



**Eastern Kentucky University
Athletic Training Education Program
Clinical Education Policies for Students**

When the athletic training student (ATS) is assigned to an Approved Clinical Instructor (ACI) or a Clinical Instructor (CI) it is essential that all personnel understand the ATS is placed in the clinical education setting to learn under the direct supervision of the ACI or CI, and not simply to provide a service to patients and support personnel or to act as a replacement for a full-time employee. The responsibilities of the ATS, the ACI, and CI are provided below.

Responsibilities of the Athletic Training Student (ATS) include the following:

1. after receiving your clinical assignment, develop a weekly/monthly clinical schedule in conjunction with your ACI, remembering that clinical scheduling takes priority over work scheduling.
2. obtain ATEP clinical experiences during scheduled direct patient care supervision by the ACI.
3. work no more than 20 hours/week during your assigned clinical rotation, and consistently average 15-20 hours/week (NOTE: notify the Clinical Coordinator immediately if you feel coerced to work more than 20 hours during a particular week or to work during times outside of the academic year).
4. be responsible for your transportation to your assigned clinical site/ACI and whenever possible carpool with other students assigned to the same ACI.
5. place a priority on academic courses and remember that practicum courses are academic courses.
6. communicate with the ACI/CI consistently regarding daily clinical experience opportunities.
7. practice competencies with ACIs and peers on a frequent and consistent basis to develop proficiency.
8. mentor and teach other students in the program and others interested in Athletic Training.
9. apply critical thinking, communication, and problem solving skills during your clinical experiences.
10. be prepared for proficiency assessments on a daily basis.
11. perform skills on patients only once assessed on the skill with an 80% passing rate and when directly supervised by the ACI.
12. be willing to learn about variations in applying the same technique or skill.
13. provide honest feedback of the ATEP clinical experience through the ACI Evaluation completed at the end of each rotation, and through the Weekly Clinical Experience Evaluation.

Essential responsibilities of the Approved Clinical Instructor (ACI) include the following:

1. be physically present and have the ability to intervene on behalf of the athletic training student to provide on-going and consistent education (NOTE: AT students have been directed to leave if the ACI is not present)
2. consistently and physically interact with the athletic training student at the site of the clinical experience
3. provide instruction and/or evaluation of the *Athletic Training Educational Competencies*
4. provide assessment of athletic training students' clinical proficiency
5. have regular communication with the appropriate ATEP Administrator, and
6. demonstrate understanding of and compliance with the policies and procedures of the ATEP
7. not requiring students to exceed the 20 hour/week clinical practicum course requirement nor requiring students to participate in volunteer clinical activities outside of the academic year

Additional responsibilities of the ACI should include the following:

8. allow the ATS to perform clinical skills on patients once assessed on the skill with an 80% passing rate and when directly supervised by the ACI.
9. guide the ATS in using communication skills and developing professional and ethical behaviors.
10. provide multiple ongoing opportunities for feedback to assist the ATS in developing proficiency in skills related to the practicum course and clinical experience level of the ATS.
11. have regular communication with the appropriate ATEP Administrator.
12. demonstrate understanding of and compliance with the policies and procedures of the ATEP.

The Clinical Instructor (CI) should:

Perform the same responsibilities as the ACI above, **with the exception of #3**. CIs cannot assess or sign-off on student clinical proficiencies.

I, _____, understand and agree to comply with the Clinical Education Policies as provided above. My failure to comply with these policies on a consistent basis can lead to a grade reduction in a practicum course, or being placed on probation, suspension, or expulsion from the ATEP.

Signature: _____

Date: _____