



TRANSITION TO THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING (MSAT)

The Mercyhurst University Athletic Training Program has earned a strong reputation of providing a robust, thorough, and authentic education. Mercyhurst places an emphasis on preparing students for the progression of the profession through strong clinical skill and professional engagement. Athletic Training Education is continuing to evolve and advance: Per the National Athletic Training Strategic Alliance and updated Commission on Accreditation for Athletic Training Education (CAATE) Standards, the former undergraduate ("Bachelor of Science") degree in athletic training requires transition to a graduate-level degree in Athletic Training by Fall 2022.

Any student interested in becoming a certified athletic trainer will need to obtain a graduate-level degree in athletic training. Mercyhurst University will be making this transition. We will be admitting our final undergraduate cohort (BSAT) in the Fall of 2019.

As we strive to continue the trend of educating highly-qualified athletic trainers, we will be offering a Master of Science degree in Athletic Training (MSAT), scheduled to begin in Fall 2021 (pending transitional approval from CAATE).

What does this mean?

- If you enroll as a 1st year declared-AT student in Fall 2019, you will be on the final BSAT track (eligible to apply to MSAT upon graduation)
- If enrolling after Fall 2019, you should select an undergraduate program (suggested: Sports Medicine, Biology, Chemistry, Public Health, etc.) that would allow you to obtain MSAT prerequisites
- Mercyhurst also anticipates offering an accelerated track through Sports Medicine for those intending to apply to the MSAT
 - A 3+2 (3 years of undergraduate, 2 years of graduate) that will yield a MSAT degree
 - Preference into the MSAT program during application process for those meeting program admission requirements

The Mercyhurst AT Program dates back to 1985 and has been accredited by the CAATE since 1993, making it one of the oldest programs in the country and an established leader in athletic training education. We take great care in developing not only successful clinicians, but also conscientious, socially aware, and empathetic human beings prepared to make a difference in both the athletic training profession and the world at large.

Unique features of our Program to consider:

- 97% BOC pass rate for the past 8 years
- Focus on Manual Medicine, Movement Science, and Corrective Exercise principles/techniques
- Ability to acquire additional credentialing as a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist through an NCSA certified Exercise Science Program
- Dozens of clinical sites in various settings (e.g. secondary school athletics, collegiate athletics, professional athletics, emergency, general medical, rehabilitation)
- Yearly service-learning opportunities available

If you have any questions about this transition, please do not hesitate to contact one of us. We want to make sure you are able to make an informed decision about the place you will call home!

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