As Gamecocks, our success has No Limits.

Advanced Athletic Training Program

Contact Information
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Program Director and Associate Professor
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Phone: 803.777.0636
MISSION OF ADVANCED ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM
The Advanced Athletic Training Program at the University of South Carolina (UofSC Advanced AT Program) is dedicated to preparing athletic trainers for advanced clinical practice, research, and scholarship in order to advance the quality of patient-care, optimize patient outcomes, and improve patient’s health-related quality of life.

The Advanced Athletic Training Program is committed to distinguishing itself as a state and national leader in its efforts to address the needs of its students, the athletic training profession, and community. The pursuit of excellence in both the academic and clinical education setting is our program’s approach for providing post-professional graduate students with the knowledge and skills required to enhance their athletic training skills and to successfully contribute to the profession of athletic training. The Advanced Athletic Training program at the UofSC will also provide a coordinated balance of education and clinical exposure.

UofSC ADVANCED AT PROGRAM OBJECTIVES
The Advanced Athletic Training program will promote core competencies which include evidence-based practice, patient-centered care, healthcare informatics, quality improvement, professionalism, and interprofessional education and collaborative practice.

1. Exposure of our graduate students to a variety of patient populations and engage in interprofessional education and collaborative practice.
   - Graduate students will have a minimum of **TWO distinct clinical assignments** during their tenure at UofSC
   - Structured learning opportunities with general medicine physicians, orthopedic surgeons in the clinic and surgery, chiropractors, and physical therapists

2. Be an advocate for athletic training education (didactical and clinical education opportunities)
   - Serve as a preceptor for students in professional athletic training program
   - Teaching assistant opportunities in both didactic and laboratory classes in the Master of Science in Athletic Training (professional AT program)
   - Structured opportunities for lectures within the professional AT program, as well as workshops and seminars within UofSC Sports Medicine

3. Implement and development research (evidence-based practice)
   - Must complete a research project as part of the program
   - Numerous opportunities for involvement in faculty research projects
   - Expectation to be involved and present research at professional conferences (national/district/state)

UofSC ADVANCED AT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The program is a collaborative effort between the Department of Exercise Science, Arnold School of Public Health, and Athletics at the UofSC. The two-year program is designed to offer advanced studies and clinical experiences in athletic training to BOC certified athletic trainers, while also providing health care to patients in the state of South Carolina. Graduate assistantships with stipends, out-of-state tuition waivers, and tuition credits are available for qualified students.

The UofSC Advanced AT Program provides students with the theoretical knowledge and comprehension of the health profession of athletic training as well as current procedures and techniques in sport injury management. Students gain this knowledge through required coursework and clinical experiences as they prepare to make successful contributions to the athletic training profession. The program combines formal classroom instruction and clinical experiences to enhance a certified athletic trainer's clinical skills.

Students who graduate from the program and will be qualified to be employed as an athletic trainer in a variety of clinical settings such as secondary schools, two- and four-year colleges/universities, professional athletic teams, sports medicine clinics, or in industrial preventative medicine clinics.
Professional Preparation: All students interested in the Advanced AT Program and graduate assistant are required to be certified through the Board of Certification (BOC). The post-professional AT student's professional preparation is directed toward the development of advanced clinical knowledge. UofSC Advanced AT Program requires all graduate students have completed a professional bachelor's or master's degree in athletic training making them eligible to sit for the BOC exam.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

1. Admissions for the Graduate School – Apply for Summer 2022
   A third-party vendor hosts the Graduate School Application, Collegenet/Applyweb. Every applicant must create an account prior to beginning the Graduate School Application. Once an account is created you may use that account to apply to both the Degree Seeking and Non-Degree seeking applications. You do not need to complete your application at one sitting. You may save your work and come back to the application at any time. Other institutions use the Collegenet/Applyweb systems for their application. If you have applied to another institution through the Collegenet/Applyweb system, you can use the same Collegenet/Applyweb account to apply to The Graduate School (https://www.applyweb.com/uscgrad/index.ftl).

2. Admissions Process
   Graduate students are admitted through a cooperative effort between The Graduate School and the college/departments that offer degree programs. When the Graduate School receives your application and supporting documents, they are entered into our Student Information System, scanned, and shared through a password protected Web interface with the faculty of the program to which you wish to be admitted. This process is coordinated by the Program Director for the Advanced AT Program. After reviewing your application materials, the program makes a recommendation to the Graduate School. The Advanced AT Program may inform you that it has recommended your acceptance. Official notice of your admission can come only from the Graduate School.

