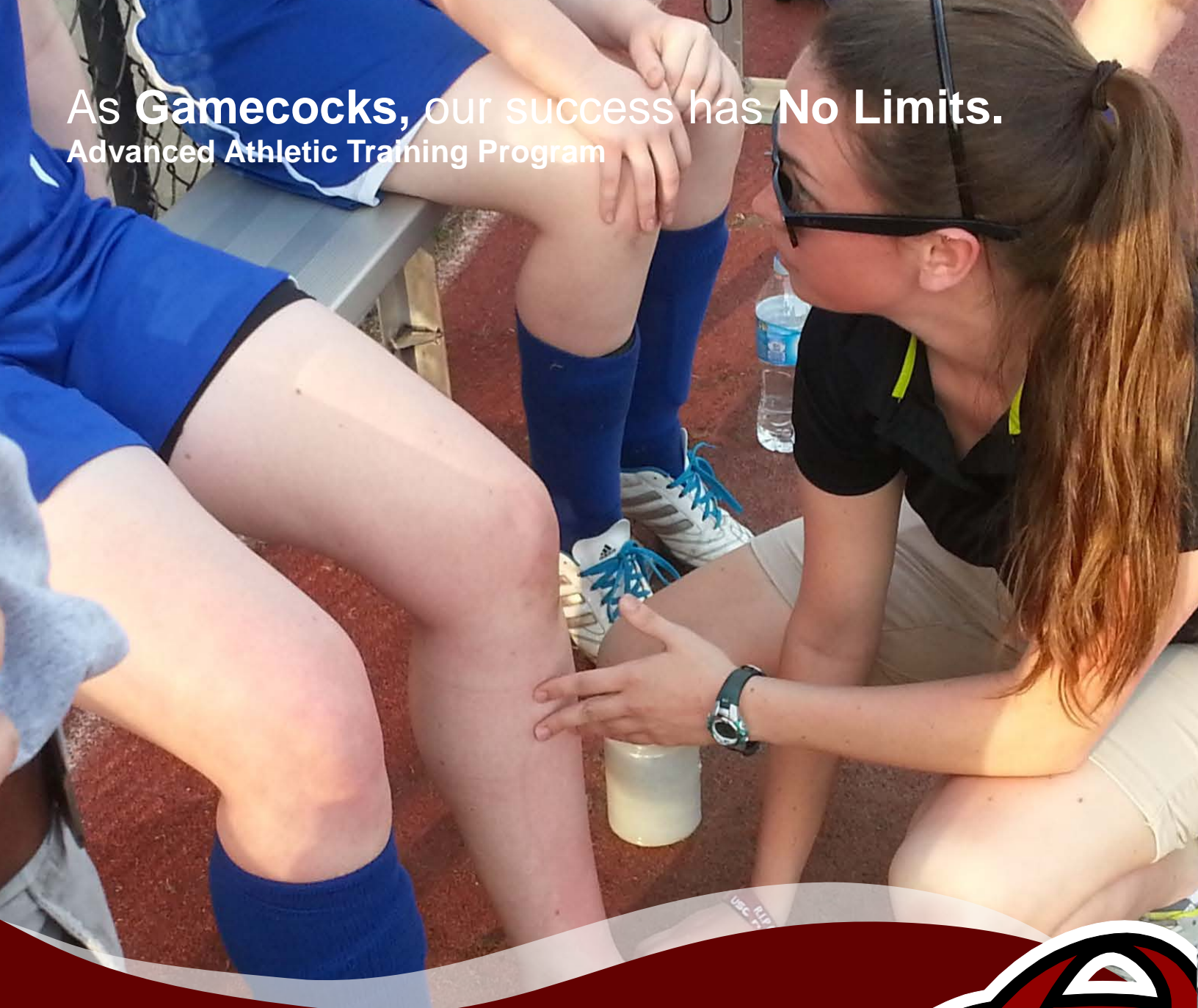


As **Gamecocks**, our success has **No Limits**.  
Advanced Athletic Training Program



## Graduate Athletic Training Post Professional Program

**Graduate Contact Information:**

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UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**



## **I. MISSION OF GRADUATE ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM**

- A. The Advanced Athletic Training Program at the University of South Carolina (USC 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 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 graduate athletic training program at the University of South Carolina will also provide a coordinated balance of education and clinical exposure.

