

# ATHLETIC TRAINING, M.S.

The Master's degree in Athletic Training is a 24-month professional program that provides rigorous and comprehensive preparation for students seeking a health care career in athletic training. Athletic trainers (ATs) are multi-skilled health care professionals who collaborate with physicians as part of the health care team to provide preventative services, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention and rehabilitation of injuries and medical condition. Athletic trainers provide health care in a variety of practice settings for people involved in all levels of physical activity. Practice environments include youth to professional sports, military and public service personnel, secondary schools, colleges, universities, performing arts, workers with physically demanding jobs, physician practice settings, and much more.

Prospective students should visit the program website (<https://kinesiology.education.wisc.edu/AT/>) for additional information on program outcomes and opportunities.

The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (<https://caate.net/>) and students are eligible to sit for the national Board of Certification exam (<https://boccatc.org/>) after successful completion of the MSAT program.

## ADMISSIONS

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program's admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program's website. Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. **Applicants must meet** the minimum requirements (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/>) **of the Graduate School as well as the program(s)**. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	The program does not admit in the fall.
Spring Deadline	The program does not admit in the spring.
Summer Deadline	April 1*
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Not required.
English Proficiency Test	Every applicant whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements ( <a href="https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency">https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency</a> ).
Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	n/a
Letters of Recommendation Required	3

\* Early application consideration deadline is December 1.

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING (MSAT)

- Applicants for all graduate programs must complete a UW-Madison Graduate school application: <https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>
- Applicants for the professional program in athletic training must complete the Athletic Training Central Application Service (ATCAS) application: <https://atcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>

## ADMISSION CRITERIA AND PREREQUISITE COURSES

Admission to the MSAT (professional program in athletic training) requires:

- Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) from a regionally accredited school of higher education by the start of the program
- Transcripts from each college, university, or technical college attended showing work completed and in progress
- Observation of two Certified Athletic Trainers in different clinical practice settings. Refer to the MSAT Program website for forms and guidelines for required observation experiences. (<https://kinesiology.education.wisc.edu/at/apply-msat/>)
- Minimum of three letters of recommendation
- Personal statement responding to prompts provided on the graduate application
- A grade of "C" or better in the following prerequisite courses or their equivalent:

### Required Prerequisite Courses / UW-Madison or comparable coursework

UW-Madison Course(s) / Comparable / Description	Credits
ZOOLOGY/ BIOLOGY 101	3-5
or ZOOLOGY/ BIOLOGY/ BOTANY 151	
CHEM 103	4
PHYSICS 103	4
PSYCH 210	3
or STAT 301	
or STAT 371	
PSYCH 202	3-4
ANAT&PHY 335	5
ANAT&PHY 337	3
KINES 314	4

<sup>1</sup> If anatomy and physiology are taken as a combined course, two semesters are necessary to meet this requirement.

### Recommended Prerequisite Courses / UW-Madison or comparable coursework

Code	Title	Credits
NUTR SCI 132	Nutrition Today	3
or NUTR SCI 332	Human Nutritional Needs	

## FUNDING

### GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (<https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/>) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

### PROGRAM RESOURCES

Financial assistance may be available through School of Education fellowships. The Athletic Training Program also has scholarships available to both incoming and returning students. For more information, please contact the MSAT Program Director.

## REQUIREMENTS

### MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

### MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No

#### Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Accelerated:** Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

**Evening/Weekend:** Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

**Face-to-Face:** Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

**Hybrid:** These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

**Online:** These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

### CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirements	Detail
Minimum Credit Requirement	58 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	29 credits

**Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement** All degree coursework must be completed at the graduate level; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide (<https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide> (<https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/>)).

