

A. PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS BY ECU ATEP STUDENTS

- I. Once a student is accepted into the ATEP, he/she can participate in only one sport during the academic year (i.e., Fall and Spring baseball/cross country/track, etc. constitutes two sports), due to the inability of completing required competencies and clinical proficiencies during each of the practicum courses, and the importance of the clinical experience in making one more proficient, and thus more marketable in the Athletic Training field.
- II. The AT student must be available for clinical experience assignment throughout the academic year. Student-athletes enrolled in the ATEP will need to be available during times outside of the academic year for completion of assigned competencies and clinical proficiencies. Student-athletes in the ATEP cannot “take off” from their clinical responsibilities during their in-season time of athletic competition. Also keep in mind that the ATEP currently does not offer courses and/or clinical experiences in the Summer (NOTE: for these reasons stated above and because of the additional time demands placed upon student-athletes by their coaches, students are discouraged from participating in sports and completing the ATEP).
- III. In order to avoid this potential conflict, and to educate athletic coaches about the clinical education requirements of the ATEP, the student must submit a signed copy of the Athletic Training Education Program “*Student-Athlete Participation Form*” (see **Appendix**). This form must also be signed by the student-athlete's specific coach and is to be given to the Coordinator of Clinical Education of the ATEP no later than **August 15th**. A copy will be given to the student's academic advisor and their athletic coach. Students needing to meet clinical education requirements outside of the academic year need to develop a written plan and have it approved by the Coordinator of Clinical Education prior to beginning their clinical experiences.
- IV. Remember, the more clinical experiences one misses due to athletic or other obligations, the more he/she will have to overload at other times to “catch-up” on missed clinical experience opportunities. Being able to “overload” is not always assured because of the lack of available ACIs or CIs and/or the lack of suitable clinical placement sites during times outside of the traditional academic year period.