



**Marshall University
College of Health Professions
School of Kinesiology**

Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program 2025-26 Application/Admission Requirements

Initial application to the Marshall University PMAT program is completed through a centralized application system known as ATCAS. Applicants will apply online using the ATCAS system. To learn more about the ATCAS application process, [click here](#). Application to the PMAT is a rolling admission; however, to receive priority consideration, application materials must be received by **February 15** for the summer session, which is when the program begins. Students may continue to apply through **May 15th, 2026**.

Initial application requirements for ATCAS:

1. Letter of Interest which is 1-2 pages in length addressing the following elements: why you chose to complete this program; what leadership abilities you have to offer that would enhance the PMSAT program at Marshall; what observations/experiences you have obtained that would make you an asset to the PMSATP; why you should be accepted for admission to the PMSATP; also, please provide a statement of your educational and professional goals as a result of being admitted to and completing this program.
2. Two (2) letters of recommendation/evaluation forms (one **must** be completed by a Certified Athletic Trainer and the second can be a professional reference. Both will be submitted to ATCAS)
3. Must have official bachelor's degree transcripts sent directly to ATCAS. Students who have not received a bachelor's degree at the time of application must submit official preliminary college transcripts to ATCAS.
4. Professional Resume.
5. Upload your Directed Observation Experiences to ATCAS. (Observation hours don't have to be completely finished to apply, but will need to be completed prior to program start).
6. Read and sign the ***“Technical Standards for Admission”*** and upload to ATCAS.

Once the student has completed steps 1-6, those applicants satisfying the minimum standards will receive official notice from the Athletic Training Program Director and be invited for an interview. The program will extend the applicant an on campus interview (online interviews can be conducted for out of state applicants). The formal interview process will allow candidates the opportunity to clarify any requirements, ask questions, and demonstrate your knowledge of and dedication to the academic program and the athletic training profession. The applicant will be notified of their acceptance status within 2 weeks of their interview. If the student accepts the program invitation, the applicant will be required to complete and submit the items on page 2 prior to the program start.

****Additional items required once a student is granted acceptance into the PMSAT.****

7. If applying as a 3+2 student at Marshall you may **skip** step 7. If applying with a completed Bachelor's Degree, Apply to the Marshall University Graduate College.
<https://www.marshall.edu/admissions/apply/>
8. Physical examination (signed by your family physician or University physician on the appropriate form included in this packet) noting you have passed a physical exam and can meet the technical standards for this program. This exam must be completed within the last 12 months of your application to the PMSATP.
9. A copy of your immunization records including a negative TB (PPD) Test within the past twelve months. The TB test can be obtained at most local health departments.
10. Students must read and sign the *"Hepatitis B Immunization Informed Consent/Refusal form"* in the appropriate location.
11. Evidence of current American Heart Association or American Red Cross certification in First aid and CPR; must be either Healthcare Provider or Professional Rescuer certifications.
12. Drug Testing and Background Check (*NOTE: information on completing both these requirements and the associated costs will be sent to candidates if they have been accepted*).
13. Read and sign the final page of the **"Athletic Training Major Requirements Checklist"** that is included in the application packet.
14. Students admitted to the PMSAT must complete Bloodborne Pathogen Training prior to beginning their first clinical rotation. (*NOTE: information on completing this requirement will be sent directly to the candidates if accepted*).
15. Students admitted to the PMSATP must complete Title IX Sexual Harassment Training prior to beginning their first clinical rotation. (*NOTE: information on completing this requirement will be sent directly to the candidates if accepted*).
16. Students admitted to the PMSATP must provide evidence of student membership in the National Athletic Trainers' Association and maintain this membership as they matriculate through the ATP; for details, go to <http://www.nata.org/membership>
17. Pay \$275 deposit for athletic training uniform and supplies.

February 15th is the priority admission deadline for full consideration; however, the program does have a rolling admissions process for applications submitted after this date. Applicants who apply early may be interviewed prior to the February 15th deadline. The 2024-25 cohort met program capacity, so students are encouraged to apply early!

Questions: Dr. Zach Garrett, ATC
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If any portion of the application is dishonest or deceptive in any way the candidate will not be considered for admission.

