ATHLETIC TRAINING

Athletic trainers practice injury prevention, injury assessment, immediate management of athletic injury, rehabilitation, sport specific conditioning, administrative duties and professional development.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission consideration for the Athletic Training Program is initially based on a strong overall academic background.

- Minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Minimum ACT score of 24 with no subsection lower than 22 or an SAT score of 1090 or above.
- Four years of English.
- Four years of math, with achievement at least to the level of pre-calculus.
- Four years of science, including biology and chemistry.
- Physics is encouraged but not required.
- Two years of modern foreign language is recommended.

WHY CHOOSE SLU

- Opportunities to pursue additional curricular goals such as minors, certificates and study abroad programs.
- NCAA Division I athletic program.
- Diversity of clinical training sites.
- Interprofessional focus of core curriculum to build a team approach to healthcare.

CURRICULUM

The Athletic Training Program is designed as a five year graduate professional Master’s program. Students who begin the program spend three years completing required liberal arts and science prerequisite courses. Students who meet academic and professional requirements continue into the professional phase of the program after their junior year.

The two year professional phase of the Program includes coursework in human anatomy and kinesiology, clinical sciences, research and administration. Students participate in clinical experiences each semester. Following graduation, the student must pass the Board of Certification examination to practice as a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC).

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Students in the Athletic Training Program have the opportunity to participate in the Saint Louis University Athletic Training Society. The SLATS members educate, organize, represent and serve as students in the Program. SLATS activities include:

- Missouri Valley Conference basketball tournament
- St. Louis Science Center Healthfest
- Busch Stadium visits
- NATA Convention
- Freshman Mentoring Program

Students also may become members of Iota Tau Alpha, the athletic training honor society. The honor society provides valuable opportunities for service to the University and the community at large. Activities include:

- Tutoring and study sessions for AT students
- Guest speaker sponsorship
- Research projects
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Certified athletic trainers are employed in many settings, including:
- High schools, colleges and universities
- Professional sports
- Sports medicine clinics
- Military
- Performing arts

In addition to providing patient care, athletic trainers also work as:
- Clinical researchers
- Administrators
- Faculty members at colleges or universities
- Clinical instructors

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS
Employment of athletic trainers is projected to increase 37 percent between 2008 and 2018, with the most growth expected in healthcare industries.

Most athletic trainers work in positions related to sports, but an increasing number are also working in non-sports settings.
- 39 percent work in public and private educational services (colleges, universities and high schools).
- 38 percent work in healthcare environments, including hospitals and physicians offices.
- 13 percent work in fitness and recreational sports.
- Five percent are employees in spectator sports (bls.gov).
- Other settings include military services, industrial, public safety and performing arts (nata.org).

EARNINGS POTENTIAL
The median annual salary for athletic trainers was $42,190 in 2012 (bls.gov).

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
Students in the Athletic Training Program have the opportunity to join the National Athletic Trainers Association. The NATA is the professional membership association for certified athletic trainers and others who support the athletic training profession. Founded in 1950, the NATA has more than 35,000 members worldwide today.

ACCREDITATION
The Athletic Training Program is accredited as a graduate professional Master’s program through the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE).

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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