record 50 hours of observation with a Certified and/or Licensed Athletic Trainer.
2) Blood Borne Pathogen training must be completed prior to starting observation hours.
3) Half of the observation hours must be completed in a “traditional” Athletic Training setting (e.g. high school, college, university, or professional sports venue).

Recommended extra-curricular activities:
1) Any additional observation of a AT, in addition to what is required
2) Volunteering in a medical setting
3) Student Organization related to Athletic Training

Resources:
- Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education: [www.caate.net](http://www.caate.net)
- National Athletic Training Association: [www.nata.org](http://www.nata.org)
- For more information please contact the USF Division of Health Professions Advising at healthprofadvise@usf.edu

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