**Overall Graduate GPA Requirement** 3.00 GPA required.

**Other Grade Requirements** No other grade requirements.

**Assessments and Examinations** No formal examination required.

**Language Requirements** No language requirements.

### REQUIRED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Summer I (8 credits)</b>		
KINES 570	Anatomical Foundations in Athletic Training	3
KINES 571	Emergency Procedures for Athletic Trainers	2
KINES 572	Foundational Skills in Athletic Training	1
KINES 620	Clinical Practicum in Athletic Training I	2
<b>Fall I (15 credits)</b>		
KINES 621	Clinical Practicum in Athletic Training II	3
KINES 650	Foundations of Professional Practice in Athletic Training	1
KINES 651	Public Health, Policy, and Practice	3
KINES 652	Evaluation and Therapeutic Interventions I	4
KINES 654	Clinical Medicine in Athletic Training I	3
KINES 670	Enhancing Performance and Wellness	1
<b>Spring I (15 credits)</b>		
KINES 622	Clinical Field Experience in Athletic Training I	3
KINES 650	Foundations of Professional Practice in Athletic Training	1
KINES 653	Evaluation and Therapeutic Interventions II	4
KINES 655	Clinical Medicine in Athletic Training II	3
KINES 656	Scientific Inquiry in Athletic Training	3
KINES 671	Diagnostic Imaging in Athletic Training	1
<b>Summer II (4 credits)</b>		
KINES 623	Clinical Field Experience in Athletic Training II	3
KINES 672	Principles of Pharmacology for Athletic Trainers	1

#### Fall II (8 credits)

KINES 624	Athletic Training Preceptorship I	6
KINES 657	Role Transition and Professional Practice in Athletic Training	1
KINES 673	Healthcare Informatics and Quality Improvement in Athletic Training	1
<b>Spring II (8 credits)</b>		
KINES 625	Athletic Training Preceptorship II	7
KINES 674	Practice Based Research in Athletic Training	1
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>58</b>

## POLICIES

### GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

### MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

#### PRIOR COURSEWORK

##### Graduate Work from Other Institutions

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 15 credits of graduate course work from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

##### UW–Madison Undergraduate

No credits from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the MSAT degree.

##### UW–Madison University Special

With program approval and payment of the difference in tuition (between special and graduate tuition), students are allowed to count no more than 15 credits of course work numbered 300 or above taken in UW–Madison University Special student status. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

#### PROBATION

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

1. Good standing (progressing according to standards; any funding guarantee remains in place).
2. Probation (not progressing according to standards but permitted to enroll; loss of funding guarantee; specific plan with dates and deadlines in place in regard to removal of probationary status).
3. Unsatisfactory progress (not progressing according to standards; not permitted to enroll, dismissal, leave of absence or change of advisor or program).

An overall GPA below 3.0 will place the student on academic probation. If a 3.0 GPA is not regained in the subsequent semester the student may

be dismissed from the program or allowed to continue provisionally for 1 semester based on advisor appeal to the Graduate School.

### ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

The MSAT assigns an advisor to each student. MSAT students must complete one mandatory group advising meeting each semester. In addition, students must meet individually once per semester with an advisor to insure satisfactory progress toward their MSAT degree and to monitor clinical placement progress needs.

### CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

### TIME CONSTRAINTS

Master's degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Students may count the coursework completed before their absence for meeting graduate degree credit requirements; the Graduate School will not count that work toward the Graduate School's minimum residence credit minimum.

### GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/>)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure>)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/>)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (<https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/>)
- Dean of Students Office (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/>) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Employee Assistance (<http://www.eao.wisc.edu/>) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (<https://employee disabilities.wisc.edu/>) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/>) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/>) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (<https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/>) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (<http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/>) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/>) (for concerns about discrimination)

Any student who feels that they have been treated unfairly by a faculty or staff member has the right to complain about the treatment and to receive a prompt hearing of the grievance, following these grievance procedures. The complaint may concern course grades, classroom treatment, program admission, or other issues. To insure a prompt and

fair hearing of any complaint, and to protect both the rights of the student and the person at whom the complaint is addressed, the procedures below are used in the School of Education.