*Entry into the Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program involves formal application by candidates and **competitive** selection by an admissions committee. Thus, **admission of qualified applicants is not guaranteed and is competitive**. Applicants must achieve a minimum acceptance score of 70 points on the Marshall University PMSATP Applicant Admission Assessment form in order to be considered for acceptance.*

If there are more applicants who meet the 70-point threshold than there are available slots for the PMSATP, then applicants will be ranked based on their score on the Applicant Admission Assessment Form. Available slots within the PMSATP would then be filled according to this prioritized listing of candidates, starting from the top score and working downward. Should applicants have the same score on the Applicant Admission Assessment Form, then a tie breaker will be used to further determine this rank order. The tie breaker would be based upon documented evidence provided in their application file regarding the quantity and quality of their directed observation clinical experience. Additionally, a student not initially accepted may be waitlisted if the individual meets all the program's criteria. Waitlisted individuals can be notified of acceptance up until May 31st.

PMSATP applicants not being accepted may reapply for admission during the next available application period. Because of the competitive nature of this admission process, it is recommended that students seeking admission to the Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program develop an alternative academic plan in the event they are not admitted.

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
PROFESSIONAL MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM
TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION

The Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program (PMSATP) at Marshall University is a rigorous and intense program that places specific requirements and demands on the students enrolled in the program. An objective of this program is to prepare graduates to enter a variety of employment settings and to render care to a wide spectrum of patients. The technical standards establish the essential qualities considered necessary for students admitted to this program to achieve the knowledge, skills, and competencies of an professional-level athletic trainer, as well as meet the expectations of the accrediting agency of athletic training education, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), in addition to state regulations. The following must be attainable by all students admitted to the PMSATP.

Compliance with the program's technical standards does not guarantee a student will successfully complete the program and meet degree requirements nor achieve a passing score on the BOC (Board of Certification) examination nor to become licensed as an athletic trainer in any states the student seeks licensure or certification.

The following technical standards must be demonstrated for a student to participate in the educational program:

- Ability to assimilate, analyze, and synthesize information; integrate concepts and problem solve; and formulate appropriate therapeutic judgments while distinguishing deviations from the norm.
- Read patient (athlete) charts, instructions related to the use of all equipment and supplies, and instrument panels and print outs generated by various pieces of equipment (i.e., isokinetic therapy equipment).
- Detect the presence of various bodily fluids, ascertain the presence of biological abnormalities according to visual cues (i.e., erythema {redness}), and differentiate various topical applications.
- Read, write, and communicate in the English language to facilitate effective communication including assessments and providing treatment information to patients (athletes), physicians, clinical staff, peers, and others charged with patient care functions. Candidates must also demonstrate the ability to communicate with individuals of diverse cultural and social origins and establish levels of rapport consistent with competent professional practice.
- Be able to verbally communicate effectively and appropriately and discern instrument alert signals and timing devices.
- Demonstrate competency in areas including, but not limited to: emergency management (i.e. rescue breathing, CPR, and airway management) and first aid techniques (i.e. wound care, splinting, patient transportation); applying supportive devices (i.e. taping, bracing, wrapping, equipment fitting); assessing joint/extremity motion, strength, and stability; application of therapeutic modalities (i.e. ultrasound and muscle stimulation equipment); and passive/active-assisted mobility/strength restoration techniques while utilizing accepted guidelines. Candidates must use equipment and supplies accurately and safely during such circumstances.
- Traverse about on-campus and to assigned affiliated site clinical settings and render assistance to patients (athletes) acutely disabled on an athletic field or court.
- Problem solve, maintain composure, and react expediently yet effectively in emergency and other stressful circumstances. Must be able to recognize situations and then take appropriate steps. The student must be able to function effectively.
- Demonstrate the perseverance, diligence, and commitment to complete the PMSATP as outlined and sequenced. This will include experiences beyond the confines of the Marshall University campus for which the student must provide their own transportation.

Candidates for selection to the PMSATP at Marshall University will be required to verify that they understand and meet these technical standards or that they believe, with certain reasonable accommodations, they can meet the standards.

The Marshall University Office of Disability Services will obtain and store the student's documentation that qualifies the student for accommodations under applicable laws. Student's seeking accommodations will be required to submit Accommodation Requests each semester in accordance with the Office of Disability Services policy and procedures.

If a student states he/she can meet the technical standards with accommodation, then the Department of Athletic Training will determine whether it agrees that the student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation; this includes a review of whether the accommodations requested are reasonable, taking into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, or the educational process of the student or the institution, including all coursework, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards for selection listed above, and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I meet each of these standards without accommodation. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards I will not be admitted into the program. Moreover, if at any time I am enrolled in the PMSATP, I become unable to meet the Technical Standards, I understand it is my responsibility to report this to the AT Program Director, so that my status can be reviewed and potential accommodations can be developed.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Witness

Date

Alternative statement for students requesting accommodations.

