

**UCONN Athletic Training Education Program/  
Athletic Training Student/Approved Clinical Instructor Agreement**

**Athletic Training Student:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Approved Clinical Instructor:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Faculty Supervisor for Semester:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Clinical Site:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ACI Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ACI FAX #:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ACI E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

In fulfilling Athletic Training course requirements, all students must participate in clinical rotations. The clinical rotations are designed to offer the student an environment in which they can learn the practical skills necessary to become a Certified Athletic Trainer. During this time, there are certain responsibilities that the Athletic Training Student, Approved Clinical Instructor, and Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education have towards each other, the athletes, and the UCONN Athletic Training Education Program. These responsibilities are outlined in the following paragraphs.

**Athletic Training Student Responsibilities:**

1. The Athletic Training Student is obligated to advance his/her knowledge of Athletic Training. He/she must maintain his/her coursework and do the additional, required reading and studying necessary to serve the needs of the site and function at the level required by his/her Approved Clinical Instructor.
2. The Athletic Training Student is responsible for arranging work hours that comply with his/her academic schedule and are consistent with the needs of the Athletic Training Room. The Athletic Training Student is strongly encouraged to be active in pre-season and work during spring break.
3. The Athletic Training Student must understand that they need **52-60 hours** of clinical experience for a four week evaluation period (preferably **13-15 hours per week**) for EKIN 3110, **80-88 hours** of clinical experience for a four week evaluation period (preferably **20-22 hours per week**) for EKIN 3111 & EKIN 3112, and **100-108 hours** for a four week evaluation period (preferably **25-27 hours per week**) for EKIN 3113 & 3114. The Athletic Training Student is expected to participate in his/her clinical rotation beginning on the first day of class and continuing to the last day of each semester. Grade deductions may be imposed for excessive clinical experience hours as well as the failure to meet the minimum requirements. Students assigned to UCONN football may be individually allowed (approved by the Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education) to exceed these hours during the junior or senior year.
4. The Athletic Training Student must understand that with an on-campus assignment they **MUST** attend between 3 to 4 days a week and with an off-campus assignments 3 days a week for EKIN 3110, students with on-campus assignments **MUST** attend between 4 to 5 days per week; off-campus assignments **MUST** attend at least 4 days a week for EKIN 3111 & EKIN 3112, and

students with on-campus assignments MUST attend between 5 to 6 days per week; off-campus assignments MUST attend at least 4 days a week for EKIN 3113 & 3114.

5. The Athletic Training Student is required to attend and be on time for all scheduled hours and educational in-services. If the student is unable to attend the scheduled hours, he/she is responsible for informing and making arrangements with their supervisor in advance. Failure to meet such requirements may result in penalties (see policy).

6. The student will adhere to all current rules, laws, and guidelines of the Athletic Training Education Program and clinical site including, but not limited to, the standards of the institution and the Code of Ethics established by the NATA. Failure to comply will result in the following penalty. No penalty will be assessed until dialog between the Approved Clinical Instructor, Athletic Training Student, and the Director of the Entry-Level Athletic Training Education Program at the University of Connecticut has occurred.

Penalties will be assessed as follows:

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:** A verbal warning to the Athletic Training Student & notation is made in the student's file

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:** A second verbal warning to the Athletic Training Student, a one letter grade lowering of grade for the corresponding class, and another notation is made in file. A week-suspension will usually accompany this penalty.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:** Removal from the clinical site, failure of the corresponding class (and thus the need to repeat the class), and another notation in the Athletic Training Student's file.

In meetings to discuss penalties, the Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education and the Athletic Training Student will meet along with the Site Coordinator for that setting. In addition, the Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education, Approved Clinical Instructor and Site Coordinator will discuss the infractions. The ultimate penalty will be decided by the Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education.

7. The Athletic Training Student will document and submit a record of clinical experience hours and activities every four weeks (3 times per semester). The Athletic Training Student will then forward this form to their Approved Clinical Instructor (by the previous Friday at 5:00pm) so they can approve the information and complete the evaluation portion. These forms are to be submitted every fourth Thursday by noon to the Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education. Additionally, Athletic Training Students must complete a mid-semester evaluation as well as an end of the semester clinical instructor/site evaluation. Grade deductions may be imposed for late submissions of required evaluations.

8. The Athletic Training Student is encouraged to keep an open line of communication with the Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the clinical experience.

