



Athletic Training Program

# **Policy and Procedure Manual**

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## ***I. Introduction***

### **A. Mission**

The Athletic Training Program is dedicated to preparing students that are capable of high-level critical thinking and decision-making that enable them to deliver quality health care through an autonomous yet collaborative approach. Dedicated faculty are committed to supporting an inclusive environment. The Athletic Training Program expects and promotes behaviors that value and respect patient advocacy and shared decision-making.

Salisbury University's Mission and Values can be found at <https://www.salisbury.edu/discover-su/mission-values.aspx>

### **B. Goals**

1. The Athletic Training Program (ATP) seeks to foster students' growth and development as qualified health care professionals that are part of a collaborative and inter-professional health care team dedicated to improving patient care.
2. The Athletic Training Program offers an innovative curriculum design that incorporates a variety of instructional modalities.
3. The Athletic Training Program is committed to providing a diverse and immersive clinical education experience with credentialed and licensed preceptors that have a vested interest in student success.
4. The Athletic Training Program is committed to develop professionals that adhere to the ideals of the [NATA Code of Professional Ethics](#) and the [Board of Certification's Standards of Professional Practice](#).
5. Upon completion of the Athletic Training Program and entrance into the profession, students will be recognized as competent practitioners that value life-long learning.

### **C. Expected Outcomes**

1. Students will consistently demonstrate foundational behaviors in clinical practice.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge and skills in athletic training educational competencies.
3. Students will demonstrate clinical proficiency (decision-making and clinical reasoning skills).
4. Students will demonstrate effective written and verbal communication.
5. Students will critically read and evaluate relevant research.

## D. Policy & Procedure Manual

The Athletic Training Program (ATP) Policy & Procedure Manual serves as a guide for the graduate athletic training student (ATS) in the procedures, responsibilities, and expectations of an ATS at Salisbury University. The Manual provides the ATS with general academic information, educational procedures, and program policies and addresses the specific role of the ATS in the provision of medical services in the clinical settings. It is the responsibility of the ATS to read and adhere to the procedures contained in the Manual. Program faculty and preceptors will use the Manual as a structured guide in all administrative decisions that affect the ATS.

## E. Resources

The Salisbury University web site is the main link for students in obtaining the most up-to-date information regarding admissions and retention. The main web site can be accessed at <http://www.salisbury.edu>.

The most current version of the Manual and additional information pertaining to the ATP can be accessed through the Program's web site: <https://www.salisbury.edu/academic-offices/health-and-human-services/health-sciences/athletic-training/index.aspx>

## F. Terminology

**Athletic Trainer (AT):** Health care professionals who render service or treatment, under the direction of or in collaboration with a physician, in accordance with their education and training and the state's statutes, rules, and regulations. As a part of the health care team, services provided by athletic trainers include primary care, injury and illness prevention, wellness promotion and education, emergent care, examination and clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention, and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions. An athletic trainer is state credentialed (in states with regulation), certified, and in good standing with the Board of Certification.

**Athletic Training Clinical Experiences:** Direct client/patient care guided by a preceptor. Athletic training clinical experiences are used to verify students' abilities to meet the curricular content standards. ATS complete their athletic training clinical experiences in a minimum of four semesters upon acceptance to the ATP. All clinical experiences are approved by the Coordinator of Clinical Education.

**Athletic Training Program (ATP):** The professional graduate athletic training course of study. The ATP is housed within the School of Health Sciences in the College of Health and Human Services and is approved by Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education.

**Athletic Training Student (ATS):** Students enrolled in or candidates for application to the Athletic Training Program.

**Board of Certification (BOC):** The Board of Certification Inc. (BOC) is an independent non-profit corporation responsible for the certification of athletic trainers. The Mission of the Board of Certification is to certify athletic trainers and to identify for the public, quality healthcare professionals through a system of certification, adjudication, standards of practice and continuing competency programs. Additional information on this organization can be accessed at <http://www.bocatc.org>.

**Bloodborne Pathogens:** Pathogens found in blood and blood products. Bloodborne Pathogens include, but are not limited to, Hepatitis B virus, Hepatitis C virus, and HIV.

**Clinical Education:** A broad umbrella term that includes three types of learning opportunities to prepare students for independent clinical practice: athletic training clinical experiences, simulation, and supplemental clinical experiences.

**Clinical Proficiencies:** Psychomotor skills that must be mastered by each athletic training student during their progression through the ATP. Clinical Proficiencies are taught in academic courses and reinforced during laboratory and athletic training clinical experiences throughout the program.

**Clinical Site:** A healthcare setting that has been approved by Salisbury University to serve as a site for completion of the athletic training student's clinical education.

**Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE):** Agency responsible for Accreditation of Athletic Training Programs. Salisbury University is CAATE Accredited through the 2020-2021 academic year.

**Coordinator of Clinical Education (CCE):** An ATP faculty member who is responsible for oversight of the clinical education portion of the program. This individual is responsible for maintaining clinical site contracts, scheduling clinical education experiences, and seeking out new opportunities for clinical education opportunities for athletic training students at Salisbury University.

**Disciplinary Procedures:** Procedure for formal review of disciplinary actions in the Athletic Training Program.

**Maryland Athletic Trainers' Association (MATA):** Organization of athletic trainers who promote the profession of athletic training in the state of Maryland.

**Medical Director:** Currently licensed allopathic or osteopathic physician who is certified by an ABMS- or AOA-approved specialty board and who serves as a resource regarding the program's medical content.

**Mid-Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association (MAATA):** Organization of athletic trainers from NATA District III who promote the field of athletic training in the Mid-Atlantic portion of the

United States. Additional information on this organization can be accessed at <http://www.maata.org/>

**National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA):** This is a professional membership association for certified and other professionals that support the athletic training profession. The mission of the National Athletic Trainers' Association is to enhance the quality of health care provided by certified athletic trainers and to advance the athletic training profession. Additional information on this organization can be accessed at <http://www.nata.org/>

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Guidelines:** Federal regulations for employees whose jobs may put them at risk to blood borne pathogens. These guidelines can be accessed at: <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/bloodbornepathogens/index.html>

**Preceptor:** An AT or physician who has been approved by Salisbury University to supervise and engage students in clinical education. All preceptors must be licensed health care professionals and be credentialed by the state in which they practice. Preceptors who are athletic trainers are state credentialed (in states with regulation), certified, and in good standing with the Board of Certification. Preceptors play a critical role in providing mentoring and clinical education to the ATS.

**Program Chair, Athletic Training (PC):** An ATP faculty member who is responsible for management and administration of the program.

## **II. Athletic Training Faculty**

### **A. Organizational Chart**

The Athletic Training Program is located in the School of Health Sciences in the College of Health and Human Services. Athletic training students with personal academic issues should schedule a meeting with the respective instructor. If the matter is left unresolved with this meeting, or the academic issue is not specific to a class, then an appointment should be scheduled with the PC. The Director of the School of Health Sciences supervises the ATP faculty and the PC and is the next link in the School's academic organizational structure. The complete organizational chart is found in [Appendix A](#).

### **B. Directory**

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### **III. Educational Program**

Salisbury University's School of Health Sciences offers a professional program leading to Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) degree. This program seeks to prepare students for certification by the Board of Certification.

