

**COORDINATING COMMISSION
FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**

140 N. 8th Street, Suite 300
Lincoln, NE 68508

Telephone: (402) 471-2847
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PROPOSAL FOR NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM
Form 92-40

SECTION I

Institution Submitting Proposal: University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Title of Program: Athletic Training

CIP Code: 51.0913

Organizational Unit in which program will be located:

Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences

College of Education and Human Sciences

Name of contact person in the event additional information is needed: David S. Jackson, Ph.D., Vice Provost

Telephone: 402-472-5242

Degree, Diploma, or Certificate to be offered (use separate submittal for each level):

Master of Science in Athletic Training

Proposed date to initiate program: When approved by the Coordinating Commission

List the location(s) where this program will be offered: UNL

If the program has a projected ending date, please so indicate:

Date approved by Governing Board: April 8, 2022

(Attach all documents related to this proposal upon which the Governing Board made its decision to approve the proposal.)

Chief Executive Officer's or other Authorized Officer's signature: _____


Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

TO: The Board of Regents Addendum XI-A-2
Academic Affairs Committee

MEETING DATE: April 8, 2022

SUBJECT: Creation of the Master of Science in Athletic Training in the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences in the College of Education and Human Sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval to create the Master of Science (MS) in Athletic Training in the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences in the College of Education and Human Sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)

PREVIOUS ACTION: December 5, 2017 – The Board approved the phase-out of the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Athletic Training at UNO.

June 1, 2017 – The Board approved the creation of a Masters in Athletic Training and the phase-out of the BS in Athletic Training at UNK.

January 28, 2011 – The Board approved a BS in Athletic Training and a Master of Arts with a major in Athletic Training at UNO.

The BS in Athletic Training at UNL was established prior to modern records of Board approvals.

EXPLANATION: UNL’s Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences has offered an accredited BS in Athletic Training program since 2004. The Commission on the Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), the accrediting agency for athletic training education, will no longer allow athletic training programs to enroll students at the baccalaureate level after the start of the Fall 2022 term. As a result, UNL proposes to create an MS in Athletic Training which will be a two-year non-thesis cohort-based program consisting of 43 credit hours (11 didactic courses and 4 clinical education courses). The structure of the program is designed to meet program objectives and CAATE standards for accreditation. The professional credential will allow the students to seek state licensure in Nebraska, and the United States as a Board Certified Athletic Trainer.

This proposal has been reviewed by the Council of Academic Officers; it also has been reviewed by the Academic Affairs Committee.

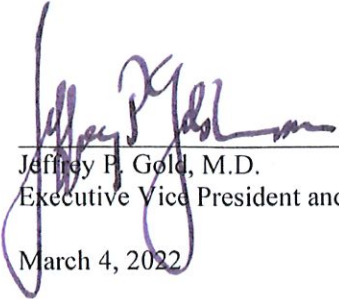
PROGRAM COST: \$90,000 for Year 1; \$447,343 over five years

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Tuition and fees

SPONSORS: Katherine Ankerson
Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Ronnie D. Green, Chancellor
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

RECOMMENDED:



Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost

DATE:

March 4, 2022



January 27, 2022

Dr. Jeffrey Gold, Executive Vice President and Provost
University of Nebraska
3835 Holdrege Street
Lincoln, NE 68583-0743

Dear Dr. Gold,

I am forwarding materials related to a proposal to create a Master of Science degree in Athletic Training to be administered by the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences in the College of Education and Human Sciences. This action is in response to changing national accreditation guidelines for the field of athletic training.

As part of the department's effort to create the graduate-level program, the Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training will be deleted. The core courses have been redesigned to leverage the existing undergraduate courses to meet all the expectations of the Graduate College. In addition to existing faculty within the department, affiliates from Athletic Medicine in the Athletic Department will assist in supporting the proposed program.

This proposed MS in Athletic Training program is designed to respond to new accreditation standards accepted in 2018 by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) to be implemented by colleges and universities beginning in late 2020. It has the full endorsement of the Academic Planning Committee, the Executive Vice Chancellor and it has my approval. I am requesting you approve it and that it be reported to the Board of Regents at an upcoming meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronnie D. Green".

