**CLARKE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC TRAINING EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**TECHNICAL STANDARDS**

The Athletic Training Education Program at Clarke 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 individuals engaged in physical activity. The Technical Standards set forth by the Clarke University Athletic Training Education Program establish the essential qualities considered necessary for students admitted to the Education Program in order to achieve the knowledge, skills, and competencies of an entry-level athletic trainer, as well as meet the expectations of the education program’s accrediting agency (Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education Programs [CAATE]). The following abilities and expectations must be met by all students admitted to the Athletic Training Education Program. In the event a student is unable to fulfill these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodations, the student will not be able to continue the Program.

Compliance with the program’s technical standards does not guarantee a student’s eligibility for the BOC certification exam.

**Candidates for selection to the Athletic Training Education Program must demonstrate:**

1. The mental capacity to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts and problem solve to formulate assessment and therapeutic judgment and to be able to distinguish deviations from the norm.
2. Sufficient postural and neuromuscular control, sensory function, and coordination to perform appropriate physical examinations using accepted techniques; and accurately, safely, and efficiently use equipment and materials during the assessment and treatment of patients.
3. The ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and colleagues, including individuals from different cultural and social backgrounds; this includes, but is not limited to, the ability to establish rapport with patients and communicate judgments and treatment information effectively. Students must be able to understand and speak the English language at a level consistent with competent professional practice.
4. The ability to record the physical examination results and a treatment plan clearly and accurately.
5. The capacity to maintain composure and continue to function while during periods of high stress.
6. The perseverance, diligence, and commitment to complete the Athletic Training Education Program as outlined and sequenced.
7. Flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in clinical situations.
8. Affective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care.

Candidates for selection to the Athletic Training Education Program will be required to verify they understand and meet these Technical Standards or that they believe that, with certain accommodations, they can meet the standards. This will be done by signing the Technical Standards Guidelines each Fall prior to beginning the academic year.

The Clarke University’s Director of Academic Support and Disability Services will evaluate a student who states he/she could meet the educational program’s technical standards with accommodation and confirm that the stated condition qualifies as a disability under applicable laws. The student must meet with the Director of Academic Support and Disability Services each semester regarding all accommodations for academic life at Clarke University. Additionally, the student must notify the Athletic Training Program Director of his or her intent to use accommodations, at least annually, and meet the Technical Standards that apply to the Athletic Training Education Program.

If a student states he/she can meet the technical standards with accommodation, then the appropriate Clarke University personnel/official(s) will determine whether it agrees that the student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation; this includes a review as to whether the accommodations requested are reasonable, taking into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, and/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 of selection listed above and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I can meet each of these standards with certain accommodations or without accommodations. I will contact Melody “Dee” Higgins, Athletic Training Program Director, and the Director of Academic Support and Disability Services to determine what accommodations may be available for my situation. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards with or without accommodations, I will not be able to continue in the Athletic Training Education Program.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Signature of Applicant |  | Date |