### **USC ADVANCED AT PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

1. Exposure of our graduate students to a variety of patient populations and engage in interprofessional education and collaborative practice.
  - Graduate students will have **TWO distinct clinical assignments** during their tenure at USC (USC athletics, smaller colleges, high schools, youth sports, student health center, ballet/marching band, orthopedic office, USC campus recreation/club sports, etc.)
  - 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 preceptors for students in undergraduate program AT Program
  - Teaching assistant opportunities in both didactic and laboratory classes in the Bachelor of Science in AT Program and the Master of Science in Athletic Training professional programs in 2019-2020.
  - Structured opportunities for lectures within undergraduate program AT Program as well as workshops and seminars within USC Sports Medicine
3. Implement and development research (evidence-based practice)
  - Must complete a data-based research project or thesis 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)

### **USC ADVANCED AT PROGRAM LEARNING 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.

## **I. USC ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

- A. The program is a collaborative effort between the Department of Exercise Science, School of Medicine, and Athletics Department of the University of South Carolina. 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 and student-athletes in the state of South Carolina. Graduate assistantships with stipends, out-of-state tuition waivers, and tuition credits are available for qualified students.
- B. The USC AT Program provides students with the theoretical knowledge and understanding of the allied 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 allied health settings, including secondary schools, two- and four-year colleges and universities, professional athletic teams, sports medicine clinics, or in industrial preventative medicine clinics.

- C. **Professional Preparation:** All USC Graduate Assistants are required to be certified through the *Board of Certification* to be enrolled in the Graduate Advanced AT Program. The graduate athletic training student's professional preparation is directed toward the development of advanced clinical knowledge. USC's athletic training program requires all graduate students have completed an entry level bachelors or master's degree in athletic training.

## II. GRADUATE STUDENT ACADEMIC INFORMATION

### A. USC Admissions for the Graduate School

The Graduate School Application is hosted by a third-party vendor, 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 (<http://gradschool.sc.edu/prospective/apply-grad.asp?page=apply>).

### B. USC Admissions Process

Graduate students are admitted through a cooperative effort between The Graduate School and the colleges or 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 a faculty member who serves as the Graduate Director for that program. After reviewing your credentials, the program makes a recommendation to the Graduate School. Your program may inform you that it has recommended your acceptance. Official notice of your admission can come only from the Graduate School.

### C. 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:**

The Graduate School  
901 Sumter St. #304  
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 consider carefully 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, GMAT or MAT. 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](http://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 (2018-2019, these are subject to change for 2019-2020)**

Academic Tuition & Course Fees	Full-Time (9 Credits)	Part-Time Per Credit
Graduate Resident Student	~\$6,825	~\$568.75
Graduate Non-Resident Student	~\$14,598	~\$1,216.50
Technology Fee	\$200	\$17 per credit hour
Health Insurance**	\$2,047	-----
Health Center Fee (6-8 hours)	\$127.00	-----
Health Center Fee (9-11 hours)	\$190.00	-----
ASPH Health Professions Program Fee (Resident)	\$800 (Per Semester)	\$80 (Per Credit)
ASPH Health Professions Program Fee (Non-Resident)	\$1,100	\$110 (Per Credit)
Athletics Event Fee (optional)	\$86	\$86
<b>Course Fees (depends on course – AT Courses below)</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Health Professions Program Fee (one-time fee – 1 <sup>st</sup> Year)	\$1000	\$1000
ATEP 740 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	\$100	\$100
ATEP 741 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Year (New Course Fall 2017)	\$100	\$100
ATEP 738 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	\$250	\$250
ATEP 739 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	\$250	\$250
ATEP 733 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	\$100	\$100
ATEP 734 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	\$100	\$100
ATEP 798 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	\$200	\$200

**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>

**\*Health Insurance:** \$2,047.00 (Graduate students who take 6 credit hours or more, graduate assistants and international students are **required** by the university to have health insurance. Students can either purchase insurance or waive out by providing documentation of enrollment in a comparable plan.). For graduate students who **do not** have their own insurance and are granted a Graduate Assistantship, they will qualify for a **Graduate Assistant Insurance Subsidy**. Students will receive \$1000 (per 2018-2019 academic year and is subject to change in the upcoming years). Funds will be distributed as a \$420 credit in the Fall semester and \$580 credit on the Spring semester. The Spring pay includes Spring and Summer Coverage. Students will be responsible for the remaining balance in the required health insurance (~\$1,047).