Ronnie D. Green, Ph.D.
Chancellor

- c: Frauke Hachtmann, Chair, Academic Planning Committee
- Kathy Ankerson, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
- Debra Hope, Dean of Graduate Education
- Sherri Jones, Dean, College of Education and Human Sciences
- Renee Batman, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs
- Suzi Tamerius, Project Coordinator, Academic Affairs
- Mike Zeleny, Associate to the Chancellor
- Karen Griffin, Coordinator of Faculty Governance
- David Jackson, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- Cathy Robertus, Executive Assistant to the EVPP

University of Nebraska-Lincoln New Graduate Major or Degree

I. Descriptive Information

Name of Institution Proposing New Major or Degree
University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)
Name of Proposed Major or Degree
Athletic Training
Degree to be Awarded to Graduates of the Major
Master of Science
Other Majors or Degrees Offered in this Field by Institution
B.S. Athletic Training (discontinued after Fall 2021 admission for new freshman)
CIP Code [IEA can help with CIP codes or browse here: http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55]
51.0913 (Athletic Training)
Subject Code
ATHT
Administrative Units for the Major or Degree
Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences
Proposed Delivery Site
University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Program will be Offered [full program, not individual courses]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-campus only <input type="checkbox"/> Distance only <input type="checkbox"/> Both (on-campus and distance)
Date Approved by the Governing Board
Pending
Proposed Date the New Major or Degree will be Initiated
Upon approval by the Coordinating Commission

II. Details

A. Purpose of the Proposed Major or Degree:

The Commission on the Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), the accrediting agency for athletic training education will no longer allow athletic training programs to enroll students at the baccalaureate level after the start of the Fall 2022 term. (At UNL, new freshman were last admitted in Fall 2021, and the last undergraduates will be professionally admitted for Fall 2022.) The changes within the athletic training field have been in progress since the Athletic Training Strategic Alliance's endorsement of the 2015 report *Professional Education in Athletic Training: An examination of the Professional Degree Level*. Upon the decision to nationally require training at the master's degree level for licensure in the field, the accreditation agency, CAATE initiated a Standards Committee to create new accreditation standards for a professional program. The new accreditation standards were accepted by CAATE in 2018 and implementation began in late 2020 across colleges and universities.

UNL closely followed these activities and upon notification of CAATE's decision and release of the updated standards, began the necessary work to prepare for the following program actions:

- Deletion of the B.S in Athletic Training
- Creation of a M.S. in Athletic Training.

UNL's Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences has offered an accredited B.S. in Athletic Training Program since April 4, 2004. Students admitted into the B.S. in Athletic Training Program for the start of the Fall 2022 semester will be allowed to take the Board of Certification Examination for Athletic Trainers at the completion of their B.S. in Athletic Training degree as the last cohort. Other current students can also complete the baccalaureate program and will be graduates of a CAATE accredited program.

The following information in this proposal pertains to creating the graduate level training necessary for UNL to maintain accreditation of a professional athletic training program that will transition from the baccalaureate to a master's degree. Following institutional approval and approval from Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, the UNL Athletic Training Program will submit to the Commission on the Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) the Notification of Intent: Substantive Change Document: Change of Degree, and within three months of this submission, a mini-self-study of the master's program. Following CAATE's approval of the Notification of Intent: Substantive Change Document: Change of Degree and the mini-self-study, students enrolled in the proposed program will be allowed to sit for the Board of Certification Examination at the conclusion of their plan of study. Programs seeking initial CAATE accreditation (i.e., Chadron State College) must undergo a comprehensive programmatic and peer review process after all aspects of the program have been approved, implemented, and functioning at the time of the self-study submission. Students who graduate from the program prior to accreditation will not be eligible to sit for the credentialing examination for athletic trainers.

B. Description of the Proposed Major or Degree:

The proposed MS in Athletic Training will be a non-thesis cohort-based program consisting of 43 credit hours (11 didactic courses and 4 clinical education courses). Courses were redesigned to leverage the existing undergraduate courses and to meet all of the expectations of the Graduate College. All 800 level Athletic Training (ATHT) courses have been established and were approved on October 18, 2020 (see course chart below). The program is designed to facilitate completion in four regular semesters and one summer term (two-and-a-half years in total). Didactic courses will be offered on the UNL campus and most clinical education courses will be offered on the UNL campus within UNL Athletics and Injury, Prevention, and Care (IPC) located in the UNL Student Recreation Center. Students may also be assigned to external sites outside UNL.