A goal of the Athletic Training Program (ATP) is to develop thoughtful health care professionals who possess the skills, knowledge, and values necessary to deliver quality health care. Comprised of classroom and clinical experiences, the ATP emphasizes the development of skills, knowledge, and competencies essential for the practice of an Athletic Trainer.

An athletic training student must complete all of the required courses, including athletic training clinical experiences within the MSAT at Salisbury University.

#### **A. Accreditation**

Salisbury University developed the ATP using accreditation standards from the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The ATP has maintained program accreditation since 1998. Graduates of CAATE-accredited programs are eligible to sit for the Board of Certification Examination for Athletic Trainers. Re-accreditation for Salisbury University's ATP is scheduled for the 2020-2021 academic year.

#### **B. Admissions**

Admission to the Athletic Training Program is selective. Due to the competitive nature of this program, the criteria listed below should be regarded as minimum standards for admittance.

##### *Requirements*

1. Completion of prerequisite courses, with a grade of "C" or better:
  - a. Anatomy and Physiology (8 credits)
  - b. Basic Athletic Training
  - c. Biology
  - d. Chemistry (4 credits)
  - e. Exercise Physiology with Lab
  - f. Health and Wellness
  - g. Kinesiology with Lab
  - h. Physics (4 credits)
  - i. Psychology
  - j. Statistics
2. Bachelor's Degree from an accredited institution of higher learning with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0.
3. Two letters of recommendation (one must be from an Athletic Trainer who provided clinical supervision within the past two years).

4. Completion of an essay that addresses a current health-related topic. Rating on this essay will be based on critical thinking and writing ability.

Once an applicant submits a completed application, the Athletic Training Program Selection Committee will consider the student based upon the above requirements and a formal interview with the committee.

For additional information on Graduate Studies at Salisbury University, please visit the [Graduate School website](#). International students are referred to additional [guidelines](#) described in the current Salisbury University catalog.

All prerequisite courses must be completed at an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The Chair of the ATP reviews transcripts to ensure that course titles and credits match to the courses required. If course titles are ambiguous, the catalog description from the associated institution will be evaluated. If further clarification is still needed, the applicant will be contacted to provide a course syllabus which can give more detail.

**Note:** all applicants, regardless of previous athletic training education experience at the undergraduate or graduate level, must meet the admissions standards written above. If admitted to the program, they must complete all requirements listed in [C. Program Requirements](#), below. There is no process for transfer admission.

### *Acceptance*

Acceptance into the ATP at Salisbury University will fall under the following categories:

1. **Accepted:** A student is unconditionally admitted into the Athletic Training Program. Students must maintain all eligibility requirements as stated in the most recent edition of the Salisbury University Athletic Training Program Policy & Procedure Manual to remain in good standing.
2. **Conditionally Admitted:** A student is admitted into the Athletic Training Program on a conditional basis. The student will be given a specific date to rectify any deficiencies (i.e., completion of a pre-requisite class, conferral of undergraduate degree) to meet the minimum eligibility standards. During the conditional admittance period the student must maintain all other eligibility requirements as stated in the most recent edition of the Salisbury University Athletic Training Program Policy & Procedure Manual to remain in good standing.
3. **Discretionary Admission:** Students who fail to meet the minimum GPA stated in #2 under “Requirements” may be considered for admission on a discretionary basis as determined by the Athletic Training Program Selection Committee.

4. Wait-Listed: A student is neither accepted nor denied admission at this point due to extenuating circumstances or circumstances beyond the student's control. Wait-listing of a student will be on a discretionary basis as determined by the Athletic Training Program Selection Committee.
5. Not Accepted: The student has been denied admission into the Athletic Training Program. Students may opt to reapply for admission during the next application period provided they meet all appropriate admissions criteria at that time.

### *Matriculation*

Following notification of full or conditional admission to the program, students must accept their place in the program using the institution's web-based student management system and pay a deposit which is applied to their first tuition bill. Upon completing these steps, they are matriculated into the graduate ATP and are able to enroll in classes.

## **C. Program Requirements**

### *Academic Requirements*

The Athletic Training Program follows a cohort model that requires all students to be enrolled full time for two academic years. Matriculation of a cohort begins during the first summer session with introductory courses and continues for the next five semesters (fall, spring, summer, fall, spring). The curriculum includes 42 credit hours of coursework specifically devoted to the athletic training domains. Once matriculated, students are required to demonstrate mastery of clinical proficiencies through four successive clinical proficiency courses: ATTR 505, 555, 605, and 655 over two years. Upon admission to the ATP, the student is required to adhere to technical standards.

All classes within the SU ATP utilize the following grading scheme:

- A = 90 – 100%
- B+ = 88 – 89.9%
- B = 80 – 87.9%
- C+ = 78 – 79.9%
- C = 70 – 77.9%
- D = 60 – 69.9%
- F = Below 60%

Graduation requirements are consistent with Salisbury University standards for graduation:

- A minimum of 3.0 overall grade point average
- No grades lower than a C
- No more than 6 credit hours of C or C+ in the program.
- Completion of the following coursework:

- ATTR 500: Advanced Strategies for Physical Wellness
- ATTR 501: Injury/Illness Prevention
- ATTR 505: Risk Management Strategies
- ATTR 510: Acute Care of Injury/Illness
- ATTR 520: Orthopedic Assessment and Diagnosis
- ATTR 555: Pathology and Assessment
- ATTR 560: Therapeutic Modalities
- ATTR 570: Therapeutic Exercise
- ATTR 600: Comprehensive Approach to Health
- ATTR 605: Therapeutic Interventions
- ATTR 610: Research Methods for Clinical Practice
- ATTR 620: Healthcare Administration
- ATTR 655: Administration and Professional Development
- ATTR 660: Applied Research

To remain in good standing, students must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 for all courses. Students who receive more than six credits of C or C+ and have utilized their allowable course repeat options will be dismissed from the program, regardless of their GPA. Students whose cumulative grade point average falls below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation for one calendar year and must complete nine semester hours, which may include a repeated course, to return their grade point average to 3.0. During probation, students may be dismissed if they do not improve their grade point average following each term they complete a class or if it is determined they cannot return their grade point average to at least 3.0 by the conclusion of the probationary period. All students who return their grade point average to at least 3.0 during the probationary period will be returned to good academic standing. Students will be informed of probationary status or dismissal by the Program Chair. While students may not receive credit more than once for courses that cover the same content, it may be possible for students to repeat two courses in order to improve their grade point average. However, the last grade received for a course (whether the grade is higher or lower than the original grade) is used to compute a student's cumulative grade point average.

