Ohio State's Athletic Training Major

Ohio State's Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training is a flagship program with a well-established national reputation for excellence. Our graduates’ board exam performance consistently places us in the top tier among programs nationally and few programs can offer the variety and quality of opportunities found here.

While the program is competitive, this is also a program where everyone knows you by name and every instructor is invested in your personal and professional success.

The program is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE).

Graduates are eligible to sit for the Board of Certification’s (BOC) Athletic Trainer national certification exam and to obtain a license to practice in any state.

Over the past five years, 89 of our 90 graduates sat for the national Board Exam and every one of them passed on their first attempt (100% first-attempt pass rate).

All Athletic Training programs nationally will be converting by 2022 to award a Master’s Degree. We are in the process of this conversion and are planning a 5 year BS-MS. Pending required approvals, we anticipate this to be available starting with incoming freshman for fall 2017.

The Athletic Training Profession

If you aren’t yet familiar with the Athletic Training profession, don’t let the name fool you. We don’t actually train athletes!

Instead of being a fitness or sports profession, Athletic Training is a health care profession. In fact, what many people think of as ‘sports medicine’ is actually Athletic Training. Athletic Trainers (ATs) are healthcare professionals who collaborate with physicians to provide care to many different kinds of patients, both athletes and non-athletes alike.

The services provided by ATs include prevention, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions.

Athletic Training is a healthcare profession that is recognized by the American Medical Association (AMA).

In 2010, U.S. News & World Reports named athletic training as one of the 50 best careers. Athletic Trainers are licensed or otherwise regulated in 49 states as of the autumn of 2015.
What We Stand For

Our mission is to provide exceptional education; deliver outstanding patient care; define the practice of Athletic Training through research and scholarship; and improve the world around us through leadership and service.

Our goal is to graduate students who:
...are ready for independent practice upon graduation.
...will become leaders in Athletic Training and/or the Medical Community.
...are engaged in serving the larger community.
...will be future innovators.

Our values serve as a compass for our actions and describe how we conduct ourselves.

EXCELLENCE – we are not satisfied with mere competence but instead strive to reach our maximum potential.

INTEGRITY – we do things the right way, even when it isn’t the easy way

ACCOUNTABILITY – we accept responsibility for our decisions and actions and are answerable for them

LEADERSHIP – we work to create, share and realize a vision for the future

INNOVATION – we are not limited by conventional wisdom but look to create a better way

TRADITION – we honor our proud heritage and carry-on the legacy of those who went before us

SERVICE – we “pay it forward”, giving our time, effort and expertise to improve the world around us

COMMUNITY – we value and respect all people, seeing our differences as strengths we can leverage to make us better and help us achieve our common goals

Sample Program of Study

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Freshman (pre-professional)</th>
<th>Sophomore</th>
<th>Junior</th>
<th>Senior</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Pre-season clinical fieldwork with OSU athletics in August</td>
<td>Possible pre-season clinical fieldwork (August) depending on specific clinical placement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Basic Athletic Training Freshman Survey Math Chemistry GE—Cultures &amp; Ideas</td>
<td>Intro to Clinical Care AT Diagnosis &amp; Care I Health Science Research Human Physiology Psychology</td>
<td>Therapeutic Modalities Biomechanics AT Skills Assess II AT Fieldwork—OSU Exercise Physiology</td>
<td>AT Administration Pharmacology AT Skills Assess IV AT Fieldwork—HS GE—2nd writing GE—Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>AT Pre-Clinical Skills Biology Human Anatomy Medical Terminology English</td>
<td>AT Diagnosis &amp; Care II Emerg Trauma &amp; Disease AT Skills Assess I AT Fieldwork—OSU Physics</td>
<td>Therapeutic Exercise Musculoskel Screening AT Skills Assess III AT Fieldwork—OSU Nutrition for Sport GE—Literature</td>
<td>AT Skills Assess V AT Skills Assess VI AT Fieldwork—medical Psychosocial Care Statistics GE—social sciences GE—History</td>
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Clinical Experiences

Students don’t just learn theory here; they put it into practice with daily, hands-on, real-world clinical experiences.

While many programs think of their clinical preceptors as “supervisors”, we think of ours as “mentors”. We all seek to develop in our students the qualities we most value in ourselves as professionals.