3. Application Requirements
   1. Application: A completed application with all requested information and supporting documents supplied.
   2. Application Fees: A nonrefundable application fee of $50 is required of all first-time applicants to the Graduate School and for applicants reapplying after a three-year period of non-enrollment. A Change of Status fee of $15 is charged when requesting a change in program or degree intent with submission of a Change of Status (COS) form.
   3. Transcripts: Official transcripts showing all college-level course work attempted and the award of the baccalaureate or higher degree by an accredited college or university. Official transcripts verifying all previous college-level course work are required for the University's records. To be considered official, transcripts must be sent directly from the institution to The Graduate School or delivered in a sealed envelope bearing a registrar's stamp. Please send transcripts to:
      UofSC Graduate School
      1705 College Street
      Close-Hipp Suite 552
      Columbia, SC 29208
   4. Letters of Recommendation: Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit at least three letters of recommendation through the electronic application process. Please carefully consider the waiver of right to view letters of recommendation because this decision cannot be altered after submission.
   5. Test Scores: Most programs require an admissions test such as the GRE. Please consult the of the Graduate Studies Bulletin appropriate program for the test requirements for admission. Applications for the GRE and the GMAT can be obtained from the Educational Testing Service, Box 955, Princeton, NJ 08540 or by visiting the website www.ets.org. Applicants from western states should contact the Educational Testing Service, 1947 Center Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 or visit the website. Note: GRE, GMAT, and MAT test scores are valid for five years.
6. **International Applicants**: International applicants whose native language is not English are also required to submit a satisfactory score on the TOEFL or the IELTS Intl. Academic Course Type 2 exam. The minimum acceptable score on the TOEFL is 80 Internet-based or 570 paper-based. The minimum acceptable overall band score on the IELTS Intl. Academic Course Type 2 exam is 6.5. Programs may set higher score requirements. See International Students and Credentials for more information. Note: TOEFL and IELTS scores are valid for two years.

7. **Graduate School Academic Tuition & Fees (2021-2022) subject to change for 2022-2023***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Tuition &amp; Course Fees</th>
<th>Full-Time (9 Credits)</th>
<th>Part-Time Student</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Resident Student</td>
<td>~$6,867</td>
<td>~$572.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Non-Resident Student</td>
<td>~$14,880</td>
<td>~$1,240.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Fee</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$17 per credit hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance**</td>
<td>$2,591</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Center Fee (6-8 hours)</td>
<td>$127</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Center Fee (9-11 hours)</td>
<td>$190</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASPH Health Professions Program Fee (Resident)</td>
<td>$800 per semester</td>
<td>$80 per credit hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASPH Health Professions Program Fee (Non-Resident)</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
<td>$110 per credit hour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athletics Event Fee (optional)</td>
<td>$86</td>
<td>$86</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Fees (depends on course – AT Courses below)</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Professions Program Fee (one-time fee – 1st Year)</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>$1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 740 – 1st Year</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 741 – 1st Year</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 738 – 1st Year</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 739 – 2nd Year</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 733 – 2nd Year</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 734 – 2nd Year</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 798 – 2nd Year</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
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*Note: This does not include all other University fees and course fees. These can be found on the University website: [http://www.sc.edu/bursar/fees.shtml](http://www.sc.edu/bursar/fees.shtml)*

**ACADEMIC INFORMATION (CONTINUED)**

8. **Degree Offered in Department of Exercise Science**
   1. **Master of Science in Advanced Athletic Training**: The degree in Advanced Athletic Training is designed to provide the credentialed athletic trainer with advanced clinical preparation in the field of athletic training. Admitted students must possess an undergraduate or graduate degree with specialization in athletic training.
   2. **Research Component of the Degree:**
      - **Research Project**: A research project is a requirement of the Master of Science in Advanced Athletic Training degree. The research project is the ultimate requirement of the master's program and becomes a permanent record of the student’s independent research or creative effort. The best academic tradition and professional practice require the Graduate School to preserve and share graduate student work with other scholars. To do that successfully means maintaining high standards concerning the form and appearance of the research project. Formatting and organization guidelines are available on the Advanced AT Program website.
- **Year 1**
  - **Fall Semester** - Graduate students will meet all faculty members in athletic training to learn more about their area of research interest. Next, the student will select a chair to work with during the duration of the program/research project. The student will select a specific topic or research question with their chair and form a committee (3 members approved by the chair). The research project chair must be a faculty member in the Department of Exercise Science. Graduate students will start reading pertinent literature as directed by the faculty, develop prospectus, a literature review, and begin writing their introduction and methods section.
  - **Spring Semester** – The students will continue writing the introduction and methods for their manuscript. The student must successfully propose their project, submit an IRB application, and possibly start data collection. Some grant funding is available to support student research opportunities.