Students taking a leave of absence from the program who do not enroll in at least one graduate course at SU during a calendar year must apply for readmission before they can resume athletic training coursework and clinical experiences. In addition, students dismissed for academic deficiency may be considered for readmission to the MSAT program. In all cases, students seeking readmission must complete the online Readmission Application found on the Registrar's website with an accompanying letter that provides reasons for lack of previous academic success and indicates why acceptable academic performance should be expected in the future. The Readmission Application and accompanying letter should be forwarded to the Program Chair for review and authorization. The Program Chair will review the Readmission Application and accompanying letter and make a final readmission decision. In no case will such readmission be granted prior to one year following the term of dismissal for academic deficiency. If the student is readmitted to the MSAT program, the Program Chair will forward

the Readmission Application to the Office of the Registrar. Once the Readmission Application has been received by the Office of the Registrar, the student must complete the following:

1. Have official transcript sent to the SU Office of Graduate Studies and Research from all institutions attended since leaving SU.
2. If a resident of Maryland, complete the Residency Form and submit it to the Office of the Registrar.

### *Clinical Education Requirements*

The following items must be addressed or completed before engaging in clinical education:

#### Bloodborne Pathogen Training

Bloodborne pathogen training is completed by students in the ATP each summer. The training is provided by the ATP faculty in coordination with the Director of Campus Sustainability and Environmental Safety at SU. The CCE maintains documentation in the form of signed and dated verifications for all students in the ATP.

#### Confidentiality

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is a federal act that protects the privacy of individually identifiable health information. The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a federal act that governs the privacy of student education records, including those that are health related. Students may have access to confidential medical information regarding patients or clients. This information can be discussed with preceptors or other providers in the context of delivering appropriate healthcare. In addition, there may be assignments within the educational program that rely on cases observed during clinical experiences. During these instances, students must comply with HIPAA and FERPA regulations and should not disclose any identifying information about the patient.

#### Criminal Background Check and Fingerprinting

Prior to the start of their clinical education, any student placed at a high school must undergo and successfully pass a criminal background check and fingerprinting. Fingerprinting can be completed on-campus and is available at the University Police Department (East Campus). Any cost associated with fingerprinting required for clinical experiences will be paid by the ATP.

#### Emergency Cardiac Care

Before participating in any athletic training or supplemental clinical experiences, students must be certified in emergency cardiac care. This training takes place during the first summer of the ATP and is required for all students. The cost of the training and certification card is covered by the ATP.

#### Liability Coverage

All students enrolled in the ATP are covered by the University's professional liability insurance. Verification of this coverage is available from the CCE. The cost is covered by the ATP.

### Medical Supplies and Uniform

All students are provided with four MSAT Athletic Training collared polo shirts as well as other MSAT-branded items. In addition, a fully-stocked fanny pack, required for both clinical and classroom responsibilities, is provided by the program. Students have the option to purchase additional supplies and/or uniforms at their own cost.

### Physical Examination

A health examination is required for all athletic training students formally admitted to Salisbury University's ATP. A Health History and Immunization Record Form must be completed by the student and a Physical Examination Form must be completed and signed by a physician or appropriately licensed health care practitioner prior to the student entering into their initial clinical education experience. These health examination forms are stored with Salisbury University's Student Health Services. Student records are kept for five years after graduation or date of last attendance.

Students must provide documentation of the required immunizations and vaccinations prior to the start of their initial clinical education experience. These required immunizations/tests include the following:

- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)
- Meningococcal Vaccine (if living in on-campus housing)
- Tuberculosis Skin Test (PPD) (within the last 12 months)
- Current flu vaccine (or declination form)

The following immunizations and vaccines are strongly recommended:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) Vaccination
- Hepatitis B Vaccination (or titer)
- Varicella Vaccination (or titer)

### Professional Affiliation

Student membership in the National Athletic Trainers' Association, Inc. (NATA), Mid-Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association, Inc. (MAATA), and the Maryland Athletic Trainers' Association, Inc. (MATA) or state and regional organizations of choice is required and must be maintained throughout enrollment in the ATP. Membership applications to these organizations can be obtained from the NATA website at <http://www.nata.org>.

### Technical Standards

Measures are in place to minimize the risk of injury or illness while an ATS is in the Athletic Training Program. The Technical Standards for Admission and Retention form (*Appendix B*) outlines the physical and mental capacities necessary for admission and retention in the Athletic Training Program.

## Transportation

Students must provide their own transportation to clinical experiences. Clinical experiences during the first year may occur on site at Salisbury University or within the greater Salisbury metropolitan area. Any costs associated with transportation needs are the responsibility of the student.

## **D. Athletic Training Program Costs**

### *Tuition and Fees*

Information about ATP tuition and fees can be found on Salisbury University's Office of Graduate Studies' tuition page located at <https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/academic-affairs/graduate-studies-and-research/graduate-studies/tuition.aspx>. ATP tuition and fees include all costs associated with expendable supplies, equipment, textbooks, uniforms, student liability insurance, and fingerprinting necessary for educational experiences.

### *Other Program Costs*

- National Athletic Trainers' Association student membership: \$78 per year (for Maryland residents; costs for residents of other states range from \$70 to \$125 per year)
- SU Student Health Services document review and storage: \$25 (includes \$20 patient visit fee and \$5 document storage fee)
- Transportation: variable, depending on clinical experience placements
- Students are also responsible for all housing costs

### *Refund Policies*

Policies related to refunds of tuition and fees are available at <https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/administration-and-finance-offices/financial-services/accounts-receivable-cashiers-office/refunds.aspx>. The initial deposit made by candidates accepting their seat in the ATP is not refundable.

Information related to withdrawal from individual classes or the University is available at <https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/administration-and-finance-offices/financial-services/accounts-receivable-cashiers-office/withdrawal-info.aspx>

## **E. Athletic Training Clinical Experiences**

Athletic training clinical experiences are completed during ATTR 505, 555, 605, and 655. These experiences are obtained through assignments with SU's Intercollegiate Athletics Athletic Training Department and other clinical sites. The Coordinator of Clinical Education (CCE) designates clinical rotations and specific assignments of preceptors to athletic training students in consultation with all relevant stakeholders (students, preceptors, program faculty).

### *Placements*

Once formally admitted to the ATP, the ATS is required to complete four semesters during they obtain athletic training clinical experience. The student is assigned to clinical experiences at the primary clinical site or the affiliated sites based on the type of patient encounters and clinical exposure provided. Athletic training students work toward continued mastery of the clinical proficiencies while enrolled in the ATTR 505, 555, 605, & 655 courses.

The **athletic training immersive clinical experience** is a practice-intensive experience that allows the student to experience the totality of care provided by athletic trainers. Students in SU's ATP complete their immersive clinical experience during their last semester of the program in ATTR 655.

The CCE will attempt to accommodate student requests when appropriate. Special requests for clinical assignments for the upcoming academic year should be discussed with the CCE as early as possible. Decisions concerning these requests will be based upon the best interest of the student and the current needs of all students in the ATP.

### *Preceptors*

The MSAT Program utilizes a variety of clinical settings. The student reports to their preceptor, who is the direct link to that organization. Athletic training students who have concerns with the clinical aspect of their education should schedule a meeting with their supervising preceptor. If the matter is left unresolved with this meeting, or the clinical issue is not specific to their preceptor, then a meeting should be scheduled with the CCE.

All preceptors for the program must hold a current and active certification and/or license (in good standing) as an Athletic Trainer or Physician as deemed appropriate for the field and state in which they practice. Preceptors are required to undergo an initial intensive training and attend update meetings as they are offered. In addition, preceptors for the ATP are given the opportunity to complete Master Preceptor training from the NATA to further develop in their roles. Expiration and/or renewal dates are tracked by the CCE and updated verifications are requested from program preceptors when needed to ensure compliance.