Three Clinical Practicum Program Agreements are planned that will enhance the quality of the program by providing clinical education placement at external sites for students enrolled in the athletic training program. Two of the sites will include Concordia University and Lincoln Public Schools (Lincoln Southwest High School) and a third is planned at a Lincoln-based orthopedic and/or physical therapy clinic. Clinical Practicum Program Agreements are currently in place for the undergraduate program at two sites (Concordia University and Lincoln Public Schools) and will be updated to reflect the transition to the master's level. The clinical education sites enhance the athletic training program by providing clinical education experiences on live patient populations and meet CAATE Accreditation Standards for clinical education.

The primary student learning outcomes of the proposed major or degree are:

1. Acknowledge and apply a foundation for making sound ethical and professional decisions that are in the best interest of the patient/clients.
2. Recognize and interpret patient/client needs from different age groups and socioeconomic statuses to provide the most effective healthcare.

3. Evaluate and apply effective healthcare using a multidisciplinary collaborative approach.
4. Conceptualize and apply the most current evidence-based research that will lead to developing knowledge and skills for making appropriate clinical decisions.

The structure of the M.S. in Athletic Training program is designed to meet program objectives and CAATE standards through assessment and review of student and program developments. The assessment of instruction and program development will be the criteria for ensuring the curriculum meets program objectives and the CAATE Accreditation Standards.

The objectives for the CAATE Accreditation Standards for the proposed athletic training program will allow students to:

1. Develop professional and ethical decision making in healthcare settings.
2. Establish cultural competence in healthcare settings.
3. Embrace multidisciplinary approach to healthcare.
4. Analyze and apply evidence-based healthcare in clinical decisions.

To ensure the program objectives are achieved, instruction and student assessment will take place in both didactic and experiential educational settings. Student generated program assessments will be tracked throughout the academic year. Both student and program assessments will be reported to CAATE as part of the annual program assessment report for continued accreditation. The information from the assessments will be used to ensure the program is achieving the established objectives and reflecting new developments in the discipline.

The UNL Athletic Training Program will be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), responsible for the evaluation of compliance with the standards of athletic training education. CAATE is recognized by the Council for Higher Education (CHEA), which regulates academic quality through accreditation. The athletic training program will meet all the standards for accreditation by offering a quality educational program that provides multi-cultural and multi-discipline educational opportunities and ensuring the program maintains appropriate and current administrative records that can be used to assess the quality of the program.

Admission

The admission process for the MS in Athletic Training are:

1. Student completes application in ADMIT (CollegeNET) and the Secondary Athletic Training Application in Athletic Training Centralized Application Service (ATCAS) that includes the following documentation:
 - Completion of 100 hours of professional healthcare observation. At least 50 observational hours must be under the direct supervision of a single Board of Certification credentialed Athletic Trainer (ATC) in current good standing with the Board of Certification (BOC) at the time of observation.
 - Resume
 - Three (3) letters of recommendation
 - Two (2) letters must be provided from professors from student's academic major
 - One (1) letter from the Board of Certification credentialed Athletic Trainer that provided at least 50 hours of professional observation for the applicant
 - Statement of career goals and how they relate to the mission of UNL's Athletic Training Program.

2. Application window for the Athletic Training Program will open on October 1, and close on December 1.
3. All applications that are identified as “complete” will be considered for admission and reviewed by the Athletic Training Faculty after the deadline date of December 1 and before January 15.
 - Applicants that do not have their applications marked as complete by December 1 will be sent a letter declining admission based on their specific application deficiencies.
4. The Athletic Training Faculty will review and complete a scoring rubric for each completed application in ATCAS. Reviewed applications will be scored and ranked.
 - Applicants will be scored on the following criteria:
 - Overall Grade Point Average (GPA)
 - Advanced Academic Preparation GPA (high level science and math)
 - Letters of Recommendation
 - Resume
 - Statement of Career Goals
 - Completion of Prerequisites
5. The 50 applications that receive the highest rankings will be contacted to complete a video teleconference (Zoom) interview with program faculty between the dates of January 15 and March 1.
 - The Athletic Training Faculty will review and complete a scoring rubric for each video teleconference interview.
 - Appearance and Poise
 - Skill Presentation
 - Delivery and Language
6. The overall highest-ranking applications and video teleconference interviews will receive one of the following recommendations for admission:
 - Candidate for Full Graduate Admission (full admission into the UNL Athletic Training Program)
 - Candidate for Provisional Admission (for students that have not completed all prerequisite requirements)
 - All prerequisite deficiencies must meet program requirements by June 1 of the year the student begins the program.
 - Alternate Candidate (for students that meet the following requirements: candidate for full graduate admission or candidate for Provisional admission but received scores in the top 50 of the lower ranking rubric scores).
 - Declined Admission (for applicants that have rubric scores that rank below the top 50 or have not or met all program admission requirements by June 1 of the application year.
7. When an applicant becomes a candidate for full admission, the candidate will be notified by email and will have 10 business days to accept or decline admission.
8. If the candidate declines admission or does not respond within 10 business days of receiving notification of acceptance, that position will be considered open, and will offered to the next candidate in order of rank.