- **Year 2**
  - **Fall Semester** – The graduate students should be collecting data, analyze data and write results and discussion. Submit abstract to professional conferences like NATA and ACSM.
  - **Spring Semester** - Finish writing the manuscript and successfully defend their research project. Some students may work with their research chair to submit their finished research manuscript for publication.

3. **Curriculum and Course Sequencing – Expected for 2022-2023**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1 – Summer</th>
<th>Year 1 – Fall</th>
<th>Year 1 – Spring</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 738 (3 credits) - Advanced Athletic Training Practicum I with Dr. Torres-McGehee</td>
<td>ATEP 770 (3 credits) – Research Methods with Dr. Yeargin</td>
<td>ATEP 733 (3 credits) – Evidence-Based Practice in Medical Emergencies with Dr. Yeargin</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PHYT 788 (2 credits) – Evidence-Based Practice with Dr. Yeargin and Physical Therapy Faculty</td>
<td>PUBH 700 (3 credits) – Perspectives in Public Health with Public Health Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ATEP 790 (1 credit) – Independent Study – Advanced Clinical Practice</td>
<td>ATEP 741 (3 credits) – Advanced Clinical Skills with Dr. Winkelmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ATEP 798 (1 credit) – Research Project in Athletic Training with research project chair</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2 – Summer</th>
<th>Year 2 – Fall</th>
<th>Year 2 – Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATEP 739 (3 credits) - Advanced Athletic Training Practicum II with Dr. Winkelmann</td>
<td>ATEP 736 (3 credits) - Advanced Evaluation, Treatment and Rehabilitation – Upper extremity with TBD</td>
<td>ATEP 734 (3 credits) - Advanced Evaluation, Treatment and Rehabilitation – Lower extremity with TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ATEP 740 (3 credits) – Evidence-Based Practice in Weight Management Assessment with Dr. Torres-McGehee</td>
<td>ATEP 735 (3 credits) – Contemporary Issues in Athletic Training with Dr. Winkelmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ATEP 798 (1 credit) – Research Project in Athletic Training with research project chair</td>
<td>ATEP 798 (1 credit) – Research Project in Athletic Training with research project chair</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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4. **Faculty and Staff Profiles**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dr. Toni Torres-McGehee</th>
<th>Dr. Zachary Winkelmann</th>
<th>Dr. Susan Yeargin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Role:</strong> Program Director (PPAT)</td>
<td><strong>Role:</strong> Clinical Educ Coordinator (PPAT)</td>
<td><strong>Role:</strong> Research Coordinator (PPAT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Associate Professor, Director of AT Programs, ASPH Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity &amp; Inclusion</td>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research Interests:</strong> Energy availability, nutrition, female athlete triad, mental health</td>
<td><strong>Research Interests:</strong> Telemedicine, patient-centered care</td>
<td><strong>Research Interests:</strong> Heat and hydration, preventing sudden death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education:</strong> BS – Southern Utah University MS – Texas Tech University PhD – University of Alabama</td>
<td><strong>Education:</strong> BS – Texas Lutheran University MS – Indiana State University PhD – Indiana State University</td>
<td><strong>Education:</strong> BS – James Madison University MS – University of Florida PhD – University of Connecticut</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLINICAL EDUCATION & EXPERIENCES

South Carolina Certification

- Graduate assistant athletic trainers must be certified through the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). DHEC regulates the practice of athletic training in South Carolina. DHEC prohibits work in the capacity of an athletic trainer or calling oneself an athletic trainer unless that person is certified by the state to do so. South Carolina regulations for athletic trainers require BOC certification.

Clinical Site Selection

1. Graduate assistants are NOT offered specific clinical sites when offered a graduate assistant position here at UofSC. Select students will be offered an on-campus interview. During the interview, they will be asked to rank some of their preferred and non-preferred clinical sites. If the student is accepted into the program and they accept the offer, the clinical education coordinator will send a survey for them to select and rank their top 3 choices by job setting (not a specific site itself) with an opportunity to provide specific preferences. For example, a student may select college/university and provide a preference for UofSC football. The top three clinical sites are not a guarantee, but we do our best to meet every graduate assistant’s professional goals throughout their two diverse clinical rotations. In some instances, students will be assigned multiple clinical sites in one year.