### *Clinical Sites*

The MSAT Program utilizes six clinical sites and more than 12 preceptors throughout the Eastern Shore during the first year. These sites include local public schools, a Division I Institution, and Salisbury University Intercollegiate Athletics. During the second year, students complete clinical rotations outside of Salisbury while coursework is completed online. These clinical sites in the Maryland and Washington, D.C. area include public and private high schools, community colleges, and NCAA Division I and III institutions.

In order to be approved as a clinical site, the facility must be compliant with best practices to ensure student and patient safety. All clinical sites must have emergency action plans for each venue, bloodborne pathogen protection and exposure procedures, and communicable and infectious disease transmission procedures that are reviewed with students and readily accessible. In addition, facilities must maintain their equipment following the manufacturer's guidance. The CCE keeps documentation for each active clinical site that verifies annual modality calibrations and electrical safety checks as applicable.

## **F. Athletic Training Program Policies**

### *Additional Mandatory Activities*

There will be additional meetings or activities outside the confines of classroom and clinical responsibilities over the course of the ATP. These meetings or activities are required, and attendance is mandatory. Students will be informed about the time and location of these events on a reasonable timeline to facilitate attendance. Students must be punctual and dress and act in a professional manner during these activities. Students who are unable to attend a scheduled meeting or activity must notify the CCE/PC as soon as possible.

### *Attendance*

#### Clinical Education

Clinical education experiences complete a vital aspect of an athletic training student's education. Reasons for absence must be of an unavoidable nature. Valid reasons for absence from one's clinical experience include, but are not limited to, personal illness; class and other academic requirements (attendance); death of a family member. Athletic training students should be aware that excessive excuses for non-professional commitments are not valid. Students are required to contact their preceptor for prior approval of absences. Athletic Training Students who purposely miss clinical assignments are subject to disciplinary action (See [Disciplinary Procedure](#)).

Athletic training students assigned to a clinical experience within the ATP may be required to return for or remain at a clinical experience during University vacation periods. These requirements are based on the activity of the team or individuals at the clinical education site to which the athletic training student is assigned. Vacation periods include, but are not limited to, pre-season fall sports season, Thanksgiving break, winter break, spring break and at the end of spring semester.

If an athletic training student cannot fulfill their respective assignment, it is the responsibility of the athletic training student to notify their preceptor and the CCE at least one month prior to the conflict. Athletic training students will be excused from their clinical education experience only in extreme cases. In general, athletic training students should be prepared to be with their respective teams or clinical assignments during all pre-season, post-season, and break periods.

### Classroom Education

Similarly, students are expected to attend all class meetings. If an absence is anticipated, students should make arrangements to be excused prior to the class meeting. If an unexpected absence occurs, the faculty member should be contacted as soon as possible, and a meeting should be scheduled upon the student's return to campus. Students are responsible for all work assigned during absences. A student is not permitted to attend clinical education on the day of an unexcused absence from class.

### *Clinical Experience Travel Policy*

The ATS is required to travel if the affiliate site is able to make appropriate accommodations for travel, if a preceptor is traveling to the event with the team, and if there are no class conflicts. The student is allowed to perform athletic training skills at the event while under the direct supervision of their preceptor.

When traveling, the ATS must recognize their role as a member of the assigned organization. The ATS is representing themselves, the affiliate site, the ATP, and Salisbury University. At all times, the ATS must abide by the policies of the affiliate site and the ATP Policy & Procedure Manual.

### *Clinical Supervision Policy*

The following guidelines have been established to emphasize program policies concerning the supervision of students during athletic training clinical experiences.

- A preceptor will supervise the student during all athletic training clinical experiences.
- Athletic training students must be formally instructed and assessed on athletic training clinical skills prior to performing those skills on patients.
- In the event of illness, schedule conflicts, or other unforeseen changes in coverage, the student will be notified in advance which preceptor will be assigned to supervise.
- The student will not initiate, modify, or change any prescribed treatment of any patient without the guidelines and expressed permission of the preceptor.

### *Communicable Disease Policy*

A communicable disease is defined as any infectious pathogen that has the potential to be transmitted from one person to another through direct contact or through an infected person's bodily fluids. The purpose of the Communicable Disease Policy and Procedures is to prevent the spread of infectious diseases and educate students on the established requirements for those admitted to the athletic training program at Salisbury University. The Communicable Disease Policy and Procedures is based on the standard of practice from health care agencies at the

national, state and university level. Additional information on the prevention of communicable diseases can be obtained through the Salisbury University's Student Health Services, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

### *Dress Code*

The ATS plays an important and visible role in the provision of medical services to patients and is identified as a student in the MSAT program by their attire. In addition, the ATS must respect the professional atmosphere in the spirit of public relations for the profession of athletic training and as a representative of Salisbury University.

To promote and increase a professional atmosphere, the following dress code is a minimum standard and will be strictly enforced. Some affiliate sites may have additional requirements (i.e., site-specific clothing, dress clothes for indoor events, or jewelry restrictions). These modifications to the dress code are permitted. All questions regarding the dress code and its interpretation should be directed to the preceptor.

1. MSAT-issued polo shirts (indicating "Salisbury University Athletic Training Program") must be worn during athletic training clinical experiences.
2. All shirts must be tucked into the pants/shorts.
3. A belt must be worn at all times.
4. Pants/shorts must be of solid, neutral coloring (brown, black, tan, khaki, olive, gray, navy blue). Fabrics should be chino or other technical fabric; denim, mesh, or cotton sweat material is not acceptable.
5. Shorts must not pass below the top of the knees or exceed above mid-thigh.
6. Hooded sweatshirts and hats are only permitted outside. When worn, they must be of a neutral color or Salisbury University (/affiliate site, when relevant) color and logo
7. If dress clothing is worn, it must be appropriate for administering appropriate medical care and must adhere to OSHA guidelines.
8. During inclement weather, it is the discretion of the preceptor as to what is acceptable regarding outer layers.
9. Footwear and jewelry must adhere to OSHA guidelines.
10. All Athletic Training Students are required to wear a wristwatch (with a second hand or digital seconds) during all athletic training duties.
11. In keeping with CDC hand hygiene recommendations, students may not wear artificial nails and should keep natural nail tips less than ¼-inch long.

The preceptor has the right to require a student to change clothes or remove jewelry before any athletic training clinical experience if the student's attire does not meet the minimum standards.

### *Drug and Alcohol Policy*

Athletic Training Students who exhibit behavior consistent with the misuse of alcohol and/or the illegal use of drugs will be referred to the Salisbury University Counseling Center. In addition, students may face disciplinary action (See [Disciplinary Procedure](#)).

### *Employment*

The combination of a job with athletic training responsibilities is extremely difficult. Students must be available to attend class and athletic training clinical experiences as required. Having a job is acceptable provided that employment does not interfere with classroom or clinical requirements. Athletic training students are encouraged to discuss potential employment with the CCE prior to accepting.

