



# UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

## Master of Athletic Training (M.AT.) Program Assessment Plan

### Master of Athletic Training (M.AT.) Program Mission

We are a student-centered program that prepares athletic trainers to provide evidence-informed, patient-centered, and collaborative healthcare to enhance patient/client well-being while elevating the profession through service and advocacy.

**M.AT. Motto:** Improving athletic healthcare with a commitment to quality and innovation

### M.AT. Core Values:

The University of Arkansas MAT Program believes that ATs are healthcare professionals that:

- Are important members of the healthcare system who practice collaboratively with other healthcare professionals and to the fullest scope of practice
- Use innovative and evidence-informed practices that enhance patient/client health-related quality of life
- Are patient-centered practitioners who are respectful of diversity and who practice with integrity.
- Are service oriented and endeavor to make the profession and healthcare system better through actions and advocacy
- Are self-regulated clinicians that strive for continued growth and use quality improvement practices to improve care quality.

### M.AT. Program Goals

**To enact our beliefs, the University of Arkansas MAT Program**

1. Prepares students for entry into the profession that can use evidence and employ clinical reasoning skills to solve complex clinical problems and maximize patient outcomes.
2. Provides an inclusive environment for all students and preceptors that strives to help each student develop as clinicians that embody the Core Competencies into their practice.
3. Fosters student professional identity formation and development of their own philosophy of care
4. Develops leaders in athletic training who can employ practices that assist professional well-being and longevity.
5. Uses a diversity of educational strategies to teach students to embrace a growth mindset, act as a professional with integrity, and embody a service orientation.

### Program Assessment Plan

The program created a new course sequence and assessment plan after a year of strategic planning (2021-2022) and continued engagement with various stakeholders. The University of Arkansas' Master of Athletic Training Program assessment plan includes course-level and program-level assessment of student learning as well as assessment of overall program effectiveness. There are 8 major outcomes related to the professional program: 5 student learning outcomes and 3 program effectiveness outcomes. Each outcome includes objectives and specific indicators with associated benchmarks. The indicators include both direct and indirect assessments.

The assessment plan consists of a cyclical process in which outcomes data is collected, analyzed, and used to drive continuous program improvement. All data is gathered and reviewed annually by the Program Director and Clinical Education Coordinator. These data are then presented annually to the



athletic training faculty to initiate discussions and used to make subsequent course-level and program-level changes, if needed. Any changes will result in an action plan, which provides specific ways in which course-level and program level changes will occur and ways in which program leadership and/or faculty members will track the success of those modifications. Once program changes have occurred, subsequent analysis will allow the faculty to note improvements. The program will maintain a log of these data-driven program modifications.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** *The following are measures of student learning and student readiness for independent practice*

**Upon graduation, students will:**

1. Employ clinical reasoning skills to solve complex clinical problems to maximize patient outcomes.
2. Work collaboratively with other healthcare professionals to enhance care.
3. Practice effective patient-centered care with diverse patient/clients.
4. Use principles of evidence-informed practice, quality improvement, and informatics to improve care quality.
5. Embrace a growth mindset, act as a professional with integrity, and embody a service orientation.

**M.AT. Program Outcomes:** *The following are measures of program effectiveness, quality of instruction and quality of clinical education*

1. Deliver an athletic training program that includes an inclusive learning environment and culture.
2. Use effective teaching and learning principles to deliver an innovative program.
3. Provide a high-quality clinical education plan.

**Process for Assessing each Student Learning Outcome**

**Timeline for Assessment & Analysis**

Yearly

**Means of Assessment & Desired Level of Student Achievement**

**Direct Assessment**

1. **Board of Certification Exam** (direct):
  - a. At least 75% of the athletic training students will pass the BOC, Inc. examination on the first attempt
  - b. The program will have a 95% overall pass rate on the BOC, Inc.
2. **Practical Examinations** (direct): 100% of students will not need to remediate more than 3 practical examinations due to a score < than 80% on a standardized rubric while in the academic program.
3. **Standardized Patient Encounters** (direct): 100% of students in the program will complete at least five standardized patient encounters with associated reflection and patient encounter data in Typhon
4. **Critical Appraisal Paper** (direct): All students will earn an 80% or higher using a standardized rubric on a critically appraised topic (CAT) paper written in ATTR 51801.