I certify that I have read and understand the technical standards of selection listed above and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I can meet each of these standards with certain accommodations. I will contact the Marshall University Office of Disability Services (see below) to determine what accommodations may be available. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards with or without accommodations, I will not be admitted into the program. Moreover, if at any time I am enrolled in the PMSATP, I become unable to meet the Technical Standards, I understand it is my responsibility to report this to the AT Program Director, so that my status can be reviewed and potential accommodations can be developed.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Witness

Date

The Office of Disability Services Coordinator at Marshall University is Ms. Stephanie Ballou. You may contact Ms. Ballou at (304) 696-2271 or in her office at Prichard Hall, Room 117.

Marshall University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and educational institution and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, national origin or Vietnam era or other veteran status, in the admission to, or participation in, any educational program or activity which it conducts, or in any employment policy or practice. Any complaint arising by reason of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Office of Disability Services, Marshall University, Prichard Hall, Room 117, Huntington, WV 25755, (304) 696-2271, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Philadelphia, PA.

Revised 6/2018

PROFESSIONAL MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

(Please make photocopy of this document for your records)

Students must read, sign and date as part of the application process during their first semester as a prospective Athletic Training major and again upon acceptance into the Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program (PMSATP).

I. PROGRAM CONSIDERATION:

To be considered for acceptance into the PMSATP, all students shall:

- ___ A. Meet/Contact the PMSAT Program Director or Clinical Education Coordinator during the semester prior to which application will be submitted, to indicate interest and qualifications, learn about requirements and criteria for formal acceptance into the PMSATP, and provide information to start a prospective student file (NOTE: see Director of PMSATP if you are a transfer student).

II. STUDENT APPLICATION, SCREENING AND APPROVAL:

To be screened and considered for approval into the PMSATP, all students shall make a formal application when the following criteria have been met:

- ___ A. Students must have completed a minimum of 90 college credits with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0.
- ___ B. Satisfactory completion of the following prerequisite courses (or equivalents) prior to acceptance: BSC 227 (Human Anatomy); BSC 228 (Human Physiology); DTS 210 (Nutrition); ESS 345 (Exercise Physiology); HS 200 (Medical Terminology); HS 215 (Intro to Athletic Training); HS 220 (Personal Health/Wellness); HS 222 (First Aid & CPR; or provide evidence of appropriate certifications); HS 365 (Kinesiology/Biomechanics); PSY 101 (General Psychology); Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Sociology, and Statistics.
- ___ C. Meet minimal acceptable level for Athletic Training competencies (cognitive, psychomotor, and affective) from prerequisite courses identified above.
- ___ D. Will be interviewed by the PMSATP Interview Committee to determine oral communication skills, critical thinking skills, professional attitude and attributes, and overall suitability as an Athletic Training student.
- ___ E. Submits a formal typed (1-2 page minimum) letter of application indicating why he/she wants to become a Certified Athletic Trainer and explain what important contributions one will make to the Athletic Training profession in general, and specifically to the MU PMSATP.
- ___ F. Complete all application forms, be screened and formally recommended (or denied) for formal approval by the PMSATP Selection Committee.
- ___ G. Understand that final selections are determined on a space available basis, and individuals most suitable and qualified are accepted. A rubric will be used to objectively make this decision.

III. STUDENT COMPLIANCE/EVALUATION:

To successfully matriculate through the PMSATP in order to graduate with the Master of Science degree in Athletic Training, and meet the Board of Certification (BOC) examination requirements all students shall:

- ___ A. Maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA (NOTE: students may earn a letter grade of “C” in no more than 2 classes).
- ___ B. Maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA in all clinical courses.
- ___ C. Meet all professional/behavioral requirements and expectations (NATA code of ethics, University code of conduct, AT standards of practice, etc.).
- ___ D. Meet all clinical related requirements (i.e., competencies, clinical hours, required rotations, policies and procedures, etc.).
- ___ E. Meet all additional requirements (maintaining first aid/CPR certifications, maintaining NATA student membership, meeting service points requirement, etc.).
- ___ F. Understand that failure to meet the above requirements will lead to probation and/or dismissal from the PMSATP if the offense persists. Students can appeal probation/suspension status. (NOTE: refer to “Grievance Procedure” in current copy of *Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program Policies and Procedures Manual*.).
- ___ G. Follow all policies, procedures, guidelines, etc. as stated in the current copy of the *Marshall University Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program Policies and Procedures Manual*.