9. The athletic training student needs to understand that he/she is required to have one day off per week during the academic semester (not including pre-season), under all circumstances, within every clinical rotation. Special exceptions can only be approved by the Director of Entry-

Level Athletic Training Education. These exceptions must be requested prior to the day in question and must truly show a unique circumstance. Violations of this policy are subject to the penalties noted above. The athletic training student is also encouraged to request from the ACI the day off schedule in the weeks prior so plans can be made to engage in personal pursuits.

### **Approved Clinical Instructor Responsibilities:**

1. The Approved Clinical Instructor is responsible for advancing the knowledge of the Athletic Training Student. The supervisor must provide a learning environment in which the student can expand their aptitude of Athletic Training. This environment should not be threatening or intimidating in any way, but should challenge the student regularly. The supervisor must be aware of the hour requirements of the academic program.
2. The Approved Clinical Instructor will have consistent contact and informal educational sessions with the student athletic trainer. During that contact the Approved Clinical Instructor is expected to discuss conditions, issues, injuries, and or illnesses which may affect the athletic training room and the specific athletes. During this time they will also review the competency packet for that evaluation period.
3. The Approved Clinical Instructor will ensure that there are modes of immediate communication available for the student at all times. These modes of communication include walkie-talkies, phones, and/or cellular phones.
4. The Approved Clinical Instructor will ensure that if he/she is not available on-site then the athletic training student can immediately contact the Approved Clinical Instructor. Additionally, it is imperative that the Approved Clinical Instructor realize that the Athletic Training Student can only serve in the capacity of a first responder when acting in this capacity. The Athletic Training Student is not required to serve in the capacity of first responder, this is an agreement the Athletic Training Student has the right to decline upon entering the Athletic Training Education Program or modify during their tenure in the athletic training education program. Additionally, the Approved Clinical Instructor will be aware of the First Responder Policy and Travel Policy set forth by the Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education.
5. The Approved Clinical Instructor will ensure that the Athletic Training Student has appropriate access to equipment and facilities during his/her clinical experience.
5. The Approved Clinical Instructor will evaluate the student's performance every four weeks on the forms provided.
6. The Approved Clinical instructor will work with the Athletic Training Student's schedule and determine when it would be most valuable to conduct the clinical experience hours each week. The Approved Clinical Instructor must understand that the students must not exceed 52-60 hours of clinical experience for a four week evaluation period (preferably **13-15 hours per week in 3-4 days**) for EKIN 3110, 80-88 hours for a four week evaluation period (preferably **20-22 hours per week in 4-6 days**) for EKIN 3111 & EKIN 3112 and must not exceed 100-108 hours for a four week evaluation period (preferably **25-27 hours per week in 5-6 days**) for EKIN 3113 & 3114.

8. The Approved Clinical Instructor must maintain current “approved clinical instructor” status through the NATA and UCONN Athletic Training Education Program in order to supervise Athletic Training Students during clinical rotations.

9. The Approved Clinical Instructor is required to provide **one day off per week for all students** engaged in clinical rotations during the academic semester (this does not apply to pre-season). Exceptions and penalties are explained in #8 of the student section above. The ACI is encouraged to discuss the specific day off in the week’s prior so the athletic training student can make personal plans.

### **Entry-Level Athletic Training Education Program Director Responsibilities:**

1. The Athletic Training Education Program at the University of Connecticut will contact each site where an Athletic Training Student is placed at least 3 times during the semester long clinical rotation (with at least 2 on-site visits) to discuss progress, concerns, and/or questions. This contact is not meant to interfere with the Approved Clinical Instructor /Athletic Training Student relationship. It will take place solely to maintain a strong connection between the clinical and education components of the curriculum.

2. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Training Education Program at the University of Connecticut to update clinical affiliation sites of any change of policy, schedules, and/or curriculum, which may affect the clinical site’s responsibilities.

3. The Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education at the University of Connecticut will evaluate each clinical site on a yearly basis for the minimum standards set by the National Athletic Trainers’ Association. Sites that do not meet these minimum standards will have one year to correct the deficiencies in order to maintain the site as an approved clinical rotation location.

4. The Athletic Training Education Program at the University of Connecticut will make available a one-day a year training seminar to maintain Approved Clinical Instructor status.

5. The Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education will serve to the best of her ability to be an advocate of the Athletic Training Student in his/her quest to optimize his/her educational experience.

6. The Director of Entry-Level Athletic Training Education will serve to the best of his ability to be an advocate of the Approved Clinical Instructor in his/her quest to optimize the level of service they provide for the athletes/patients they serve and the quality of the environment in which they undertake this mission.

