

Summary of the 2007-2008 Annual Progress Report on Assessment of Student Learning

The Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education and the National Athletic Trainers' Association Education Council provide all accredited athletic training education programs with educational competencies that must be met in order to continue with the degree program. The Competencies are categorized according to 12 content areas comprising the knowledge and skill set of the entry-level athletic trainer. Further, the Competencies are subcategorized according to the following behavioral classifications: Cognitive Competencies (knowledge and intellectual skills); Psychomotor Competencies (manipulative and motor skills); Clinical Proficiencies (decision-making and skill integration). The Competencies also allow for the infusion of professional practice (behaviors) in all didactic and clinical coursework. The basic behaviors that should be incorporated into instruction in every part of the educational program are comprised of common values of the athletic training profession. The athletic training student can not proceed to the next clinical course if a score of 80% or better is not achieved. This national certification exam is the ultimate outcome measure for the athletic training students. At this time, there is not a national average that must be met. Currently the passing rate of K-State students on the national certification exam is 75% (the national passing rate is 70%). The program initiated changes in three primary areas, based on assessment results: 1) development of end of the year exams; in the spring of the senior year, the students will take a preparatory exam for the national certification exam; 2) re-development of the Rehabilitation of Athletic Injuries class; and 3) increase ethical case studies in application to professional and personal behaviors.