IV. CLINICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

To successfully matriculate through the PMSATP in order to graduate with the Master of Science degree in Athletic Training and to meet the BOC examination requirements all students shall:

- ___ A. Satisfactorily complete all Athletic Training Competencies associated with the following content areas: Evidence-Based Practice, Prevention and Health Promotion, Clinical Examination and Diagnosis, Acute Care of Injury and Illness, Therapeutic Interventions, Psychosocial Strategies and Referral, Health Care Administration, and Professional Development and Responsibility).
- ___ B. Accurately record and total all clinical hours and related clinical education experiences.
- ___ C. Satisfactorily complete all required clinical rotations.
- ___ D. Satisfactorily complete athletic team/patient, and Athletic Training Clinic/Sports Medicine Clinic responsibilities as assigned or required.
- ___ E. Meet all course/curriculum and service points requirements for graduation.
- ___ F. Become a student member of the National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) once accepted into the PMSATP and maintain membership while matriculating through the PMSATP.

- ___ G. Understand that the student bears responsibility for travel and travel-related expenses for off-campus required clinical experiences.

V. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

To graduate with the Master of Science degree in Athletic Training and meet the BOC examination requirements all students shall:

- ___ A. Complete each Athletic Training course with a letter grade of "B" or higher.
- ___ B. Complete each Athletic Training clinical practicum course with a grade of "B" or higher.
- ___ C. Complete each level of Athletic Training course with a "B" or higher prior to enrolling in a higher level course (NOTE: the exception to this requirement is for practicum courses, in which students must earn a grade of "B" or higher.)
- ___ D. Achieve a minimum GPA of 3.0 on all work completed at MU.
- ___ E. Complete all the required courses for the PMSATP.
- ___ F. Complete all required components of the clinical education program, including competencies and clinical hours.
- ___ F. Complete the required number of service points (NOTE: see current copy of the *Marshall University PMSATP Policies and Procedures Manual* for details.).
- ___ G. Successfully pass all competency exams administered by the PMSATP.

VI. STUDENT INFORMATION:

Providing my name and signature below indicates my understanding of, and acceptance to meet all requirements of the Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program at Marshall University as described above.

NAME _____

DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
PROFESSIONAL MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM
DRESS, PROGRAM COSTS, AND CONDUCT CODE

A professional appearance contributes enormously to the success in Athletic Training experiences. Moreover, one's general appearance should not be a distraction to the athletic training environment. **This dress code applies to all Athletic Training classes, labs, clinical classes, and all clinical sites** (NOTE: clinical experiences may include travel with teams, which may require a more stringent dress code). Additional standards may be imposed by your specific clinical site.

- All students enrolled in the PMSATP must wear the prescribed uniform (unless otherwise designated) while performing clinical rotations in any of the MU Athletic Training facilities or assigned to other clinical experiences on or off-campus (NOTE: for details and information please refer to the current copy of the PMSATP Policies and Procedures Manual).
- Students should expect to spend approximately \$1,000.00 while matriculating through the PMSATP to purchase prescribed clothing items, necessary personal equipment, ATrack access fee, drug testing and background check costs, NATA student membership fee, and registration fee to take the BOC-certification examination. Additional costs would be incurred to pay for transportation to assigned clinical sites and to purchase prescribed pants or shorts.
- Tattoos or other body modifications must be covered unless permissible by clinical site.
- Jewelry may not be worn in any visible piercing other than in the earlobes.
- Rings, bracelets, watches, and other jewelry should be minimal and not interfere with OSHA procedures. (i.e. wearing properly fitted disposable gloves)
- Skin must be covered at the midriff when working. (i.e. reaching arms overhead, back boarding, etc.)
- No cleavage, midriff, bra (including bra strap or bra colors seen through shirt), or underwear may show.
- No tight or excessively loose clothing.
- Necklines and hemlines must be modest.
- Meticulous personal hygiene must be maintained.
- All clothing must be free of numbers, writing or screen printed designs. (excluding Athletic Training attire)
- Shirts with buttons must be worn buttoned, except for top button and tucked unless they are designed to be worn un-tucked.
- Strapless shirts are prohibited.
- Shorts should be of modest length (e.g. should not be excessively tight and no "Daisy Dukes" or short shorts – shorts should be within the length of the MU ID Card from the patella)
- No open toed shoes or flip flops are permitted
- Hats or headwear are only worn for outdoor clinical settings as approved by the clinical supervisor.
- Athletic Training Program ID's worn as appropriate.
- No foul, demeaning, or derogatory language or gestures are to be used.
- No tobacco (smokeless or other) is to be used or in one's possession.
- No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs are to be consumed (which includes on one's breath) or in one's possession.
- Cell phones and other personal electronic devices are not permitted to be used during clinical rotations and/or during classes, labs, or other organized meetings.
- Discrimination of any type will not be tolerated.