### *Inclement Weather Policy*

On days when the student's clinical site is delayed or closed due to inclement weather, athletic training students are not required to attend. Students should use their best judgment in determining if travel to the clinical site is safe. In the event the student determines that it is unsafe to travel, the student should contact their preceptor and understand that they will not be penalized in any manner for failure to attend.

### *Interprofessional Education*

Interprofessional education takes place when students from two or more health professions learn about, from, and with one another. Throughout the ATP, students are given opportunities to participate in interprofessional experiences. These opportunities may or may not be associated with professional program courses (see: Additional Mandatory Activities, above).

### *Mandatory Reporting Policy*

Students in the ATP are bound by state and federal mandatory reporting guidelines. As such, they have a duty to report suspected child abuse or neglect to the proper authorities. This includes any suspected child abuse or neglect disclosed by an individual who is now an adult. Details about Salisbury University's policy are available at <https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/general-counsel/can/policy.aspx>.

### *Nondiscrimination Policy*

The ATP and program faculty, including the PC and CCE follow all institutional policies related to providing a learning environment free from all types of discrimination prohibited by State and Federal laws, including on the basis of sex, gender, marital status, pregnancy, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or other legally protected characteristics.

Any decisions related to educational opportunities, including placements for athletic training clinical experiences, are not prejudicial or discriminatory.

The University policies related to nondiscrimination are available at:

- Sex discrimination: <https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/institutional-equity/equal-opportunity-and-affirmative-action/titleix.aspx>
- Other forms of discrimination: <https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/institutional-equity/equal-opportunity-and-affirmative-action/other-forms-of-discrimination.aspx>

### *Time Commitment*

The profession of athletic training is an enjoyable and rewarding career which will demand a great deal of time commitment. The ATS must be aware that the required clinical experiences may infringe on weekends, holidays, and semester breaks. The ATS must be able to budget their time effectively throughout the academic year. The CCE, PC, and preceptor are available for academic and personal consultation regarding the responsibilities and time commitments needed to complete the academic and clinical requirements of the ATP.

Each proficiency class (ATTR 505, 555, 605, and 655) includes associated athletic training clinical experiences under the supervision of a preceptor. In the first three clinical classes, students participate in clinical experiences approximately 12 to 20 hours per week for 15 weeks (a minimum of 180 total hours per semester). In the same classes, students are required to have at least one day off in each 7-day period. ATTR 655 includes the athletic training immersive clinical experience. As such, students are expected to experience the totality of athletic training and may have weeks which are more time-intensive and may not include a day off. Students should communicate any potential schedule conflicts or concerns to their preceptor and/or the CCE as appropriate.

### *Typhon*

The ATP utilizes Typhon for evaluations, patient encounter tracking, and other documentation related to athletic training clinical experiences. Students will be trained on the use of Typhon during program orientation.

## **G. Academic Misconduct**

The ATP follows Salisbury University's Student Academic Misconduct Policy which is intended to foster student academic integrity and address cases of student academic misconduct, which includes, but is not limited to, lying/fabrication, cheating, plagiarism, and misappropriation of intellectual property. The full policy including the associated appeals process can be found at <https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/academic-affairs/misconduct-policy.aspx>.

## **H. Dispositional Concerns and Non-Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Procedures**

The following procedures have been established to ensure the smooth operation of the ATP. The ATP Policy & Procedure Manual serves as a guide for expected dispositions of the ATS. A student who is found to be in violation of any of the policies outlined in this manual may be subject to disciplinary action.

Dispositional concerns are dealt with according to their severity; classifications are described below. This classification system will be used for offenses committed at any time while enrolled as a student in the Salisbury University Athletic Training Program.

### ***Offense Classifications:***

- Troubling Behavior (Teaching Opportunity): Behavior that is of concern but that may be remediated through a single discussion with the preceptor, faculty member, CCE, or PC.
- Troubling Behavior (Professional Concerns Report): Behavior that requires a formal process for remediation, i.e., situations in which a student has exhibited significant and/or serious behavior problems that do not warrant suspension or dismissal at this time
- Egregious, Unethical, or Unprofessional Behavior: Behavior that requires immediate action, i.e., insubordination or failure to act in a manner consistent with the standards of the Athletic Training Program, Salisbury University, the National Athletic Trainers' Association, and state and federal laws (i.e., breach of confidentiality, fraternization, drug possession, DUI).

The disciplinary procedures are as follows:

1. **Troubling Behavior (Teaching Opportunity)**: If a student displays Troubling Behavior, the preceptor, faculty member, CCE (for clinical concerns), or PC (for classroom or other concerns) will contact the student directly to discuss the issue, provide feedback, and make suggestions for how the behavioral issue can be mitigated. The student will be expected to promptly rectify the behavior, to the extent possible. If the initiating individual believes an effective resolution resulted from the meeting with the student, no further action is required.
2. **Troubling Behavior (Professional Concerns Report)**: In the event that the preceptor, faculty member, CCE, or PC determines the feedback given to the student regarding the Troubling Behavior was not successful in resolving the issue or if the behavior is of a significant or serious nature, a formal report will be completed and forwarded to the

CCE or PC (as appropriate). The focus of the report is still educational with the goal of helping the student move forward successfully in coursework and clinical experiences.

The formal report must be filed within two University business days from the time the behavior was observed or reported. A copy of the report will also be provided to the student, and the student will be encouraged to respond within three University business days to the formal report, either in writing or in person, to the CCE or PC, discussing the circumstances that led up to the complaint and the nature of the complaint itself. Within three University business days of receipt of the formal report, and with the purpose of understanding the circumstances of the behavior, the CCE or PC will conduct an interview of the student, interview witnesses to the event that led up to the complaint, review any pertinent documents, and take any other action deemed necessary to understand the circumstances that brought on the complaint. Based on the outcome of the review, the student's response and student interview, the CCE or PC may decide that the formal report is unwarranted or may provide the student with strategies to mitigate the identified unprofessional behavior.

When the CCE or PC meets with the student to discuss the findings of the review, the student will be provided with an opportunity for reflection on appropriate behavioral changes. The student will be asked to sign the formal report acknowledging the formal report has been reviewed. The CCE or PC may require remedial action, which will be noted on the formal report. If a corrective action plan or other remediation is required by the formal report, the plan shall include a timeline for this remediation. Troubling behavior that requires initiation of a formal report will result in a semester-long probation. At the conclusion of this timeline, the CCE or PC will meet with the student to review the outcome of the remediation process. They will place a concluding written statement in the formal report discussing the level of success of the remediation. The formal report is then filed with the student's departmental record. This student file will be separate from the student's academic file and kept solely in a secure location within the AT department; access to its contents occur only on a need-to-know basis. The student will be apprised of this record retention in writing by the CCE or PC.

- 3. Egregious, Unethical, or Unprofessional Behavior:** In the event that a student fails on multiple occasions to meet the expected standards of professional conduct as documented by the formal report, or if the student is accused of egregious, unethical, or unprofessional behavior, a formal report must be filed in writing to the CCE (for clinical concerns), or PC (for classroom or other concerns) within two University business days. Examples of egregious behavior include, but are not limited to, patient endangerment, unacceptable patient management, inappropriate alteration of patient records, behavior posing a danger to persons or property, an ongoing threat to or disruption of the academic process, or certain acts of sexual misconduct.

