

# Have You Seen This Major?

## ATHLETIC TRAINING

The Sports Medicine and Athletic Training (SMAT) program at Missouri State University is the oldest accredited athletic training education program in Missouri. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The curriculum combines a strong academic preparation with a variety of clinical experiences to prepare students for numerous sports medicine and athletic training career options and to take the Board of Certification (BOC) exam and practice as an Athletic Trainer.

Athletic training is practiced by athletic trainers, health care professionals who collaborate with physicians to optimize activity and participation of patients and clients. Athletic training encompasses the prevention, diagnosis, and intervention of emergency, acute, and chronic medical conditions involving impairment, functional limitations, and disabilities. Students in this major should be passionate about the profession and the contribution they could make in health care.



## SEE WHAT A STUDENT HAS TO SAY...

“The Sports Medicine and Athletic Training Program gives you the most hands on experience of any major. You will begin doing clinical observations your first semester in the program and by your third semester you will actually be putting hands on patients and implementing what you are learning in class.” Joshua Bell

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ABOUT THE DEGREE

### Does this major require a practicum or internship?

Currently, students gain experiences in university and high school athletics, sports medicine clinics, emergency room and physician offices, and other health care settings.

Upon acceptance into the major, students will be required to fulfill six (6) semesters of clinical experiences. Students must receive a satisfactory clinical evaluation score for each experience. All students will be required to complete the following clinical experiences:

- One fall pre-season experience
- One fall season of interscholastic or intercollegiate football
- At least one (two preferred) semester assigned to University intercollegiate team experiences
- At least one (two preferred) semester at an affiliated sports medicine clinic
- At least one (two preferred) semester at an affiliated high school
- Two semesters of integrated "General Medical/Sports Medicine" clinical experiences.

### What courses should a student take to explore this major?

ATC 220 and ATC 221

### What are the admission requirements to the major?

Admission to Missouri State University and/or student in good academic standing at MSU.

Successful completion of the following courses:

- ATC 220 and ATC 221 ("B" or better)
- BMS 110 or BIO 121 ("C" or better)
- CHM 160 **and** CHM 161 or CHM 105 ("C" or better)
- BMS 307 ("C" or better)

If offered, a student can take one or more of these courses in the summer session prior to the fall semester they are applying for and still be considered for program admission (as space permits)

Preferred courses: GEP 101, COM 115, CIS/CSC 101 or CSC 111, ENG 110, MTH 135 (or higher), PSY 121, KIN 100

Other info:

- Required observational hours with a program approved allied health care professional
- Athletic Training Education Program (ATEP) application to be completed during the spring semester of the First Year Experience

### What should someone know who is interested in declaring this major?

Students interested in majoring in athletic training must be admitted to the University. Obtain a University application at [www.missouristate.edu/apply.asp](http://www.missouristate.edu/apply.asp) Prospective students also need to complete a student interest form for the SMAT department. This form is located within the prospective student link on the Department of Sports Medicine and Athletic Training web page ([www.missouristate.edu/sportsmed](http://www.missouristate.edu/sportsmed)). Additionally, prospective students need to declare pre-athletic training as their major.

## AFTER THE DEGREE

### How would you describe the demand for graduates with this major?

Great.

Job Outlook 2010-2020 30% increase (much faster than average)  
*Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition.*

### What are some typical jobs for graduates with this major?

Athletic Trainers work in a number of setting including:

- Professional Sports
- Colleges and Universities
- Secondary Schools
- Hospitals and Clinical
- Industrial/Occupational
- Military
- Performing Arts
- Physician Extender

### What are some of the most successful graduates from the major doing?

Graduates are enjoying their careers as athletic trainers. We have graduates at all levels of sports (high school, college, professional), in all settings clinic, military, physician extender (doctor's office), performing arts, etc. Depends on how you measure success – these individual influence lives and provide healthcare to people daily.

### Do careers in this field require or prefer graduate study?

Students will graduate from this program with a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training (BSAT) and be eligible to sit for the BOC exam to practice as an Athletic Trainer. Some students gain employment immediately as a Certified Athletic Trainer while others may choose to further their education with a Graduate Degree in the field of Athletic Training or related health care field. Examples of common graduate programs students go on to include Athletic Training, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Doctor, Chiropractor, and Physician Assistant.

**For More Information, Contact:**

**Sports Medicine and Athletic Training**

**Department**

**PROF 160 417-836-8553**

**[www.missouristate.edu/sportsmed](http://www.missouristate.edu/sportsmed)**