



THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®

Athletic Training Program

Each semester of the program includes clinical education linked directly to the professional coursework through the Clinical Skills courses. Students are assigned to a different preceptor each semester of program enrollment. In accordance with accreditation guidelines and program philosophy, students complete exposures to:

- Patient care throughout the lifespan (pediatric, adult, geriatric)
- Different sexes
- Different SES
- Quality football experience
- Sport with travel requirements
- Varying levels of activity (competitive v recreational, individual v team, high & low intensity)
- Non-Sport activities (military, industrial, occupational, leisure activities, performing arts)

In addition to the assigned clinical education, students will also be required to have the following clinical experiences and supplemental clinical experiences:

- View a minimum of 3 surgeries over course of AT Program
- Assist with PPE's a minimum of 1 time over course of AT Program
- Assist with Adapted Athletics a minimum of 10 hours over course of AT Program
- Assist with a "large-scale" event a minimum of 10 hours over course of AT Program
- Receive Mental Health First Aid Certification
- Complete a minimum of 10 hours at a PT Clinic
- Complete a minimum of 10 hours in an MD Office
- Complete a minimum of 10 hours in the Emergency Room or Ambulance ride-along

Clinical education assignments are designed to ensure the student's exposure to diverse educational experiences through work with a variety of preceptors, patients and allied medical and medical professionals in many different settings. In addition to the 16 clinical sites within the UA department of intercollegiate athletics, a range of local high schools, physical therapy clinics, colleges, physician offices and the UA Student Recreation Center serve as affiliated clinical settings within the AT program.

In order to be allowed to participate in clinical education experiences through The University of Alabama Athletic Training Program, students must maintain clearance through [Castlebranch](#). In order to receive and maintain clearance, students must submit a variety of items through Castlebranch, including criminal background check, immunization records, drug test, child protections training, bloodborne pathogen training, and other compliance trainings. There is a cost associated with the initial account set-up and account maintenance that is the responsibility of the student. Information regarding costs associated with the AT program can be found [here](#).

Athletic Training Students assume individual responsibility for their transportation to clinical sites. The amount of travel to the clinical site varies with each clinical course and each clinical site. Students are encouraged to form carpools whenever possible. Students should not transport patients in their cars. Most automobile insurance policies deem transporting patients as a service and, therefore, will not provide coverage in the event of a crash. All clinical sites during the academic year are within 25 miles of The University of Alabama. Travel with a team for competitions outside of 25 miles from The University of Alabama will be covered by the clinical site.

Clinical Hours Policy

In accordance with requirements for accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), all students enrolled in the Athletic Training Program must complete clinical education that provides exposure to a variety of patients and patient conditions. Clinical education will occur under the direct supervision of preceptors (Board of Certification [BOC] Certified Athletic Trainers [ATs] and other credentialed Medical and Allied Medical Professionals) at on-campus and off-campus clinical sites. Clinical education supervised by an athletic trainer and/or a physician is athletic training clinical experiences and those supervised by other health care providers are supplemental clinical experiences. The following limits will apply to clinical education hours during the academic year for ATR 510, 520 and 540.

Intercollegiate Athletics Sport Clinical Sites

- Non-Competitive Season:
 - A minimum 160 hours and a maximum of 400 hours per semester
 - Mandatory 1 day off every 7 days

- Competitive Season:
 - A minimum of 240 hours and a maximum of 500 hours per semester
 - Mandatory 1 day off every 7 days

Non-Intercollegiate Athletics Sport Clinical Sites

- Minimum 160 hours and a maximum of 400 hours per semester
- Mandatory 1 day off every 7 days

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS SPORT CLINICAL SITES								NON-INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS SPORT CLINICAL SITES	
fall competitive season				spring competitive season				CLINICS	UA CLUB/IM SPORTS
BK	CL	FB	SOC	BK	BSB	CR	GYM	HIGH SCHOOLS	UA ADAPTED ATHLETICS
SWD	VB	XC/TK	SSCC	SB	SWD	TK	TN	MD OFFICES	UA REHAB
				SSCC					

Clinical experiences may begin prior to the start of the academic semester, and while clinical hours will be counted toward the ATS total experience, those hours will not be counted within the minimum or maximum hours total.

An ATS enrolled in Clinical Immersion I or II (ATR 530 or 550) must complete a minimum of 160 hours and a maximum of 320 hours during a 4-week Clinical Immersion Experience. The purpose of the immersion experience is for the ATS to immerse themselves in the AT Profession. This experience (ATR 530 or 550) can occur in or out of Tuscaloosa, AL. An Affiliation Agreement must be signed prior to the ATS beginning at the Clinical Immersion site. The ATS must notify the AT Program Director and Clinical Education Coordinator to initiate this process.

Clinical Hours Assessments will be performed at the half-way point of the semester. The Clinical Education Coordinator will inform the Preceptor if they are at or above the ½ way mark to allowable clinical hours.

CLINICAL DRESS CODE

Approved Tops

- sweatshirt, collared shirt or T-shirt
- white, crimson or gray as predominant color
- may have Alabama logo
- must not be wrinkled
- all shirts must be tucked in & stay tucked when arms are overhead

Prohibited Tops

- no Greek logos
- no alcohol or tobacco advertising or logos
- no logos from any other college or university
- no sleeveless shirts
- no shirts that are excessively tight
- no shirts with holes/rips, stains or wrinkles

Approved Bottoms

- khaki or black pants
- khaki or black shorts (must be below finger-tips when your arms are at your sides)
- must not be wrinkled

Prohibited Bottoms

- no Nike Tempo shorts
- no jeans
- no low rise pants, including khaki pants (low rise=waistband that falls below the ASIS)
- no skinny pants, including khaki/black pants
- no yoga pants, tights or leggings
- no pants with holes/rips, fraying, stains or wrinkles

Approved Shoes

- closed toe, flat, athletic shoes
- flat dress shoes (if appropriate for event)
- must be clean

Prohibited Shoes

- no sandals, flip-flops, clogs, crocs or other slip-on shoes
- no boots
- no heels

The following list includes some, but not all, examples of inappropriate attire or appearance.

Prohibited Jackets/Coats

- no fur, leather or denim

Prohibited Jewelry

- no dangling earrings
- no visible body piercing besides earrings

Prohibited Personal Hygiene

- nails may not be visible or palpable beyond tips of fingers
- no acrylic nails

Other:

- Some clinical sites may have specific facial hair or hair length & style restrictions. Students must abide by these site-specific guidelines during associated clinical experiences.
- cell phones, smart watches, pagers, PDAs and other wireless communication devices are not to be used during clinical education unless instructed to do so by your preceptor. Any cell phone, pager, PDA or other wireless communication device should be off or in silent mode and NOT VISIBLE during all clinical education rotations.