University of Delaware
College of Health Sciences
Department of Kinesiology & Applied Physiology
Athletic Training Education Program

Uniform Practicum Grading Policy
(KAAP 257, 357, 358, 457, 458, 459)

(1) Clinical Hours: (10%) Satisfactory completion of the clinical experience hours required by your clinical site. The percentage derived will be based on the following scale:

- 200+ hours = 10%
- 150-200 hours = 5%
- 100-149 hours = 2.5%
- <100 hours = 0%

These are supervised clinical experiences in athletic training. Students are assigned to a clinical setting involving intercollegiate, high school, recreational athletes, and/or clinic patients. Emphasis is on refining critical thinking skills associated with injury assessment, management, and rehabilitation. Hours accrued during the General Medical experience can also be counted. **Students may be required to be in attendance during periods of time when regular university classes are not in session.**

The University of Delaware’s ATEP believes that 200 hours (approx. 13.5/wk over 15 weeks in semester) is the minimum number of clinical hours necessary for a quality clinical experience. However, it is quite possible that students will be in excess of this hour requirement during the course of the semester. This happens quite often in situations where students are required to be at their clinical rotations when regular classes are not in session (i.e. August pre-season for Fall sports or winter session for Spring sports). Therefore, over the entire course of the “clinical school year” (August through May ≈ 43 weeks) students will average no more than 20 clinical hours/week during this time span. The UD ATEP Clinical Coordinator will be responsible for monitoring this upper limit of the policy and planning subsequent clinical assignments as a result. In addition, AT students assigned to clinical sites must have at least 1 day off each week.

Each student is responsible for getting his or her hour log approved preceptor on a weekly basis. Each student submits their hours online using a reporting form that is individually designed for each student and is updated as clinical assignments change. Preceptors are provided access to this form and approve clinical hours. Students are provided view access to their hours so they may monitor their clinical hours. Failure to have the hours approved within this reasonable time frame will result in forfeiture of those hours. At the conclusion of each semester, a summary hour log containing all students is provided to ATEP PD. These hours are then transferred to the Practicum grading sheet for the particular practicum class the students are assigned for that semester. These practicum grading sheets are then shared with each of the instructors assigned to those practicum classes to be used in their final grading process. Keeping in mind that 10% of the semester grade is based on the clinical hours accrued. Students maintain access to previous semester clinical hours via their UD secure log in. Athletic training students may print their clinical hour logs.

(2) Clinical Evaluation: (40%) Students are expected to be responsible and perform at an acceptable level appropriate for an athletic training student at their clinical sites. The on-line Athletic Training Student Evaluation Form will be scored and tabulated and a **TOTAL** score determined with the percentage derived based on the following scale:

- 4.5 to 5.0 = 40%
4.0 to 4.49 = 35%
3.5 to 3.99 = 30%
3.0 to 3.49 = 25%
2.5 to 2.99 = 20%
< 2.5 = 0%

(3) Performance with Clinical Knowledge and Skills: (50%) Students will be expected to complete the NATA Athletic Training Education Competencies associated with each Practicum class in a reasonable time frame. The majority of these Clinical Knowledge and Skills are introduced, practiced, and challenged in the classroom/lab setting. There may be occasions where the students will be required to work with their ACI/CI outside the formal classroom setting to practice or integrate some of this knowledge and these skills. **ALL Clinical Knowledge and Skills associated with the Practicum class must be completed in order for the student to receive a PASS grade.** Student performance on these skills will form the basis for this portion of the Practicum grade.

Each Practicum instructor will be responsible for determining the scoring rubrics and scales used for assessing performance on the proficiencies and skills. The performance assessment will result in 50% of the overall Practicum grade. Details on the assessment format will be included in the specific Practicum class syllabus.

(4) Clinical Evaluation Observation with Team Physician Forms: (0%) Students working clinical rotations at on-campus UD sites in the DFH and BCC training rooms are required to complete these forms in a timely manner per policy (see Clinical Experience Overview). **Although students do not get any points toward their Practicum grade, they can receive an automatic deduction of -25% from their Practicum grade for failing to complete the forms and turn in on or before the end-of-semester deadline.**

**Additional Information Regarding the Practicum Experience:**

**Practicum Notebooks**

Upon reporting to the Practicum I class, students will be provided with a 3-ring binder/notebook for use exclusively in all Practicum classes. Individual instructors will distribute course materials for each Practicum class for inclusion in this notebook. Each handout will be 3-hole punched and on color-coded paper denoting each particular Practicum. **The color codes are as follows: I – light blue, II – yellow, III – light orange, IV – pink, V – light green, and VI – purple.** Students are responsible for organizing and maintaining this notebook in a useable manner. Additionally, the notebook will serve as a “Reflective Journal” where students are required to write/document their clinical experiences in such a manner that incorporates self-assessment and analysis of the clinical learning experience. The notebook will be turned in at the conclusion of each Practicum for review. The notebook will be returned to the student following this review. At the conclusion of the students’ last Practicum class (AT Practicum VI) the notebook will be carefully reviewed by the ATEP Program Director and returned to the student following this debriefing.

**Endorsement of Program Director:**

In order for students to gain endorsement from the ATEP Program Director to sit for the BOC certification examination they will be required to show proof of completion of all **Clinical Integration Proficiencies (CIP) & Performance on the Assessment of Clinical Knowledge & Skills.** In addition, all athletic training students **must** successfully complete (70% pass rate) both the written and practical exams that are administered in the Practicum VI class. Students who fail to demonstrate this level of clinical competence will be required to complete the clinical proficiencies that were performed at unacceptable levels, before endorsement is given.

**Missing Meetings:**
Students are expected to attend all required meetings for the Athletic Training Education Program. On some occasions students may have situations where they will have to miss a meeting. In these instances the ATEP Program Director needs to be notified in advance. Students missing meetings without an excuse will have 5% points deducted from their Practicum grade for each meeting missed.

**Deadlines for Forms**

All students are expected to be prompt in returning required documents and forms (Contracts, Hour Logs, Clinical Experience Summary Forms, AT Student Data Sheets, Program Evaluation Forms, etc…) that are crucial to the function of UD’s ATEP. Deadlines are set for a reason and must be adhered to at all times unless prior arrangements have been made with either the ATEP Program Director or Clinical Coordinator with a valid excuse as to why the deadline cannot be met. Students failing to return required documents by the deadline date will be penalized with a 5% reduction in their Practicum grade for the semester in which the tardiness occurred. Repeat violations within the same semester are subject to additional 5% reductions for each offense.

**“Yellow Card” or “Red Card” Infractions**

Athletic Training Students receiving a “Yellow Card” will incur a 10% deduction in their final grade for the Practicum course during the semester in which the violation occurred. Students receiving a second “Yellow Card” during the same semester or three (3) “Yellow Cards” during their tenure in the UD ATEP will be issued a “Red Card” and receive a failing grade (“F”) for the Practicum course in which they are enrolled.