Essential Skills/Technical Standards

For students to successfully complete Lasell University's Master of Science in Athletic Training, they must have the following qualities: (as permitted by practice act and licensure)

A. Academic ability to earn a "B-" or higher in all courses.

B. Ability to achieve a level of competency in all procedures that will enable the student to practice safely and effectively in a clinical education setting.

   These procedures include, but are not limited to, the following competencies:
   
   1. Demonstrate the ability to guard patients when standing and ambulating on level surfaces, stairs with and without the use of assistance devices including, cane, crutches and walkers.
   2. Demonstrate the ability to safely transport the necessary athletic training supplies and equipment between the Athletic Training Room and the various facilities and settings where Athletic Training Services are provided.
   3. Demonstrate good body mechanics and ergonomics in the process of assessing and treating all patient.
   4. Perform cleaning protocol procedures for sterile technique with all size equipment.
   5. Demonstrate the ability to manipulate physical agent modalities for the treatment of patients.
   6. Demonstrate the ability to apply graded manual resistance to patient's body parts for the purpose of determining the patient’s strength or applying exercise techniques.
   7. Demonstrate the ability to apply graded manual therapy to patient's body parts for therapeutic treatment purposes.
   8. Demonstrate the ability to set up treatment sessions using laboratory or clinic equipment within the time restraints of the treatment requirements to provide safe and effective treatments.
   9. Demonstrate the ability to properly auscultate cardiovascular and pulmonary sounds.
   10. Demonstrate the ability to feel and palpate a pulse, muscle spasm, muscle contractions, and bony landmarks.
   11. Demonstrate ability to record the physical examination results and a treatment plan clearly and accurately.

C. Communicate effectively, safely and efficiently to patients, family, care givers, significant others, and other health care providers, by: Explaining procedures

   1. Receiving information from the patients, family, other health care providers
   2. Receiving information from written documentation
   3. Introducing self
   4. Confirming patient's identity
   5. Documenting clear, concise and accurate notes in a patient's chart.
6. Exhibiting appropriate interpersonal skills, (that are effective and efficient), with patients, family and significant others, that are effective and efficient.

7. Recognizing and responding appropriately to nonverbal behavior of self and others.

D. Administer CPR, and apply universal precautions and other emergency measures.

E. Distinguish color changes of a patient's skin.

F. Detect an unsafe environment and carry out appropriate emergency procedures including:
   1. Detect subtle environmental changes and odors including but not limited to the smell of burning electrical equipment, smoke, spills, pathophysiological odors and potential environmental hazards.
   2. Detect high and low frequency sounds, including but not limited to alarms, bells, emergency signals.

G. Handle the stresses of an intensive training program, both academic and clinical, in preparation for the stresses of clinical situations dealing with acutely sick and dying patients, fast-paced clinical situations, psychosocial responses of patients with disabilities and a heavy academic schedule. Demonstrate the capacity to maintain composure and continue to function well during periods of high stress.

H. Recognize the psychosocial impact of dysfunction and disability of patients and appropriately integrate the needs of the patient into patient care.

I. Manipulate a stretcher, wheelchair and/or portable equipment without injury or damage to self, client, institution or others.

J. Demonstrate management skills including planning and organizing responsibilities of clinical practice.

K. Apply teaching/learning theories and methods in health care and community environments.

L. The mental capacity to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts and problem-solve to formulate assessment and therapeutic judgments and to be able to distinguish deviations from the norm.

M. 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.

N. The perseverance, diligence and commitment to complete the athletic training education program as outlined and sequenced.

O. Adaptable and possesses the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in clinical situations.

P. Emotional maturity accompanied by appropriate demeanor to develop a rapport with patients, staff, faculty, and administrators that relate to professional behaviors, professional education, and quality patient care.
The Lasell University AT Program follows OSHA's guidelines for all health care providers. Students are required to follow Universal Precautions throughout the time they are enrolled in the AT Program. Each Student will be required to complete annual Universal Precaution/Blood Bourse Pathogen Training.

Non-Discrimination Statement

Lasell University and the Athletic Training Program agree that they do not and will not discriminate against any applicant for registration in a course of study because of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability. Lasell University seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. Reasonable prior notice is needed to arrange accommodations.