9. All applicants will be notified by the program director that receive the following status: Candidate for Full Graduate Admission, Candidate for Provisional Admission, Alternate Candidate, and Declined Admission.

Prerequisites / Deficiency Procedures

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited university or college and a cumulative grade point average of 3.0. The following prerequisites courses taken at the postsecondary level on transcripts with a grade of B- or higher:

- o Biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, human anatomy, physiology, biomechanics, exercise physiology, nutrition, and public health
- o Deficiencies in prerequisite courses, will be reviewed by the athletic training faculty regarding admission to the graduate program will be indicated on an applicant's admission letter and will thus be the basis for "provisional" acceptance. "Provisional" status will be changed to "full graduate standing" after the specified course(s) have been completed and a grade of B or higher is achieved.

Advising

Advisors will be evenly distributed annually to all full-time athletic training graduate faculty.

Course Requirements

Course Number and Title	Credit Hours
ATHT 800 - Introduction to Athletic Training Practices (With integrated lab) Parallel – ATHT 801 Lab Fees - \$100 per student – Orthotic splinting and casting material	4
ATHT 801 - Emergency Practices in Athletic Training (With integrated lab) Parallel – ATHT 800	4
ATHT 802 - Orthopedic Evaluation of Lower Extremity (With integrated lab) Prerequisites-ATHT 800 (Grade B) and ATHT 801 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 803 and ATHT 810	4
ATHT 803 - Therapeutic Modalities (With integrated lab) Prerequisites –ATHT 800 (Grade B) and ATHT 801 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 802 and ATHT 810	4
ATHT 810 - Clinical Education in Athletic Training I Prerequisites –ATHT 800 (Grade B) and ATHT 801 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 803 and ATHT 812	1
ATHT 812 – Orthopedic Evaluation of Upper Extremity (With integrated lab) Prerequisites – ATHT 802 (Grade B), ATHT 803 (Grade B), and ATHT 810 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 813, ATHT 815, and NUTR 805	4
ATHT 813 – Therapeutic Exercise in Athletic Training (With integrated lab) Prerequisites – ATHT 802 (Grade B), ATHT 803 (Grade B), and ATHT 810 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 812, ATHT 815, and NUTR 805	4
ATHT 815 – Clinical Education in Athletic Training II Prerequisites – ATHT 802 (Grade B), ATHT 803 (Grade B), and ATHT 810 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 812, ATHT 813, and NUTR 805	1
NUTR 805 – Research Methods <i>(Course previously established and part of another UNL graduate program)</i> Prerequisites – ATHT 802 (Grade B), ATHT 803 (Grade B), and ATHT 810 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 812, ATHT 813, and ATHT 815	3
EDPS 859 – Statistical Methods – (Online) <i>(Course previously established and part of another UNL graduate program)</i> Prerequisites – ATHT 812 (Grade B), ATHT 813 (Grade B), ATHT 815 (Grade B), and NUTR 805 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 817, ATHT 818, and ATHT 820	3
ATHT 817 – Health Care Administration in Athletic Training	3

Course Number and Title	Credit Hours
Prerequisites – ATHT 812 (Grade B), ATHT 813 (Grade B), ATHT 815 (Grade B), And NUTR 805 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 818, ATHT 820, and EDPS 859	
ATHT 818 – Advanced Medical Aspects in Athletic Training Prerequisites – ATHT 812 (Grade B), ATHT 813 (Grade B), ATHT 815 (Grade B), and NUTR 805 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 817, ATHT 820, and EDPS 859 Lab fees - \$40.00 per student – Suture practice kits	3
ATHT 820 – Clinical Education in Athletic Training III Prerequisites – ATHT 812 (Grade B), ATHT 813 (Grade B), ATHT 815 (Grade B), and NUTR 805 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 817, ATHT 818, and EDPS 859	1
ATHT 822 – Current Trends and Professional Performance in Athletic Training Prerequisites – ATHT 817 (Grade B), ATHT 818 (Grade B), ATHT 820 (Grade B), and EDPS 859 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 825	3
ATHT 825 – Clinical Education in Athletic Training IV Prerequisites – ATHT 817 (Grade B), ATHT 818 (Grade B), ATHT 820 (Grade B), and EDPS 859 (Grade B) Parallel – ATHT 822	1
Total	43

Course Subject and Plan Codes

The ATHT subject code already exists, no changes will be needed. The proposed program will require compliance with federal guidelines requiring licensure notification. The major code (plan) will be created and tagged for system communications regarding licensure.