**D. Degree offered in Department of Exercise Science**

**1. Masters of Science – Advanced Athletic Training:** The Masters degree in Advanced Athletic Training is designed to provide students advanced clinical preparation in the field of athletic training. Admitted students must possess an undergraduate degree or graduate degree with specialization in athletic training.

**2. Additional Information on Master Degrees**

**Thesis or Research Project:** A thesis or research project is a requirement of most Master of Arts or Master of Science degree programs and some professional Master’s programs. The thesis 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 thesis. Thesis formatting and organization guidelines are available on the website of the Graduate School.

**3. Department of Exercise Science (EXSC) Requirements for Thesis:** Thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of 3 graduate faculty members: 1) committee chair from the Department of EXSC, 2) committee member from the Department of EXSC, and 3) outside committee member. All faculty committee members must be considered Graduate Faculty within the University of South Carolina’s Graduate School. Student must follow all Graduate School requirements for Thesis (Listed Above).

**4. Department of EXSC Requirements for Project:** Project committee must be composed of a minimum of 3 members approved by the AT Program Graduate Director. Project committee chair must be a faculty in the Department of EXSC.

**5. Academic Course Work – Masters in Advanced Athletic Training**

**ATHLETIC TRAINING REQUIREMENTS** (36 hours)

<b>MS in Athletic Training (Proposed Courses)</b>		
ATEP 733	Evidence Based Practice in Medical Emergencies	(3)
ATEP 734	Evidence-Based Approach to Evaluation, Treatment, and Rehabilitation of Injuries	(3)
ATEP 735	Contemporary Issues in Athletic Training	(3)
ATEP 738	Advanced Athletic Training Practicum I	(3)
ATEP 739	Advanced Athletic Training Practicum II	(3)
ATEP 740	Evidenced Based Practice in Weight Management Assessment	(3)
ATEP 741*	Advanced Clinical Skills in Athletic Training	(3)
PUBH 700*	Perspectives in Public Health	(3)
<b>Research Requirements</b>		
PEDU 770/EXSC 755	Research Methods in Physical Education and Athletic Training	(3)
ATEP 798/799	Project/Thesis in Athletic Training	(3)
BIO 700	Introduction to Biostatistics	(3)
<b>Professional Elective (Pick ONE) Can pick a different course it just needs to be approved by Graduate Director.</b>		
ATEP 736	Advanced Treatment and Rehabilitation of Injuries	(3)
ATEP 737	Current Research in Athletic Training Education	(3)



**A. Two-Year Course Plan for Athletic Training (Total 36 Credit Hours)**

<b>FIRST YEAR – SUMMER II (3 Credits)</b>	
ATEP 738 – Advanced Athletic Training Practicum I 3 Credits	
<b>FIRST YEAR – FALL SEMESTER (6 Credits)</b>	<b>FIRST YEAR – SPRING SEMESTER (9 Credits)</b>
EXSC- 755 – Research Methods in Athletic Training 3 Credits	ATEP 741 – Advanced Clinical Skills in AT 3 Credits
BIOS 700 – Biostats or other stats option 3 Credits	ATEP 733: Evidence Based Practice in Medical Emergencies 3 Credits
	PUBH 700 – Perspectives in Public Health 3 Credits
<b>SECOND YEAR – SUMMER I (3 Credits)</b>	
ATEP 739 – Advanced Athletic Training Practicum II 3 Credits	
<b>SECOND YEAR – FALL SEMESTER (6 Credits)</b>	<b>SECOND YEAR – SPRING SEMESTER (9 Credits)</b>
ATEP 736 - Advanced Treatment and Rehabilitation of Injuries 3 Credits	ATEP 735 – Contemporary Issues in Athletic Training 3 Credits
ATEP 740: Evidenced Based Practice in Weight Management Assessment 3 Credits	ATEP 734 – Evidence-Based Approach to Evaluation, Treatment, and Rehabilitation of Injuries 3 Credits
	ATEP 798 – Research Project in Athletic Training 3 Credits

**6. Project/Thesis (Note: If graduate student chooses to write a thesis, they will not be required to take a professional elective course (3-credits) and will take ATEP 799 Thesis credit instead of ATEP 798.**