Concurrent with the notification of egregious, unethical, or unprofessional behavior, the CCE or PC will schedule a meeting of the Disciplinary Review Panel within seven

University business days of receiving the complaint, for review of the accusation. The Disciplinary Review Panel will be composed of the CCE or PC (Chair), a Preceptor not involved in the situation, a Faculty Member outside of Athletic Training, and two student representatives. All materials pertinent to the complaint and its consequences must be submitted to the Disciplinary Review Panel prior to the meeting. Removal from clinical assignments during this time will be determined on a case-by-case basis. During the Disciplinary Review Panel meeting, the student will have the opportunity to present their response or perspective on the alleged offense(s) and the panel will have the opportunity to solicit more information regarding the offense. Any other parties who have a contribution to the discussion will also be permitted to make a statement. At the end of the meeting, the student will be dismissed, and the panel will discuss the matter. If the panel believes an egregious, unethical, or unprofessional behavior was committed, disciplinary action will be instituted. Descriptions of potential disciplinary actions are listed below. During a follow-up meeting, the CCE or PC will discuss the nature of the offense with the student and document it in the student's personal file on a Disciplinary Action Explanation Form maintained in the Chair of ATP's office.

4. The College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) has a formal Appeals process for students who have been dismissed from their professional program as a result of a breach of non-academic standards. Students who have been dismissed from the School and/or Program and have exhausted all available appeals at the School and/or Program level may appeal to the CHHS Professional Behavior Committee. Details on the relevant procedures are available at [https://www.salisbury.edu/academic-offices/health-and-human-services/ files/Policy and Procedure for Professional Behavior Violations.pdf](https://www.salisbury.edu/academic-offices/health-and-human-services/files/Policy%20and%20Procedure%20for%20Professional%20Behavior%20Violations.pdf)
5. Confidentiality: Salisbury University and the MSAT Program comply with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1994, which defines the rights and protects the privacy of students with regard to their educational records. This policy is described in the University Catalog.

#### Description of Disciplinary Actions:

- Semester-Long Probation: a one semester period during which any other offense will result in a more severe disciplinary action.
- Program-Long Probation: a program-long period during which any other offense will result in more severe disciplinary action.
- Termination of Clinical Education Experience: a semester-long period during which the student will not attend their clinical experiences. As a result of this loss of clinical time, the student will fail the associated Clinical Proficiencies class. If the student is interested in continuing in the ATP, they will have to retake the Clinical Proficiencies class the next time it is offered. During this year-long period, the student will be required to meet with the PC to discuss additional program requirements.
- Termination from Program: failure of the associated Clinical Proficiency class, termination of clinical education experience, and dismissal from the ATP.

## Legal Charges

As a professional program, students must realize that their actions are a reflection not only of themselves, but also of the Salisbury University MSAT Program and the profession of Athletic Training. Students that commit a criminal act or fail to report the commission of a criminal act during their time in the AT Program or prior to admission may be subject to immediate dismissal from the program. Students must also understand that certain acts may preclude them from sitting for the Board of Certification (BOC) examination.

## I. Student Performance Evaluation

Evaluation of Clinical Proficiency is done in three phases: Competency Assessment, Clinical Integrated Proficiencies, and Supervised Clinical Experiences.

**1. Competency Assessment.** Assessment of competency begins immediately and occurs throughout the entire Program. The evaluation of the athletic training student's clinical competencies is initially completed in the course in which they were taught with written and practical examinations and other assignments as appropriate.

**2. Clinical Proficiencies.** Practical assessments and demonstrations of clinical proficiencies are completed during the ATTR 505, 555, 605, and 655 Athletic Training Clinical Courses. The faculty for these courses assess the clinical integrated proficiencies through a three-step process: 1) problem-based learning scenarios (ATTR 505 and 555), 2) clinical proficiency evaluations by preceptors (ATTR 505, 555, 605, and 655), and 3) demonstration of mastery through written (ATTR 505, 555, and 605) and practical (ATTR 505 and 555) proficiency examinations. The supervising preceptor and the faculty members who teach the courses supervise the assessment of the athletic training student's practical assessment and demonstrations.

**3. Clinical Evaluations of Supervised Clinical Experiences.** When enrolled in an Athletic Training Clinical course, the athletic training student is encouraged to assist Athletic Trainers in the primary athletic training clinical setting and the approved affiliated clinical sites with athletic training-related tasks. The supervising Preceptor will complete documentation of these professional athletic training experiences. Every four weeks during the semester, the supervising Preceptor completes a Clinical Evaluation which includes assessment of knowledge, skills, professionalism, and disposition of the athletic training student. Following these clinical evaluations, students will meet with their preceptor(s) to discuss the evaluations.

## J. Program Evaluation

The athletic training students participate in the evaluation of the ATP by completing course evaluations, clinical self-evaluations, clinical site evaluations, and preceptor evaluations. The

faculty are evaluated a minimum of two times a year by their peers. At the end of their academic career, athletic training students are asked to provide an overall evaluation of the ATP through an Exit Survey. Two final evaluations, the Alumni Survey, and the Employer Survey, are completed three years after graduation.

All evaluations are reviewed by the AT Faculty on at least an annual basis and are used as a mechanism to monitor the progress of athletic training students and for revisions to the Athletic Training Program.

## **K. Scholarship Opportunities**

### *NATA Research & Education Foundation*

The NATA Research and Education Foundation (REF) offer a variety of scholarships for the practicing professional as well as graduate and undergraduate athletic training students. The application deadline is in the early spring semester and the scholarship application can be found at <https://www.natafoundation.org/education/scholarships/>

### *Mid-Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association*

MAATA offers a number of scholarships to athletic training students. The application deadlines are March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Information and applications can be found at <https://www.maata.org/maata-scholarships>.

### *Maryland Athletic Trainers' Association*

The MATA offers the Andrew Kotz Memorial Scholarship. The application deadline is April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The application can be found at <https://marylandathletictrainers.org/AndrewKotzMemorialScholarship/tabid/148/Default.aspx>

### *Peninsula Orthopaedic Associates Scholarship*

This scholarship supports a student of exceptional promise and character who has demonstrated strong academic aptitude and dedication to athletic training. It is awarded to a student graduating from Salisbury University or the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore who has been accepted into the MSAT Program. The Athletic Training Admissions Committee will determine the recipient based on program application materials and the interview.

### *Hunter Smith Athletic Training Student Scholarship*

This scholarship was established in 2001 and is an endowment fully funded through financial donations from alumni and associates of Salisbury University and the Athletic Training Program. The mission of the Hunter Smith Scholarship is to acknowledge the academic and clinical achievements of students that have completed their first year in the MSAT program. Interested applicants should apply through Academic Works at <https://salisbury.academicworks.com/>

### *LeRoy P. Fiala Scholarship in the College of Health and Human Services*

Established in 2020, this scholarship provides funding to an incoming graduate student in the College of Health and Human Services who is a first-generation college student with preference given to a graduate student enrolled in the Master of Science in Athletic Training program.