I have read and will comply with the Athletic Training Technical Standards for Admission, the PMSATP Policy on Professional Behavior, and the dress code policy as they are described in this packet.

Signature

Date

Directed Observation Clinical Experience

- **CLINICAL**

- Approximately 45 hours
- The student should try to obtain a diversity of clinical experiences in order to obtain an understanding of the various roles and responsibilities of the certified athletic trainer
 - Collision Sports (includes **only** Football, Ice Hockey, and Lacrosse)
 - College level
 - High School level
 - Contact-Sports (i.e., soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, wrestling, etc.) and Non-contact sports (i.e., track and field, swimming, etc.)
 - College level
 - High School level
 - Treatment/Rehab sessions prior to, after, or when practices or games are not being conducted

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MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Name _____ Student ID # _____ Date of Birth _____
 (Last) (First) (MI)

Home Address _____
 (Street) (City) (County) (State) (Zip)

History: Please indicate if you have a history of any of the following. (Attach additional sheets if necessary)

Allergy _____	Muscular Disorders _____
Diabetes _____	Nervous Disorders _____
Epilepsy _____	Psychiatric Disorders _____
Heart Disease _____	Ear Disease or Defective Hearing _____
Kidney Disease _____	Eye Disease or Defective Vision _____
Lung Disease _____	Bone or Joint Injury or Disease _____
Menstrual Disorder _____	Other _____

Elaborate on any yes answers above: _____

Height _____ Weight _____ B.P. _____ Pulse _____ Vision R20/ _____ L20/ _____

Corrected? YES / NO ☐ Glasses ☐ Contacts Color Blind? YES / NO

Urine Analysis: Protein _____ Sugar _____

Physical:	1. General Appearance _____	6. Abdomen _____
	2. Eyes, Nose, Throat _____	7. Hernia _____
	3. Heart _____	8. Neurological _____
	4. Lungs _____	9. Spine _____
	5. Skin _____	10. Musculoskeletal _____

Immunizations: Date of last Tetanus injection _____ Hepatitis B _____

PPD Positive _____ Negative _____ Date _____

Check One

☐ At the time of examination, this person is free from physical defects that might interfere with the performance of his/her duties, except as noted above, and is physically able to participate in the Athletic Training Program.

☐ This student requires a follow-up evaluation with the following medical specialist prior to participation in the Athletic Training Program.

☐ Cardiologist* ☐ Orthopedist* ☐ Other* _____

 Date of Physical Exam

 Physician's Signature

** Students requiring a follow-up evaluation must provide a copy of the Specialist's recommendation regarding the student's physical ability to participate in the Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program (ATP) to the Marshall University Student Health Center. For more details on the PMSATP please visit <http://www.marshall.edu/athletic-training/>*

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
CAATE-Accredited Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program

HEPATITIS B IMMUNIZATION
Informed Consent/Refusal

I have read the information on this form about the Hepatitis B vaccine and I have had the chance to ask questions, which were answered to my satisfaction. I believe I understand the benefits and risks of Hepatitis B vaccine and choose to accept the immunization against Hepatitis B. To the best of my knowledge, I do not have any active infection, nor am I pregnant or nursing an infant. Vaccination for Hepatitis B is at the expense of the Athletic Training Student. **Please attach your proof of vaccination with this form.**

Signed

Date

Marshall ID Number

HEPATITIS B VACCINE DECLINATION (MANDATORY)

I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials, I may be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with Hepatitis B vaccine at my own expense. However, I decline Hepatitis B vaccination at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B, a serious disease. If in the future, I continue to have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material and want to be vaccinated with the Hepatitis B vaccine, I can receive, at my own expense, the vaccination series.

Signed

Date

Marshall ID Number