Entry Level Masters in Athletic Training
Frequently Asked Questions

Prerequisite Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Courses/semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human A &amp; P (with lab)</td>
<td>2 courses/semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercise Physiology</td>
<td>1 course/semester</td>
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<td>Kinesiology/Biomechanics</td>
<td>1 course/semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Psychology</td>
<td>1 course/semester</td>
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<td>General Nutrition</td>
<td>1 course/semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>1 course/semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motor Learning (preferred, not required)</td>
<td>1 course/semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Research course (preferred not required)</td>
<td>1 course/semester</td>
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1. Students must complete a plan of study for the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.
2. Students must have a physical examination to verify the technical standards. A student does not have to complete a physical or technical standard as part of the application process into the program; however, must provide proof of physical and technical standard after acceptance and prior to attending classes. If a student does not pass the physical or technical standard, those issues will be addressed on a case by case basis.
3. It is recommended that the students have a Hepatitis B Vaccination, if not they must sign a waiver form.
4. A two-year (5) semester minimum time period must be allowed for the completion of the required clinical hours once the student is admitted into the program.
5. You will receive notification from the graduate studies office when your application has been received. Applications are reviewed by the Program Director and ATEP Faculty within 3 weeks of the application deadline. You will be notified of the decision regarding your application by the graduate studies office.

Admission Criteria/Application Procedures

1. Undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 (a GPA below a 3.0 may be considered)
2. Standardized graduate admission test (GRE or equivalent)
3. Three letters of recommendation from academic and professional sources concerning the candidate’s potential to succeed in graduate school. At least one letter must be from a certified athletic trainer.
4. It is recommended but not required to obtain a minimum of 25-50 contact hours with a certified athletic trainer.
5. Official transcripts from each institution attended.
6. An essay stating why you want to be an athletic trainer, career goals, and the attributes you possess that will make you successful in life and athletic training.
7. Completed application form and submission of application fee
8. Admission into the Athletic Training Education Program is a competitive process. MSUB’s ATEP will accept applications after the official application deadline; however that student will be at a disadvantage. A student may be considered for the program after the application deadline if a position exists. The ATEP’s maximum number of students is 10 per cohort.
9. Please see above for prerequisite courses. Students who do not have a prerequisite course(s) may be admitted provisionally but must take the course(s) within one year of admission.

Program and Retention Requirements
- Students must be enrolled in the Athletic Training Education Program for a minimum of 2 years (5 semesters).
- Students must complete a background check (OIG) prior to beginning clinical rotations.
- Students must maintain a current CPR and First Aid certifications.
- Students must have an annual physical examination to verify technical standards.
- Students must take the University and affiliated site, Blood Borne Pathogens OSHA Training each year.
- Students must maintain MMR immunization and current TB test.
- Students must maintain personal liability insurance 1 & 3 million.
- Students must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA, 3.0 GPA for Athletic Training courses (earning at least a 2.0 for didactic courses and 3.0 for clinical courses).
- Students must complete field experience each semester over two annual years (900 hours)
- Student must complete a thesis or research project under the supervision of department faculty.
- Students must successfully complete clinical/field experiences each semester and must pass all competencies and field experience evaluations.
- Students must read and sign the policy and procedure manual.
- Students must meet with the program director or clinical supervisor at least once per semester.
Graduation Requirements

- Satisfactorily complete all curricular requirements as stated in the Plan of Study (Plan of study also includes completing a thesis or research project under the supervision of department faculty).
- Students must pass all didactic courses with a 2.0 (C) or better and must pass all clinical education courses with a 3.0 (B) or better.
- Students must have a cumulative 3.0 GPA in order to graduate.
- Students must complete and file an Application for Graduation with the Office of Admissions and Records by the specified deadlines.
- Students need to be aware of the six year time limit in which all requirements need to be met.

Student Learning and Outcomes Assessment

The National Athletic Training Association (NATA), the Board of Certification (BOC) for Athletic Training and Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) Programs have set the benchmarks for education, exam preparation and professional practice. The MSU Billings athletic training program seeks to meet and exceed the educational requirements presented in the NATA competencies and proficiencies.

The program seeks further to produce athletic trainers who possess the ability to function as entry-level athletic trainers in accordance with the current role delineation study, but also have the ability to conduct and evaluate research in the athletic training field.

Students who complete the Montana State University Billings Master of Science in Athletic Training will:
- Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and abilities as defined in the competencies and proficiencies established by NATA.
- Engage in critical thinking and clinical decision making.
- Communicate with the public and other medical and health professionals.
- Appreciate the need for professional and community involvement.
- Demonstrate and appreciate research related to athletic training.

Outcome assessments are conducted in each course, during clinical experiences, and at the conclusion of the research project or thesis.

The MSU Billings Athletic Training Education Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). Students are eligible to sit for the BOC examination.