Interested applicants should apply through Academic Works at

<https://salisbury.academicworks.com/>

## **L. Certification**

### *Board of Certification (BOC) Examination Application*

During the final semester prior to graduation, the ATS is permitted to apply for the BOC Examination at [www.bocatc.org](http://www.bocatc.org). The ATS should initiate the application process for the certification exam at least two months prior to the designated examination date. Students in the ATP at Salisbury University who are in good standing are endorsed by the PC to sit for the exam during the May/June window. This endorsement typically occurs in April. At no time will a student in the ATP at Salisbury University be endorsed for an earlier exam window.

### *Certification Requirements*

Candidates must provide a transcript for proof of graduation from an accredited college. Certification will not be issued until an official transcript indicates the completion of athletic training course work and degree conferral. In addition, candidates must provide proof of current certification in Emergency Cardiac Care from a recognized agency.

## ***IV. Athletic Training Student Health & Wellness***

### **A. Bloodborne Pathogens**

Policies have been developed to protect the student from exposure to bloodborne pathogens (BBP). The ATS is required to attend a training annually to review the Standard Operating Procedures as mandated by Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the State of Maryland, Salisbury University, and the Intercollegiate Athletics Department.

The bloodborne pathogens of main concern to athletic trainers are HIV and Hepatitis B. Athletic training students can be exposed in a variety of ways; including but not limited to bloody wounds, vomitus, saliva and fluid from blisters. It is essential to practice preventative measures at all times. Occupational Safety and Health Administration has developed federal regulations for those whose jobs may put them at risk to blood borne pathogens. Each clinical education site has an Exposure Control Plan readily available. This plan must be followed by the ATS and they should practice standard precautions at all times. All bodily fluids should be treated as if they were potentially infected with a communicable disease. Gloves should be worn when contact is made with any bodily fluids, open wounds, or mucus membranes. Masks and eye protection should be used in warranted situations. The ATS must minimally wear latex gloves when exposed to any body fluids. If a glove should tear, it should be replaced immediately. One must change gloves if worn more than ten (10) minutes. Some gloves may be slightly permeable, so two layers may be worn. After use, carefully remove gloves and discard in biohazard waste container or bag.

The best defense from disease transmission is the washing of hands with an antimicrobial wash between contacts with each patient. Hands should be washed thoroughly for 30 seconds after wearing gloves and handling blood or other bodily fluid. Also, the ATS should practice good personal hygiene and make certain that the athletes and patients shower after practice or a game and prior to treatment.

Students should make a sincere effort to keep the athletic training facility as clean as possible. Appropriate cleaning supplies should be used to disinfect all counters, tables, chairs, desks, whirlpools, floors, and any other surface in the athletic training facility that may be home to microorganisms.

Special containers will also be available for biohazardous waste. These containers should be lined with a labeled red biohazard bag for proper waste removal. The container must also have the proper red biohazard label clearly visible. Biohazardous materials include, but are not limited to bloodied gauze, and non-sterile gloves. Each facility should also have a red plastic container for sharps equipment. Sharps equipment includes, but is not limited to scalpel blades, razors, uncapped syringes, and needles.

During all contests at Salisbury University, portable biohazard containers will be on-site at the event. Portable containers must be lined with red biohazard bags and shall not be used for

trash disposal. The container must also have the proper red biohazard label. Following the competition or event, the biohazard containers should be emptied. The red biohazard bags shall be tied and placed in the large biohazard container in the Athletic Training Clinic. In addition to the portable biohazard containers, all athletic training kits should contain red biohazard bags for disposal of jerseys or towels, which may become exposed to blood borne pathogens.

Salisbury University has developed an exposure control plan to comply with OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard 29 CFR 1910.103 which is available at <https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/administration-and-finance-offices/environmental-safety/files/policies/BBP.pdf>. This plan is reviewed annually.

## **B. Disabilities**

The Disability Resource Center (DRC), <http://www.salisbury.edu/Students/DRC>, provides services to the student who may need assistance in completing a needed program requirement, and can assist the student in determining the physical and mental limitations of an athletic training student. If a student or the PC later identifies potential mental, psychological, or physical difficulties in meeting the standards established for the program, the student, with assistance from the DRC, will consult health care providers who are capable of determining the implications of such difficulties on completing the program.

The program's selection committee, the DRC, will use this information to determine if the student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation. This review will take into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety or the educational process of the student or the institution, including all course work, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.

## **C. Health Insurance**

If the ATS is not covered by accident insurance, they should consider purchasing coverage. One expensive injury or illness could jeopardize the ATS's college education and financial security. It is recommended that all ATS be covered by health insurance that includes accident policy. If the ATS is not covered under a health insurance plan, it is recommended the student review the literature on the various medical plans at the University Health Center <http://www.salisbury.edu/health/healthinsurance.html>.

## **D. Infection Preventative Management Plan**

Students are instructed not go to their clinical education site if they are experiencing an acute illness with a fever in excess of 100.4°F, signs of lower respiratory congestion such as a persistent cough, or any other symptom that may indicate the presence of an infectious

disease. The student should report to Student Health Services or another medical facility for evaluation and treatment. If the ATS acquires an infectious disease, the student must notify their Preceptor and Coordinator of Clinical Education as soon as possible. If a student poses a risk of transmitting a communicable disease to others, the Preceptor or CCE will remove the ATS from their clinical experience. An ATS diagnosed with an infectious illness must obtain a signed release from a physician or appropriately licensed health care practitioner prior to resuming clinical experiences. The student's individual communicable disease episodes are managed confidentially and in accordance to established HIPAA requirements.

## **E. Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual conduct which is related to any condition of employment or evaluation of student performance. This definition is intended to include more than overt advances toward actual sexual relations. It applies as well to repeated or unwarranted sex-related statements, unwelcome touching or sexually explicit comments or graphics. All persons (ATS, preceptors, coaches, student-athletes, etc.) should be sensitive to situations that may affect or cause the recipient discomfort or humiliation or may display condescending sex-based attitude towards the person. Sexual harassment is illegal under both state and federal law and may be subject to prosecution under the criminal sexual conduct law.

Sexism is defined as the perception and treatment of any person, not as an individual, but as a member of a category based on sex. Sex-based jokes or material is unacceptable at the University and in the ATP. Depending on the seriousness of the action, disciplinary action will result. More information on Salisbury University's policy prohibiting sexual misconduct and other sex and gender-based discrimination can be found at

<https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/institutional-equity/files/document-library/SUProhibitedSexDiscriminationPolicy.pdf>

## **F. Social Relationships**

Athletic Training is a health care profession that often involves daily interaction with student-athletes, fellow students, and staff members. Close relationships with these parties can often result. Social situations and/or dating between an ATS and a student-athlete or athletic training staff member (including graduate assistant and intern/contingent athletic trainers) is considered inappropriate and is strongly discouraged. If an athletic training student is dating a student-athlete or ATP staff member, it must be reported to the Coordinator of Clinical Education so that appropriate clinical assignments can be made. Inappropriate fraternization will be addressed through the disciplinary policy.