2. Currently, we have clinical sites throughout Columbia/greater Columbia area in a variety of settings including:

   - Allen University (NCAA D2, HBCU)
   - Benedict College (NCAA D2, HBCU)
   - Claflin University (NCAA D2, HBCU)
   - Newberry College (NCAA D2)*
   - Columbia College (NAIA)
   - South Carolina State University (NCAA D1, HBCU)
Post-Professional Advanced Athletic Training Program
Department of Exercise Science

- University of South Carolina (NCAA D1, SEC)
  - Beach Volleyball
  - Cheerleading
  - Equestrian
  - Men's Tennis and Golf
  - Women's Tennis and Golf
  - Swimming and Diving
  - Men's Soccer and Baseball
  - Football
  - Track & field

Private High School (Head and Assistant AT positions)
- Calhoun Academy
- Camden Military Academy
- Cardinal Newman High School
- Gray Collegiate Academy
- Hammond School
- Heathwood Hall Episcopal High School
- Northside Christian Academy
- Orangeburg Preparatory Academy

Public High School (Head and Assistant AT positions)
- AC Flora High School
- Airport High School
- Batesburg-Leesville High School
- Brookland Cayce High School
- Calhoun County High School
- Dreher High School
- Fairfield Central High School
- Lower Richland High School
- Mid-Carolina High School
- Newberry High School
- Orangeburg Wilkinson High School
- Swansea High School
- Whitmire High School

Emerging Settings (Head and Assistant AT positions)
- Columbia City Ballet
- UofSC Marching Band and Dance Company
- UofSC University Health Center
- UofSC Campus Recreation
- UofSC ROTC
- Palmetto Prep
- Prisma Health Orthopedics Physician Practice

Summer Responsibilities
1. During the summer between year 1 and year 2, all graduate assistants will be on contract. In addition, the students will be enrolled in a 3-credit summer course during May-June term.
2. The clinical obligations during the summer may be different than the clinical site assigned during the fall/spring. All students must work 20 hours/week per their assistantship contract.
3. Students will also be provided additional clinical experience opportunities that focus on interprofessional education and collaborative practice that connect with the summer course.
4. Summer Camps: Graduate assistants are provided the opportunity to work summer camps, as medical staff, the
summer before their second year. The staff athletic trainers overseeing summer camp will contact the graduate assistants with a summer camp schedule. Additional opportunities may be available with Gatorade camps, team camps, and community-based summer camps.

5. All graduate assistants will be provided opportunities throughout the community and campus during the summer. Graduate assistants with UofSC athletics must work a minimum of 2 weeks over the summer. Graduate assistants at all other sites will continue working or be reassigned by the clinical education coordinator which may include sites with UofSC athletics, other community partners (Lexington Blowfish wood bat league, Apex Sport Performance Clinic, Columbia Fireflies minor league baseball team, etc.)

### GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP PACKAGE (PER YEAR)

#### SUMMER II - ATEP 738 Course Start Date: July 7, 2022  
OFFICIAL Graduate Assistant Start Date: July 16, 2022 (report date for hiring is July 5-6, 2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistantship Package</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stipend &amp; Tuition (See Note Below)</td>
<td>~$21,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of State Tuition Waiver (2 semesters difference in tuition)</td>
<td>~$14,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Assistant Insurance Subsidy</td>
<td>$1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT Clinical Practice Insurance – covered under University Policy</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$37,380</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** 1st Year GA are on a 12-month contract (July 16, 2022-July 31, 2023) and 2nd Year GAs are on a 10-month contract (August 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023). **Graduate assistants will use the $21,500 to pay in-state tuition**, and the remaining balance per semester will be distributed in a bi-monthly stipend. Students are responsible for the balance remaining on their tuition bills. Funds allocated for tuition & stipend are as follows:

**Year 1 Tuition ($12,800):**
- Summer I - $1800
- Fall I - $3500
- Spring I - $5700
- Summer II - $1800

**Year 1 Salary (~$8,700):** Paid bi-monthly across 12 months

**Year 2 Tuition ($10,400):**
- Fall II - $3500
- Spring II - $5100

**Year 2 Salary (~$10,600):** Paid bi-monthly across 12 months