

Athletic Training

Life University



The University

Life University (LU) is located in Marietta, GA (Population = 60,000), about 15 miles northwest of Atlanta. It is also located a few hours from Chattanooga, Birmingham, Savannah, and Florida. The university serves about 2,000 students. LU offers several undergraduate and graduate degree programs, as well as a variety of services and activities for students. LU started as a Chiropractic College in the mid-1970's. Marietta is a progressive city with lots of recreational opportunities available and interstate access to several major cities.

The Profession

Athletic Training (AT) is recognized as a healthcare profession that provides comprehensive care to the athletic or physically active population. A Certified Athletic Trainer is involved in the prevention, assessment or evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitation of injuries. In addition, they also have responsibilities in administration, education, and counseling.

As a member of the Sports Medicine team, a Certified Athletic Trainer works under the direction of a licensed physician and in cooperation with other health care workers, athletic coaches, administrators, and parents. Athletic trainers may be employed in high schools, colleges, sports medicine or PT clinics, professional sports programs, corporations, and other healthcare settings.

Preparation & Background

Prospective students should have a strong background in biology, human anatomy and physiology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics, along with good writing and interpersonal communication skills.

Athletic Training experience (**not** as an athlete) under the direct supervision of a Certified Athletic Trainer is also encouraged. This experience is encouraged. This experience is available within some high schools, colleges, or a sports medicine clinic. Any of these experiences will give the prospective student a better understanding of athletic training.



Professional AT Program

Our goal has always been to create a unique program that accommodates any prospective student (i.e., student-athletes, transfer students, and international students), interacts with the other healthcare disciplines (i.e., physical therapy physician assistant, etc.), and helps graduates be more marketable after graduation. Students will earn a Master of Athletic Training (MAT) degree.

Life University is nationally accredited with the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The MAT Program has a 2-Year Curriculum (84 quarter credits – equivalent to 56 semester credits). This program is only for those students who have already completed a bachelor's degree (in any major other than athletic training). It is intended for those who may want to change careers, athletes who didn't have time during their undergraduate years to major in athletic training, and international students who want a career in athletic training.

Our clinical education involves hands-on application of skills within a variety of sports with Life University's athletics and Sport Science Institute, other college athletics, high school athletics, sports medicine or PT clinics, chiropractor's offices, and others.

As part of the MAT students are required to complete a minimum of 1,200 clinical education hours while directly supervised by a Certified Athletic Trainer. Students will need two full academic years to complete these hours and graduate classes.

All application materials and application instructions are available on the Athletic Training website; or by request from Enrollment Services. The deadline for applying is February 1.

BOC Results for this AT Program: Life University MAT program is on probation due to its BOC three-year pass rate.

Why Choose Life?

1. Small private university (< 2000 total students & 10-20 student/class size)
2. Low graduate tuition (\$284/quarter credit hr.)
3. The curriculum is 100% prep for BOC exam in 2 years.
4. Variety of athletic and clinical experiences around the Atlanta area
5. University philosophy is centered on vitalism.
6. Curriculum focuses on application of scientific paradigms related to optimal health, prevention of injuries, improved recovery, and improved human performance.
7. Integrative Care Model including Chiropractic
8. Exceptional learning resources
9. Use of technology
10. Prepares students for immediate job, grad school & other health professions
11. Warm climate and great recreational area.

Admission Requirements

Due to the competitiveness of the athletic training program and guidelines set by the NATA and the CAATE, students must apply for formal admission into the professional AT program. **Interested students must request, complete, and return all Admission materials by February 1 or until a qualified class is filled.**

Because there is a limited enrollment (max. of **20 students per year**), the Selection Committee will formally admit only quality students who meet ALL the following criteria:

1. Bachelor's degree
2. College cumulative GPA (3.00 or higher)
3. Prerequisites with grade of C or higher in:
 - a. Anatomy & Physiology I & II
(or Human Anatomy & Human Physiology)
 - b. Chemistry I
 - c. Physics I
 - d. Kinesiology or Biomechanics (recommended)
 - e. Exercise Physiology (recommended)
 - f. General Psychology (recommended)
 - g. Statistics (recommend)
4. Athletic training observation hours (75)
(purpose is to see if student wants AT career)
 - a. If possible, in an athletics or sport setting
 - b. If possible, directly supervised by a certified athletic trainer
5. Submission of Admission materials
 - a. Online Application (with \$50 fee)
 - b. Letter of Intent & Resume
 - c. 3 Applicant Recommendation forms
 - d. Academic transcripts (all colleges attended)
6. GRE score: 280 cumulative; 3.5 writing or MAT 400
7. International students: see International Office
 - a. TOEFL scores: 500 paper, 61 IBT, or 173 on computer-based test
8. Technical Standards (see AT website)

Athletic Training Personnel

Karen Pfeifer, MS, LAT, ATC
Interim MAT Program Director
MAT Clinical Education Coordinator

Shawn Cradit, EdD, MS, MA, LAT, ATC
MAT Program Faculty

MAT Program Medical Director
Stan Dysart, MD (Orthopedics)

Life University Athletic Training Staff
Chris Markie, MS, LAT, ATC
Cecelia Fierro, MS, LAT, ATC
Sam Malette, MS, LAT, ATC

Life University Team Doctors
Greg Lee, MD (Orthopedics)
Greg Matechak, MD (Primary Care)
Keith Rau, DC

For Further Information

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Athletic Training Program's website:
<http://www.life.edu/ATEP>

University Admissions
Office of Admissions
Life University
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www.life.edu