

ATHLETIC TRAINING

COMMON CAREER PATH

The Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) is a highly educated and skilled profession specializing in allied health care. In cooperation with physicians and other allied health personnel, the ATC functions as an integral member of the health care team in secondary schools, colleges and universities, sports medicine clinics, professional sports programs, industry and other health care settings. If students are accepted into the Athletic Training program, they will work towards completing the NATA Certification. Another track within the HHP area is the pre-professional option which is accepted by many graduate schools as appropriate preparation for graduate study in healthcare professions.

According the Occupational Outlook Handbook (www.bls.gov/oco), the American Medical Association recognizes athletic trainers as allied health professionals. They work under the direction of physicians and provide immediate and ongoing care for injuries. Also, they provide education and advice on the prevention of injuries and work closely with injured patients to rehabilitate and recondition injuries, often through therapy. There also are opportunities for athletic trainers to join the military, although they would not be classified as an athletic trainer.

FRESHMAN YEAR

- Access your HIRE System account and update your profile
- Identify and join student organizations
- Explore OSU and the Stillwater community through part-time work, volunteering and participating in events
- Research the field of Athletic Training: find out the growth rate, expected salary range, possible locations and more
- Develop a career plan
- Become familiar with and explore the resources and services available to you for self-discovery
- Visit the Career Services office in 102 Willard Hall

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- HHP 2451- Practicum I
- HHP 2461- Practicum II
- Research and study for certifications
- Search the HIRE System for internships
- Meet with a Career Consultant to develop and/or update resume
- Identify faculty, advisors, peers, administrators and staff that you can add to your professional network
- Continue to develop and enhance skills by seeking leadership positions in organizations, the classroom, work or other activities you are involved in
- Make revisions to your career plan as necessary
- Make contact with employers by attending information sessions, club speakers and alumni events.
- Visit organizations of interest to you
- Continue to assess your interests, values, skills and abilities

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JUNIOR YEAR

- HHP 3451- Practicum III
- HHP 3461- Practicum IV
- Have your resume critiqued by a career consultant
- Research specific employers you are interested in working for
- Attend professional meets and conferences
- Continue to build your network of faculty and professional contacts
- Participate in a mock interview
- Attend a career fair
- Begin graduate/professional/medical school applications

SENIOR YEAR

- HHP 4461- Practicum V
- HHP 4461- Practicum VI
- Developed targeted resume and cover letter
- Update your HIRE System account
- Fine tune career plan and decide how you will transition from school
- Attend a career fair or networking event related to your career goal
- Purchase an interview suit (if you haven't already!)
- Apply to positions of interest
- Upon graduation, report your HIRE status at www.hireosugrads.com

ALSO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING

- Attend a national conference related to Athletic Training
- Job shadow for pre-professional option
- Join Athletic Training Student Association