The person whom the complaint is directed against must be an employee of the School of Education. Any student or potential student may use these procedures unless the complaint is covered by other campus rules or contracts. The following steps are available within the School of Education when a student has a grievance:

1. The student should first talk with the person against whom the grievance is directed. Most issues can be settled at this level. If the complaint is directed against a teaching assistant, and the student is not satisfied, the next step would be to talk to the TA's supervisor, who is usually the course professor. If the complaint is not resolved satisfactorily, the student may continue to step 2.
2. If the complaint does not involve an academic department, the procedure outlined in Step 4 below should be followed. If the complaint involves an academic department, the student should contact the chair of the department. The chair will attempt to resolve the problem informally. If this cannot be done to the student's satisfaction, the student may submit the grievance to the chair in writing. This must be done within 60 calendar days of the alleged unfair treatment.
3. On receipt of a written complaint, the chair will refer the matter to a departmental committee, which will obtain a written response from the person at whom the complaint is directed. This response shall be shared with the person filing the grievance. The chair will provide a timely written decision to the student on the action taken by the committee.
4. If either party is not satisfied with the decision of the department, they have five working days from receipt of the decision to contact the dean's office (at the number below), indicating the intention to appeal. If the complaint does not involve an academic department in the school, the student must contact the dean's office within 60 calendar days of the alleged unfair treatment.
5. In either case, there will be an attempt to resolve the issue informally by the associate dean. If this cannot be done, the complaint can be filed in writing with the dean's office. This must be done within 10 working days of the time the appealing party was notified that informal resolution was unsuccessful.
6. On receipt of such a written complaint, the associate dean will convene a subcommittee of the school's Equity & Diversity Committee. This subcommittee may ask for additional information from the parties involved and may hold a hearing at which both parties will be asked to speak separately. The subcommittee will then make a written recommendation to the dean of the School of Education who will render a decision. Unless a longer time is negotiated, this written decision shall be made within 20 working days from the date when the grievance was filed with the dean's office.

Questions about these procedures can be directed to the School of Education Dean's Office, 377 Education Building, 1000 Bascom Mall, 608-262-1763.

State law contains additional provisions regarding discrimination and harassment. Wisconsin Statutes 36.12 reads, in part: "No student may be denied admission to, participation in or the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any service, program, course or facility of the system or its institutions or center because of the student's race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, disability, ancestry, age, sexual

orientation, pregnancy, marital status or parental status." In addition, UW–System prohibits discrimination based on gender identity or gender expression. Students have the right to file discrimination and harassment complaints with the Office of Compliance (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/>), 361 Bascom Hall, 608-265-6018, [uwcomplianceoffice@wisc.edu](mailto:uwcomplianceoffice@wisc.edu).

## OTHER

n/a

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Understand the role of the athletic trainer within the broader health care system.
2. Demonstrate appropriate oral and written communication skills.
3. Develop and apply strategies to prevent the incidence and/or severity of injury and illnesses.
4. Demonstrate the clinical skills needed to appropriately diagnose patients for treatment and referral.
5. Apply clinical and decision-making skills to respond to acute injury and illness, including emergencies.
6. Assess patient status and develop treatment and rehabilitation that are consistent with contemporary disablement models.
7. Demonstrate clinical scholarship in the form of evidence appraisal and application to influence athletic training practice.
8. Maintain the highest standards of clinical practice by examining the quality of patient care through the use of patient outcomes.
9. Apply research methods to develop and evaluate clinical questions applicable to practice-based research environments while demonstrating an understanding of ethical research practice.

## PEOPLE

### FACULTY AND INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

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## ACCREDITATION

### ACCREDITATION

Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (<https://caate.net/>)

Accreditation status: Active—in good standing; degree will be updated from BS to MS. Next accreditation review: 2025–2026.

## CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE

The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (<https://caate.net/>) and students are eligible to sit for the national Board of Certification exam (<https://bocac.org/>) after successful completion of the MSAT program.

Currently, 49 states and the District of Columbia regulate the practice of athletic training. Individuals must be legally recognized by the appropriate state regulatory agency prior to practicing athletic training. The Board of Certification (BOC) exam is recognized by all athletic trainer state regulatory agencies to meet their exam requirement. Compliance with state regulatory requirements is mandatory and the only avenue to legal athletic training practice.

### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE DISCLOSURE (NC-SARA)

The United States Department of Education requires institutions that provide distance education to disclose information for programs leading to professional certification or licensure about whether each program meets state educational requirements for initial licensure or certification. Following is this disclosure information for this program:

#### **The requirements of this program meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:**

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, District of Columbia

#### **The requirements of this program do not meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:**

Not applicable

#### **The requirements of this program have not been determined if they meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:**

California\*, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands

\*California does not regulate athletic training at this time