Clinical fieldwork is completed over 3 years, both on-campus with our over 25 member Athletic Training staff in OSU athletics, and off-campus with our over 30 affiliated clinical partners.

With the Buckeyes’ national prominence, you might think that students don’t work with our top athletes. That’s NOT THE CASE at OSU! Our students care for every athlete on every one of OSU’s inter-collegiate teams. That’s around 1000 athletes each year, making for one of the most diverse clinical populations in all of college athletics.

Our students also learn inter-professional care, working with other providers including physicians, physician assistants, nurses, registered dietitians, physical therapists, occupational therapists, dentists, and many more.
Program Admissions

Ohio State’s Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training (BSAT) program uses a secondary admission process, where program admission is separate from admission to the university. Students typically apply for secondary admission during the freshman year.

Program admission is selective. We typically admit 30 students per cohort from 50-60 applicants.

Admitted students complete 3 years of professional coursework and carefully structured fieldwork.

Secondary admission is based on academic performance, pre-requisite coursework, performance in a clinical observation (arranged by the program), and an interview (only admission finalists are offered the interview).

Prerequisite coursework includes:
- Basic Athletic Training
- AT Skills and Observation
- Human Anatomy (cadaver)
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Algebra & Trigonometry
- Medical Terminology

The programs arranges the clinical observation and it serves two purposes. First, it gives students an opportunity in the pre-AT year to immerse in the Athletic Training environment, exploring their fit to confirm their choice of major. Second, the it gives students the opportunity to demonstrate their fit, maturity and readiness to become healthcare providers.

New for 2016, we have created an early admission pathway where a limited number of spots in the program are guaranteed to students directly out of high school. Details are on our website.

Research Opportunities

The Ohio State University is one of the world’s foremost research universities and defining Athletic Training practice through research is a foundational part of our mission.

Undergraduate Athletic Training students complete coursework in interpreting and applying research to clinical practice and then use research to guide their clinical decision making on a daily basis.

Our students have the opportunity to not only use research, but to also be part of the team that produces it. Athletic Training students have opportunities to join the laboratory groups of their faculty and to help be a part of the process that defines the future practice of Athletic Training. Many of our students have presented original research at state, regional, and national conferences and have been co-authors on research papers published with their faculty.

Whether it be injury prediction, risk reduction, rehabilitation, acute injury care, therapeutic interventions or outcomes, students have numerous areas to get involved.

Students also have the opportunity to complete an optional senior research thesis of their own design. Students completing the thesis graduate with distinction during commencement.

Money Matters

A university education is an expensive investment. It’s important to ensure that your investment is balanced by the quality of the program you choose.

Ohio State University is nationally ranked in the top 20 among public universities and provides among the best returns on investment in all of higher education.

Ohio State’s Athletic Training program is in the elite group of national leaders. Yet, as a state school, our costs are modest. In fact, we are considerably less expensive than many universities who we consistently outperform.

2015-16 Tuition and Fees were $10,037 in-state and $27,365 out of state. Typical room and board was $11,666.

While Ohio State does not offer Athletic Training scholarships to incoming freshman, we have several program scholarships available to professional phase students. Likewise, our students have been very success in obtaining state, regional, and national Athletic Training scholarships. Many of our students also take advantage of summer employment with OSU Athletics camps.
We host a seminar each year teaching our students job search and networking processes, interview dress and skills, and even cater an interview-style dinner where we teach students interview meal etiquette.

We then put it into practice by having students create resumes and cover letters and apply for off-campus high school fieldwork rotations. They typically complete 3-5 professional interviews before they even apply for their first paid professional position. The end result is that our students simply don’t interview like the other new graduates against whom they are competing. In fact, employers routinely tell us that our students interview like they have been on the job for several years instead of like new college graduates. Most students have accepted their first professional position by March or April before graduating and it is rare for us to still have unplaced graduates 60-days after graduation.

Beyond their first-jobs, our graduates stay in-touch with us and with each other for years to come. We share job postings with our alumni group who continue to network with each other as well. Many go on to take positions of leadership at the state, regional, and national levels.

Your college experience is just the beginning. Being a Buckeye lasts a lifetime.