III. Review Criteria

A. Centrality to UNL Role and Mission

The proposed degree program is in agreement with the plans of the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences, the College of Education and Human Sciences, and the strategic plan of UNL. The proposed program will offer an academic major with promising employment opportunities to students in Nebraska and the United States. The program will develop the skills and expertise that all entry-level athletic trainers are expected to have at the time of graduation to provide quality healthcare to the individuals of Nebraska and the United States. The proposed program will use a structured curriculum that will meet the CAATE accreditation guidelines.

B. Relationship of the proposal to the University of Nebraska’s Five-Year Strategy

The proposed Master of Science in Athletic Training program is consistent with NU’s five-year strategy: “The University of Nebraska, through its four campuses, strives to be the best public university in the country-as measured by the impact we have on our people and our state, and through them, the world.”

This proposed degree is also aligned with UNL’s Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences, the College of Education and Human Sciences’ mission and values of applying working together to positively impact the human condition and solve challenges critical to Nebraska and the world through applying scientific information to optimize public-wellbeing. This proposed degree will directly benefit the physically active populations throughout Nebraska and the United States. The proposed Master of Science in Athletic Training program will continue to build and expand on the strong established community partnerships with Nebraska high schools, universities, and medical clinics. The partnerships with these institutions will benefit the community by providing educational opportunities that will expand healthcare for the physically active and improve workforce development for the community.

C. Consistency with the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Post-Secondary Education

According to the Comprehensive State-Wide Plan for Postsecondary Education (July 2016), “Higher education in Nebraska will be responsive to the workforce development and ongoing training needs of employers and industries to help sustain a knowledgeable, trained, and skilled workforce in both rural and urban areas of the state.” The proposed Master of Science in Athletic Training program aligns with this statement by providing a workforce that will support both rural and urban areas of the state.

The proposed Master of Science in Athletic Training meets the goals of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education (the Statewide Plan). It meets the needs of students for high-quality educational programs that help them reach their career goals. Students in this program will be educated in the application of health care services for the physically active population that are in demand in Nebraska and across the Country.

D. Evidence of Need and Demand

1. Need:

The Master of Science in Athletic Training at UNL will develop entry-level professionally credentialed athletic trainers that will have the opportunity to be employed as healthcare providers in diverse settings locally, regionally, in the state of Nebraska, and throughout the United States. The potential employment settings include but are not limited to:

1. Colleges
2. Universities
3. Rural and Urban Hospitals
4. Public and Private Secondary Schools
5. Professional Sports
6. Olympic Sports
7. Youth Leagues
8. Municipal and Independently owned youth Sports Facilities
9. Urgent and Ambulatory Care Centers
10. Physician, physical therapy, and other professional clinical facilities
11. Occupational health departments in commercial settings (i.e. manufacturing, distribution, and offices) to assist with ergonomics
12. Police and fire departments and academies, municipal departments, and branches of the military
13. Performing arts including professional, collegiate level dance and music⁵

According to data from the 2020 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statics modified in September 8, 2021, the national median wage for athletic trainers was \$49,860, \$47,150 in the state of Nebraska, and \$55,060 for the Lincoln area. The employment outlook for athletic trainers is projected to grow 23% from 2020-2030, will be much faster than average for all occupations. Demand for athletic trainers is expected to increase as people become more aware of the effects of sports-related injuries, and as the middle-aged and the older population remains active. Many employers and insurers rely on athletic trainers to assist with containing healthcare costs in professions that have a higher risk of physical injury. Lincoln and the surrounding areas of Lancaster and Seward Counties employ the second largest number of athletic trainers in the state of Nebraska. (29-9091 Athletic Trainers. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes299091.htm#st>. Published September 8, 2021. Accessed November 17, 2021). Based on the information presented above, the proposed Master of Science in Athletic Training at UNL will provide the educational needs that will

contribute to the workforce and economic development needs of the local, regional state, and national communities.

