



TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION

The Athletic Training Program at Valley City State University (VCSU) is a rigorous and intense educational 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 VCSU Athletic Training Program establishes 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 of Athletic Training Education [CAATE]). The abilities that an athletic trainer needs to practice safely are those described below, in the National Athletic Trainers' Association education competencies, and in the Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer role delineation study/practice analysis. Compliance with VCSU's Athletic Training Program's technical standards does not guarantee a student's admission into Valley City State University's Athletic Training Program or eligibility for BOC certification exam.

Candidates for selection to the Athletic Training Program will be required to verify they understand and meet these technical standards or that they believe that, with certain reasonable accommodations, they can meet the standards.

Observation

Observation requires the functional use of vision, hearing, and somatic sensations. Student must be able to:

- Participate in lectures and laboratory demonstrations
- Observe and palpate a patient accurately to determine variations from normal and observe output readings to determine a patient's condition and the status of a treatment

Examples in which these observational skills are required include, but are not limited to:

- Palpation of anatomical structures
- Visual and tactile assessment for the presence and degree of edema
- Listening to a patient describe his or her medical history and current symptoms

Communication

Students must be able to:

- Communicate effectively and sensitively with patients to elicit information regarding mood, activities, and health complaints, as well as perceive nonverbal communications
- Communicate effectively and efficiently with other members of the health care and athletic community to convey information essential for safe and effective care
- Read, communicate in writing, and demonstrate computer literacy to complete assignments

Motor Function

Students must have sufficient motor function to:

- Elicit information from the patient examination, using palpation, muscle strength assessment, joint range of motion measurement, and other evaluative maneuvers
- Be the first responder in a potentially catastrophic injury (e.g., in-line stabilization of cervical spine, rescue breathing, obstructed airway management, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation)
- Execute movements required to provide therapeutic care, such as performing mobilization and wound care techniques

These skills require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movement and equilibrium.

Intellectual Abilities

To effectively solve problems, students must be able to:

- Measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, and synthesize information in a timely fashion
- Synthesize knowledge and integrate the relevant aspects of a patient's history and examination findings to develop an effective treatment program
- Comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand spatial relationships of structures

Behavioral and Social Attributes

Students must possess the psychological ability required for them to:

- Fully use their intellectual abilities
- Exercise good judgment
- Promptly complete all responsibilities inherent to the assessment and care of patients
- Develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients

Students must be able to:

- Tolerate physically and mentally taxing workloads
- Function effectively under stress
- Adapt to a changing environment
- Function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of patients
- Demonstrate ethical behavior, both in the classroom and during their clinical experience

Reasonable Accommodation

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the admissions process does not require disclosure of a disability. However, all enrolled students must be capable of meeting the technical standards for the academic and clinical education components of the Athletic Training Program. These technical standards are necessary for full participation in the curriculum and it is expected that students will function independently, which generally means, without the aid of an intermediary, to achieve proficiency in all curricular areas. Applicants and students should review the technical standards for the AT program carefully. A student who has a disability may request reasonable accommodations. If, due to a disability, you feel you may require accommodations in order to complete the curriculum, it is essential that you work with [VCSU's Student Academic Services Office](#) to discuss possible accommodations.

The Student Academic Services Office, in conjunction with the Athletic Training Program's faculty and staff, will evaluate a student who states he/she could meet the program's technical standards with reasonable accommodation and based on the functional limitations listed in the documentation provided by the student, confirm that the stated condition(s) qualifies as a disability under applicable laws. The Student Academic Services Office facilitates accommodations for individuals with disabilities, which ensures equal access to programs, services, and activities offered by Valley City State University.

If a student states he/she can meet the technical standards with accommodation, then the Athletic Training Program will evaluate accommodations and determine if the student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation. This includes a review of whether the accommodations requested are reasonable, taking into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, or the educational process of the student or the institution, including all coursework, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.

Please sign and return technical standards to:

Rachelle Hunt, M.Ed., ATC, L/ATC
Athletic Training Program Director/Assistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology and Human Performance
701-845-7260 (office)
rachelle.hunt@vcsu.edu

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards for selection 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 to meet these standards I will not be admitted into the program.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Alternative statement for students requesting accommodations:

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards of selection listed above and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I can meet each of these standards with certain accommodations. I will contact the Academic Affairs Office to determine what accommodations may be available. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards with or without accommodations, I will not be admitted into the program.

Signature of Applicant

Date