

Anderson University Athletic Training Program Policy on Student Participation in Intercollegiate Athletics

Purpose

Many prospective athletic training students who express interest in the Anderson University Athletic Training Program (ATP) are also interested in participating in one or more intercollegiate sport during their college years. Many of the program's finest and most accomplished alumni were athletes while at Anderson University. Because the ATP has a significant clinical experience component, which often requires student commitment during afternoons, evenings, weekends, time conflicts between sport demands and clinical experience requirements can be a problem. The ATP faculty and staff are committed to encouraging athletic training education and assisting students in taking advantage of the rich co-curricular opportunities available on our campus. The faculty and staff are also dedicated to making sure that athletic training students can fulfill all the requirements for the athletic training program and have enough quality clinical experiences to enable them to become skilled health care professionals. The following guidelines are designed to help accomplish all of these purposes.

Guidelines

1. Applicants to the ATP will be given a copy of this policy early on in the application year. This policy will be discussed and explained again during the application process. The intention on the part of an athletic training candidate to participate in intercollegiate athletics shall not factor into the admission decision for the ATP.
2. Students admitted to the ATP may participate in intercollegiate athletics as a student-athlete.
3. Athletic training students, who are also student-athletes, must limit their participation to **one** intercollegiate team.
4. Athletic training students, who are also student-athletes, will not be allowed to gain clinical experiences with the team that they are a member of while participating in that sport during that particular season. (Example: Athletic training student who is a soccer player may not engage in a clinical assignment with the soccer team during the traditional season while he/she is playing on that team during the traditional season).
5. There may be times during the academic year that a student's clinical assignment will overlap with the student's participation in intercollegiate athletics (as a member on a team). Athletic training students, who are also student-athletes, will be required to complete their clinical assignment according to the expectation of that assignment (as indicated on Clinical Course syllabus) before participating in their chosen sport as a player, even if that sport's practices/competitions have begun.
6. Athletic training students, who are also student-athletes, will be allowed to participate during their team's non-traditional season only if participation **does not** conflict with the student's ATP clinical experience responsibilities.
7. Athletic training students who participate in intercollegiate athletics must, like all athletic training students, fulfill **ALL** the didactic and clinical education program requirements before they can graduate. Once accepted to the ATP, all student-athletes are strongly encouraged to consult the ATP Director early since effective planning is crucial to on-time graduation.
8. All athletic training students in the ATP are required to perform at least one "equipment intensive" clinical experience (football or men's lacrosse). The ATP cannot guarantee student-athletes who participate in fall sports will be able to fulfill this requirement in the Spring with men's lacrosse and therefore to meet this program requirement athletic training students, who are also fall athletes, must complete a ninth semester, i.e. "equipment intensive" rotation prior to graduating from the college and the ATP or decide to not compete as an athlete their senior year.
9. Athletic training students, who are also intercollegiate athletes, might be required to make adjustments to both their athletic team's schedule and their clinical assignments to successfully complete that assigned clinical experience.

This policy will be in effect once a student has been accepted into the ATP at the beginning of his/her sophomore year and will be in effect as long as the athletic training student remains in the ATP. Students with questions regarding this policy are encouraged to speak with the ATP Director for clarification of their concerns.

I, _____, have read and understand what is required of me as a student-athlete
Applicant's name

majoring in athletic training. I also understand that if I am a student-athlete participating in a traditional fall intercollegiate athletics season, I am required to attend a ninth semester to complete my required rotations before I can graduate or decide to not compete as an athlete my senior year.

Athletic Training Student Signature

Date