2. Demand:

With the projected growth for athletic training as reported on the current U.S. Bureau of Labor Statics website, the current 2021-2022 UNL Athletic Training Program undergraduate enrollment of 35 students in the professional program, and 55 students enrolled in the pre-professional undergraduate program, the program expects interest in the Master of Science in Athletic Training Program will remain high.

According to the 2020 CAATE Standards, Standard 47 requires athletic training programs to have a set number and specifically-qualified preceptors to meet the clinical education need of the program. To meet the CAATE standard, programs must describe how the program determines the number and qualification of preceptors to meet the clinical education needs of the program:

The UNL Athletic Training Program currently has 27 UNL Athletic Training Program-trained preceptors that supervise students during their clinical education placements in a variety of clinical locations. Pre-professional students are supervised by UNL Athletic Training Program Preceptors, but are in an observation role only and are not allowed to have any direct patient contact, and restricted to only UNL clinical education sites. When the proposed program begins, the pre-professional students will no longer be part of the program, and the observation criteria will be part of the application process that must be completed prior to being accepted into the proposed master’s program.

The program intends to continue with the current number of clinical preceptors and add additional preceptor(s) to meet the need of the new patient population category (Throughout the life span – pediatric, adult, geriatric) as required by the 2020 CAATE Standards.

To ensure quality clinical education for each student, the UNL Athletic Training Program attempts to keep the student to the preceptor ratio at 2:1. (Pre-professional students are not included in this ratio due to observation and no direct patient contact role.) Currently, for the 2021-2022 academic year, the undergraduate program has a student to preceptor ratio of 1.3:1. When the program moves to the master’s level the maximum student enrollment will be 40 students divided between two cohorts. With the addition of the new clinical education placement, we will have the potential to have a total of 30 preceptors. When the proposed program reaches the maximum capacity of 40 students and 30 preceptors the ratio of students to preceptors will be 1.33:1.

Year 1 2023-2024 (Minimum Enrollment)	Year 2 2024-2025	Year 3 2025-2026	Year 4 2026-2027	Year 5 2027-2028 (Max Enrollment)
10 enrollments (1 Cohort)	25 enrollments (2 Cohorts) 10-Initial Cohort 15-Second Cohort	30 enrollments (2 Cohorts) 15-Second Cohort 15-Third Cohort	35 enrollments (2 Cohorts) 15-Third Cohort 20-Fourth Cohort	40 enrollments (2 Cohorts) 20-Fourth Cohort 20-Fifth Cohort

E. Avoidance of Unnecessary Duplication

Both the University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK) and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) are currently operating CAATE Accredited athletic training programs at the master’s level that successfully transitioned from an established CAATE Accredited baccalaureate program. Chadron State College has announced the intention to seek initial CAATE Accreditation and declared plans to start their comprehensive programmatic peer-review and submit the self-study in October 2022. Students that graduate from a program prior to receiving CAATE Accreditation will not be eligible to sit for the

credentialing examination for athletic trainers. Students enrolled in a program that has not received CAATE Accreditation are at risk of completing a graduate degree that will not allow credentialing examination eligibility and will not be employable as a certified athletic trainer.

According to the current enrollment numbers at all three University of Nebraska campuses, there does not appear to be any limiting factors that would prevent each of the programs from offering quality athletic training programs at the master's level. Each athletic training program within the University of Nebraska system offers classroom and clinical education experiences that are unique to each campus and allows prospective students to select the program that will best fit their educational needs.

Having three athletic training programs as part of the University of Nebraska system provides students with a choice of athletic training programs that offer diverse educational and clinical opportunities in the state of Nebraska. UNO's Athletic Training Program is a two-year program that provides a metropolitan clinical experience at high schools, and universities with large athletic populations. The UNO Athletic Training Program is the only school within the University of Nebraska system that includes a clinical rotation with an NCAA Division I Men's Hockey team. The UNK's Athletic Training Program is designed as a 3+2 program and a traditional two-year master's program. UNK offers clinical rotations at the NCAA Division II level, a junior ice hockey team, and high school rotations with athletic populations in non-metropolitan areas. UNL's proposed Master of Science in Athletic Training Program will be a two-year program that will include clinical experiences with the University's Athletic Medicine Department that incorporates an interprofessional collaboration of diverse healthcare providers that include athletic trainers, physical therapists, medical doctors, sports psychologists, neuropsychologists, audiologists. Additional clinical education sites will include the University's Injury Prevention and Care Clinic located in Student Recreation Center. The proposed Master of Science in Athletic Training Program will provide clinical education opportunities with a high school in the Lincoln area that will offer students the experience of working with adolescent athletes, and clinical education opportunities with a Concordia University of Nebraska that competes at the NAIA level. The proposed Master of Science in Athletic Training Program will provide additional interprofessional collaboration opportunities with the Centers for Brain Biology and Behavior, and the Nebraska Athletic Performance Laboratory housed within the UNL Athletic Department.