- 1. First Fall Semester** - Graduate students are encouraged to meet with faculty in area of interest. Narrow down a topic for project/thesis and form a committee (3 members approved by the Graduate Director). The Chair of your project/thesis must be a faculty member in the Department of EXSC. Graduate Students should start reading pertinent literature as directed by the faculty; write a literature review, and methods section.
- 2. First Spring Semester** - Complete writing the Introduction, Literature Review, and Methods chapters of paper. Propose Research project, submit IRB, and possible start of data collection. Submit Graduate School research grant if applicable.
- 3. Second Fall Semester** - Graduate students should be collecting data, analyze data and write results and discussion. Submit abstract to professional conferences.
- 4. Second Spring Semester** - Finish writing document and defend research project.



### III. CLINICAL EDUCATION

#### 1. South Carolina Certification

- a. Athletic training GAs/Interns 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.

#### 2. Selection for Clinical Sites

- a. Graduate Assistants are **NOT** offered specific clinical sites when offered a graduate assistant position here at USC. GAs will be allowed to select their top 3 choices and 1 choice they absolutely would not want. The top three clinical sites are not guaranteed, but we do our best to meet every graduate assistant's professional goals.

#### 3. Graduate Assistant Clinical Assignments

- a. **First Year in Program:** USC Athletics (6 positions) or Clinical Outreach (high school, orthopedic clinic, USC recreation center, small college or university, youth sports)
- b. **Second Year in Program:** Clinical Outreach (ballet/marching band, high school, orthopedic clinic, USC recreation center, small college or university, youth sports) or USC Athletics (only 4 positions)
- c. **Please Note:** Some positions will be outreach for two years but will still have two distinct clinical rotations.

#### 4. Clinical Sites

- a. USC Athletics – football, baseball/men's soccer, women's soccer, women's tennis/women's golf, men's tennis/men's golf, track and field, beach volleyball, cheerleading, and equestrian.
- b. USC Recreation Center (club sports and intramurals)
- c. USC Ballet and Marching Band
- d. Small College – Allen University (All sports), Benedict College (All Sports), Columbia College (All Sports) and Claflin University (All Sports)
- e. Larger University – South Carolina State University (Division I) football/track and field, volleyball/softball
- f. High Schools – large high school, small high schools, private high schools
- g. Youth Football
- h. Orthopedic Clinic

#### 5. Graduate Assistantship Package (Per Year)

Assistantship Package	Amount
Stipend & Tuition (See Note Below)	~\$21,000
Out of State Tuition Waiver (2 semesters difference in tuition)	~\$14,598
Graduate Assistant Insurance Subsidy	\$1000
AT Clinical Practice Insurance – covered under University Policy	-----
Graston Module I	\$650
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$37,248</b>

**NOTE:** 1<sup>st</sup> Year GA are on a 12-month contract (July 13-July 31) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year GAs are on a 10-month contract (August 1 - May 31). **GAs will use the \$21,000 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 (\$12,200):** Summer I - \$1800, Fall I - \$3500; Spring I - \$5100, Summer II - \$1800

**Year 1 Salary (~\$8,800):** 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

6. **Official Start Date:** July 10, 2019 (report date for hiring is July 8-9, 2019)





### Summer Responsibilities

- 1. Summer Camps:** All GAs/Interns are provided the opportunity to work summer camps, as medical staff, the summer before his or her second year. The staff athletic trainers overseeing summer camp will contact the GAs/Interns with a summer camp schedule during the spring semester. GAs/Interns may also sign up for additional camp coverage as a Gatorade Team Leader, separate from medical staff, for larger camps.
- 2. Athletic Training Clinic Coverage for USC Athletics:** Each GA/Intern assigned to USC Athletics, is required two weeks of coverage in the Williams Brice Stadium Athletic Training Room. Scheduling is determined by the USC Athletic Training Sports Medicine Director at the end of the spring semester. Graduate assistants encountering conflicts with his or her respected coverage dates must contact the assigned staff athletic trainer(s) for the week along with the USC Athletic Training Sports Medicine Director
- 3. Clinical Outreach GA Summer Duties:** The Graduate Clinical Education Coordinator, will reassign all clinical outreach GAs summer responsibilities (e.g., USC Athletic Training Clinic, USC Football summer workouts, physical therapy clinical, Columbia Blowfish (baseball), physician clinic, etc.)