## **G. Student Support Services**

Salisbury University provides the following Support Services to its students. Any ATS needing assistance should contact a member of the following departments:

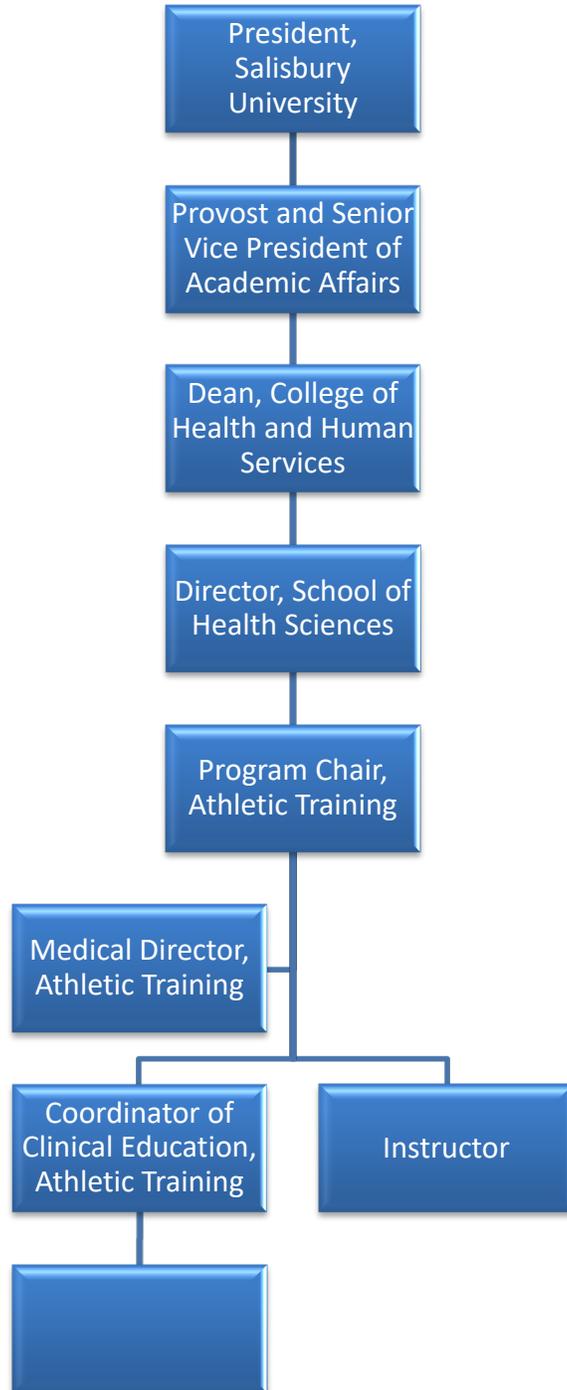
- Student Health Services
- Counseling Center
- Center for Student Achievement
- University Writing Center
- Career Services
- Disability Resource Center
- Multicultural Student Services

Descriptions of these services and contact information can be found in the Salisbury University Graduate Student Handbook which is available at

<https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/academic-affairs/graduate-studies-and-research/graduate-studies/handbook.aspx>

**VI. Appendices**

**A. MSAT Organizational Chart**



## **B. Technical Standards**

The Athletic Training Program (ATP) at the Salisbury University is a rigorous and intense program that places specific requirements and demands on the students enrolled. 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 physically active individuals. The technical standards set forth by the ATP are essential qualities considered necessary for students to achieve the knowledge, skills, and competencies of an entry-level athletic trainer, and the technical standards meet the expectations of the program's accrediting agency, Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education.

To be admitted and remain enrolled in the ATP, students must demonstrate the following:

1. the mental capacity to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts, and problem solve to formulate assessment and therapeutic judgments and to be able to distinguish deviations from the norm;
2. sufficient postural and neuromuscular control, sensory function, and coordination to perform appropriate physical examinations using accepted techniques; and accurately, safely and efficiently use equipment and materials during the assessment and treatment of patients;
3. the ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and colleagues, including individuals from different cultural and social backgrounds. This includes, but is not limited to, the ability to establish rapport with patients and communicate judgments and treatment information effectively. Students must be able to understand and speak the English language at a level consistent with competent professional practice;
4. the ability to record the physical examination results and a treatment plan clearly and accurately;
5. the capacity to maintain composure and continue to function well during periods of high stress;
6. the perseverance, diligence and commitment to complete the Athletic Training Program as outlined and sequenced;
7. the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in clinical situations;
8. effective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care.

Students must affirm that they understand and meet these technical standards. If any student or candidate believes that they can meet these technical standards if provided with a reasonable accommodation, the Salisbury University Disability Resource Center will evaluate whether the student's stated condition qualifies as a disability under applicable laws, and whether the accommodation requested is reasonable, taking into account whether the accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, or the educational process of the student or the institution, including all coursework and clinical experiences deemed essential to graduation.

**Students not requiring accommodations**

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. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards, I may not remain enrolled in the Athletic Training Program.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Students requiring 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 a reasonable accommodation. I will contact the Disability Resource Center at Salisbury University to determine what accommodations may be available. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards, even with an accommodation, I may not remain enrolled in the Athletic Training Program.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## C. Statement of Risk Regarding COVID-19

Statement of Risk  
Notice to Students Registering for Clinical/Experiential Activities  
Regarding COVID-19  
July 2020

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and federal and state health agencies recommend social distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited or limited the congregation of groups of people.

Salisbury University (the “University”) provides clinical placement and experiential opportunities for students in its health professions and other academic programs. For many CHHS programs, clinical and experiential activities (i.e., field placements, internships, simulations, and other hands-on learning activities) are an essential part of the curriculum and a mandatory prerequisite for completing a course of study and obtaining a degree.

Despite having put in place preventive measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the University cannot guarantee that a student will not become infected with COVID-19 when on the University campus or when participating in clinical/experiential activities at an off-campus location. It should be noted that attending clinical/experiential activities could increase a student’s risk of contracting COVID-19. The University does not maintain authority or control over, and cannot assume responsibility for, the safety practices and procedures of facilities where students participate in clinical/experiential activities.

Further, the University will begin controlled re-opening of clinical/experiential activities in accordance with campus guidelines and in consultation with the CHHS Dean and the Provost. Re-opening decisions may be made on a program by program basis and opportunities may be limited. Clinical and experiential placements will be authorized on a student-by-student basis, considering the extent of opportunities available and those students most in need of clinical or experiential engagement in order to complete a course of study without undue delay. Decisions will take into account the measures needed to limit risk to students as well as risks to patients, clients, faculty and staff and the public.

Before engaging in clinical/experiential activities, students should inform themselves fully of the risks. Students should consider the contagious nature of COVID-19 and the risk that they may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by attending clinical/experiential activities and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. The risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 at clinical/experiential activities may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of the student and others, including, but not limited to, clinical staff, volunteers, and patients and their families. Even absent such negligence and if all parties involved in a clinical rotation exercise reasonable care to mitigate the risk of exposure to COVID-19, a student may be exposed to COVID-19 and become infected.

A student who wishes to receive more information or who wishes to defer participation in clinical/experiential activities due to COVID-19 risks should promptly contact their program chair. Students are reminded that clinical/experiential activities are required for academic progression and are necessary to obtain a degree.