F. Adequacy of Resources:

1. Faculty/Staff

The existing faculty within the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences and affiliates from Athletic Medicine Department within UNL's Athletic Department will assist in supporting the proposed program. The current faculty from the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences and the Athletic Medicine Department include:

- Dennis Perkey, Ed.D., LAT, ATC, Associate Professor of Practice, Program Director/Interim Coordinator of Clinical Education
- Amanda Dorsten, Ph.D., LAT, ATC, Lecturer
- Drew Hamblin, M.Ed., LAT, ATC, CES, Assistant Athletic Trainer
- Assistant Professor of Practice/Coordinator of Clinical Education (search underway, expected start date August 2022)
- Assistant Professor of Practice, (requested 22-23 with an expected start date August 2023)

In Dean Jones' memo, she has indicated her support and priority of the new hiring request.

Curriculum vitae for the faculty listed above are included in separate files attached with this document.

2. Library/Information Resources

No additional library resources will be needed.

3. Physical Facilities and Equipment

The proposed degree program will be administered through the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences on the UNL campus. Didactic courses for the proposed program will be housed in the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences located on East Campus. Clinical education courses will be held in various athletic facilities on UNL's campus, Southwest High School (Lincoln, NE), Concordia University (Seward, NE), and an orthopedic and/or physical therapy clinic located in Lincoln, NE.

4. Instructional Equipment and Informational Resources

Associated equipment typically available in classrooms includes LCD projectors, projector screens, PCs, white boards, video conferencing equipment, connection for portable computers, tables and chairs, overhead projectors, and laptop computers. Each classroom is equipped with a wireless network, including Internet access. The classroom will be supported and maintained by Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences with additional support provided by the College of Education Human Sciences IT staff and student workers.

5. Budget Projections (see Tables 1 and 2)

Appendix A: Abstract of Proposal

The proposed UNL Master of Science in Athletic Training will be a highly competitive nationally accredited entry-level athletic training program that will prepare master's degree-seeking students to become a credentialed healthcare provider in the profession of athletic training. The accreditation body will be the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), which is the current accreditation body for the undergraduate athletic training program at UNL.

The proposed program will be a two-year cohort-based program that will take five (5) semesters (one (1) summer term and two (2) regular Fall and Spring Semester terms) to complete. There will be a total of 11 didactic courses with integrated laboratory classes, and four (4) individual clinical education classes to allow the students to practice and demonstrate clinical competency of the skills learned in the classroom on live patients under the direct supervision of a UNL-trained preceptor.

The mission of the proposed Athletic Training Program at UNL will be to prepare students for a multidisciplinary approach to health care with a quality comprehensive classroom and clinical education learning opportunities that promote the application of scientific information to enhance the lives of individuals in culturally diverse communities. The mission of the proposed program aligns with the mission of the University, College of Education and Human Sciences and the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences.

The application process will be competitive, accepting applicants with bachelor's degrees that include appropriate CAATE approved course work from recognized accredited institutions of higher education. Admission to the program will require applicants to meet the UNL Graduate School Admission Requirements along with specific UNL Athletic Training Program requirements as required by CAATE. The application process will include a four-phase process that includes; (1) completing application to the UNL Graduate School and a separate application to the UNL Athletic Training Program; (2) reviewing the applications by UNL Athletic Training Program faculty and; (3) conducting program admission interviews with the applicants. The application process will conclude (4) with the release of acceptance letters to the program.

The foundation of the proposed athletic training program established by the program's mission and vision make up the three core principles that are the foundation of the proposed program. The three core principles include Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Education, and Collaboration. The foundation of the program supports the three pillars of excellence that each student will successfully navigate to graduate from UNL's Athletic Training Program. These three pillars include Classroom Education, Clinical Education, and Cultural Competence.