5. **Quality Improvement Project** (direct): All students will earn a score of 80% or higher on a rubric used to assess a quality improvement project in ATTR 54703.

#### Indirect Assessment

1. **Cumulative Grade Point Average** (indirect): All athletic training students will achieve a grade of B or higher in all required courses in the athletic training curriculum.
2. **Course Grade** (indirect): All athletic training students will maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
3. **Patient Encounter Data** (indirect): All students will have documented and managed at least 240 patient encounters/procedures in Typhon by graduation.
4. **Written Examinations** (indirect): 100% of students will not need to remediate more than 3 written examinations due to a score < than 70% while in the academic program.
5. **Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Opportunities** (indirect): All students will complete at least four interprofessional practice activities/rotations with a variety of professionals including EMS personnel and physicians.
6. **Research Hours** (indirect): All students will earn at least 40 self-reported research hours before completing the program.
7. **Professional Conference Attendance** (indirect): All students will attend at least 2 professional conferences before graduation.
8. **Graduate Employment/ placement rates** (indirect): 80% of students will be employed as an athletic trainer (or be engaged in graduate education) within 6 months of graduation.
9. **Program Graduation Rate** (indirect): 90% of students will graduate from the Master of Athletic Training program within the allotted 150% of normal time for completing the degree plan.
10. **Alumni Survey** (indirect): 90% of alumni will positively endorse (agree or strongly agree) questions related to quality of education and preparedness for practice
11. **Employer Survey** (indirect): 90% of employers will indicate that M.AT. Program alumni have met or exceeded standards in questions related to the quality of the alumni knowledge, skills, abilities.



## Annual Academic Assessment Report 2024-2025

Results of analysis of assessment of Student Learning Outcomes following timeline stated above

### Direct Assessment

1. Board of Certification Exam
  - 17/18 (94%) of M.AT. program students passed the BOC exam on their first attempt.
  - 18 of 18 (100%) of M.AT. program students passed the BOC exam by May 2025.
2. 100% of students required fewer than 3 practical examination remediations and otherwise earned a score of 80% or higher on all practical examination throughout the academic program.
3. 100% of students completed five standardized patient encounters, associated self-evaluation, reflections, and patient encounter data.
4. All students earned an 80% or higher on a critical appraisal as assessed with a standardized rubric in ATTR 51801
5. All students earned a score of 80% or higher on a capstone Quality Improvement project as graded by a standardized rubric in ATTR 54703.

### Indirect Assessment

1. All graduating students in the M.AT. Program have earned a grade of “B” or higher in all required courses in the athletic training curriculum.
2. All graduating students in the M.AT. Program have earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
3. All graduating students documented and managed at least 240 patient encounters/procedures in Typhon by graduation.
4. 100% of students required fewer than 3 written examination remediations and otherwise earned a score of 70% or higher on all written examinations throughout the academic program.
5. 100% of students completed four or more interprofessional practice activities/rotations with a variety of professionals including EMS personnel and physicians
6. 100% of students earned at least 40 self-reported research hours before completing the program.
7. 100% of graduating students attended at least 2 professional conferences while in the academic program.
8. 100% of students that graduated in May 2024 were employed as an athletic trainer within 6 months of graduation
9. 100% of the graduating cohort in May 2025 completed the program within the allotted 150% of normal time for completing the degree plan.
10. 100% of alumni completing a survey one -year post graduation positively endorsed questions related to quality of education and preparedness for practice.
11. 100% of employers indicated that M.AT. Program alumni have met or exceeded standards in questions related to the quality of the alumni knowledge, skills, abilities.

Any changes to degree/certificate planned or made on the basis of the assessment and analysis

The program was successful completing an annual accreditation report that was accepted by the CAATE. The next re-accreditation will occur in 2026-2027.

Any changes to the assessment process made or planned

This new assessment plan that was used for the degree changes approved and started with the



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Summer of 2023 cohort. The changes to the degree plan and assessment plan were made to update the program in compliance with the new accreditation standards for athletic training and after a year-long strategic planning process that involved students, faculty, preceptors and alumni feedback.