The first pillar, Classroom Education will provide the students with the opportunity to experience quality classroom instruction from athletic training content experts that are trained educators and clinical athletic trainers. The focus in the classroom will be on learning the latest advancements in athletic training that are grounded in evidence-based practice.

The second pillar, Clinical Education will provide the students with practical real-world experience in various healthcare facilities learning from an experienced interdisciplinary group of healthcare providers. During this experience, the students will be able to practice and demonstrate clinical competence of skills taught in the classroom on actual clients/patients under the direct supervision of a UNL-trained preceptor.

The third pillar, Cultural Competence will provide students with opportunities to experience comprehensive educational experiences with diverse patient populations in multiple clinical environments. These experiences will take place in both the classroom and clinical education settings. During the final semester of enrollment in UNL's Athletic Training Program, students will use the knowledge learned from both the classroom and the clinical education settings and challenge the Board of Certification (BOC) Examination. The BOC Examination will serve as the comprehensive examination for the program, and successful completion will award the students with the Master of Science Degree in Athletic Training and the professional credential of a Certified Athletic Trainer. The professional credential will allow the students to seek state licensure in Nebraska, and the United States as a Board Certified Athletic Trainer.

TABLE 1: PROJECTED EXPENSES - NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM
UNL Master of Science in Athletic Training

	FY2023-24		FY2024-25		FY2025-26		FY2026-27		FY2027-28		Total Cost
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost	
Personnel	1.00	\$85,000	1.00	\$86,700	1.00	\$88,434	1.00	\$90,203	1.00	\$92,007	\$442,343
Professional											
Graduate Assistants											
Support Staff											
Benefits											
Subtotal	1.00	\$85,000	1.00	\$86,700	1.00	\$88,434	1.00	\$90,203	1.00	\$92,007	\$442,343
Operating											
Operating and Supplies											
Equipment ²		\$5,000									
Library/Information Resources											
Subtotal		\$5,000									\$5,000
Total Expenses		\$90,000		\$86,700		\$88,434		\$90,203		\$92,007	\$447,343

¹ Estimated salary for additional core program faculty member, assuming initial salary of \$85,000 and 2% annual growth rate.

² Additional instructional equipment for program.

TABLE 2: PROJECTED REVENUES - NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM
UNL Master of Science in Athletic Training

	FY2023-24		FY2024-25		FY2025-26		FY2026-27		FY2027-28		Total
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost	
Reallocation of Existing Funds											
Required New Public Funds											
1. State Funds											
2. Local Tax Funds (community colleges)											
Tuition and Fees ¹		\$169,443		\$335,964		\$376,864		\$461,586		\$502,486	\$1,846,343
Other Funding											
Total Revenue		\$169,443		\$335,964		\$376,864		\$461,586		\$502,486	\$1,846,343

¹ Gross tuition only per enrollment schedule below.

	FY 2023-24		FY 2024-25		FY 2025-26		FY 2026-27		FY 2027-28	
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Enrollments per Cohort	Cohort 1 - 10	Cohort 2 - 15	Cohort 3 - 15	Cohort 4 - 20	Cohort 5 - 20	Cohort 6 - 20	Cohort 7 - 20	Cohort 8 - 20	Cohort 9 - 20	Cohort 10 - 20
Enrollment Incoming Cohort	10	15	15	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Enrollment Advancing Cohort	N/A	10	15	15	20	20	20	20	20	20
Credit Hours Offered Incoming Cohort	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
Credit Hours Offered Advancing Cohort	N/A	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Total Credits for Incoming Cohort	290	435	435	580	580	580	580	580	580	580
Total Credits for Advancing Cohort	N/A	140	210	210	210	210	210	210	210	210
Total Credits for both cohorts	290	575	645	790	790	790	790	790	790	790
% Resident Enrollment	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%
% Non-Resident Enrollment	37%	37%	37%	37%	37%	37%	37%	37%	37%	37%
Resident tuition per credit hour	\$341	\$341	\$341	\$341	\$341	\$341	\$341	\$341	\$341	\$341
Non-resident tuition per credit hour	\$996	\$996	\$996	\$996	\$996	\$996	\$996	\$996	\$996	\$996
Total tuition	\$169,443	\$335,964	\$376,864	\$461,586	\$502,486	\$502,486	\$502,486	\$502,486	\$502,486	\$502,486

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	Total
Enrollment	10	25	30	35	40	140
Expected Tuition	\$169,443	\$335,964	\$376,864	\$461,586	\$502,486	\$1,846,343