

**King's College  
Athletic Training Program**

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

As an athletic training student, you are expected to follow the King's College Athletic Training Program Code of Conduct at all times. This Code of Conduct has been written to make you aware of the principles of ethical behavior that must be followed while a student in the Athletic Training (AT) Program at King's College.

The principles in the Code of Conduct are adapted from the National Athletic Trainers' Association Code of Ethics. These principles cannot cover every possible situation that you may encounter as an athletic training student but must be considered at all times and should guide your behavior, decisions, and actions. In addition to the principles, further information and guidelines have been provided to aid in your understanding of the principles. The circumstances of a situation will determine the interpretation and application of the principles and of the Code of Conduct as a whole. Whenever there is a conflict between the Code of Conduct and the law (criminal or civil), the law must take precedence. The Code of Conduct is considered a living document and will be reviewed and revised as necessary.

**Violation of any of the following principles may result in disciplinary action, may result in an 'F' in one or more AT Program courses, may affect progression in the AT Program, and may result in dismissal from the AT Program.**

**Principle 1: Athletic Training Students shall respect the rights, welfare and dignity of all individuals.**

- 1.1 Athletic Training Students shall not discriminate against any legally protected class.
- 1.2 Athletic Training Students shall be committed to providing competent care consistent with both the requirements and the limitations of their profession.
- 1.3 Athletic Training Students shall preserve the confidentiality of privileged information and shall not release such information to a third party not involved in the patient's care unless the person consents to such release or release is permitted or required by law.

*Furthermore:*

- Athletic Training Students shall treat all patients equally regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin or ancestry, culture, physical ability, mental ability, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, or age.
- Athletic Training Students must follow the King's College AT Program Confidentiality Policy at all times.

**Principle 2: Athletic Training Students shall comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of athletic training.**

- 2.1 Athletic Training Students shall comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws and institutional guidelines.
- 2.2 Athletic Training Students shall be familiar with and adhere to all National Athletic Trainers' Association guidelines and ethical standards.
- 2.3 Athletic Training Students are encouraged to report illegal or unethical practice pertaining to athletic training to the appropriate person or authority.
- 2.4 Athletic Training Students shall avoid substance abuse and, when necessary, seek rehabilitation for chemical dependency.

*Furthermore:*

- The King's College AT Program Student Handbook is available at all affiliated clinical sites (either hard or electronic copy). The laws regulating the practice of athletic training in Pennsylvania can be found on the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society website (<http://www.gopats.org/legisl-info/resources.htm>). Laws regulating the practice of athletic training in other states can be found at the Board of Certification website ([www.boccatc.org](http://www.boccatc.org)).

**Principle 3: Athletic Training Students shall accept responsibility for the exercise of sound judgment.**

- 3.1 Athletic Training Students shall not misrepresent in any manner, either directly or indirectly, their skills, training, professional credentials, identity or services.
- 3.2 Athletic Training Students shall provide only those services for which they are qualified via education and/or experience and by pertinent legal regulatory process.
- 3.3 Athletic Training Students shall provide services, make referrals, and seek compensation only for those services that are necessary.

*Furthermore:*

- Athletic Training Students shall not perform any athletic training skills or services unless under the direct supervision of an athletic trainer who has the appropriate state credentialing.
- Athletic Training Students shall only perform skills or services that they have learned in didactic and clinical courses and must demonstrate competency prior to performing those skills or services.
- Athletic Training Students shall clearly and effectively communicate the medical status of all patients that they treat to the supervising athletic trainer in a timely manner.
- Athletic Training Students shall receive approval from the supervising athletic trainer prior to referral of non-emergency injuries/illnesses to a physician or other health care provider.
- Athletic Training Students shall not misrepresent themselves as an athletic trainer under any circumstances.

**Principle 4: Athletic Training Students shall maintain and promote high standards in the provision of services.**

- 4.1 Athletic Training Students shall recognize the need for continuing education and participate in various types of educational activities that enhance their skills and knowledge.
- 4.2 Athletic Training Students who have the responsibility for evaluating the performance of other Athletic Training Students shall fulfill such responsibility in a fair, considerate, and equitable manner, on the basis of clearly enunciated criteria.
- 4.3 Athletic Training Students who have the responsibility for evaluating the performance of other Athletic Training Students are encouraged to share evaluations with them and allow them the opportunity to respond to those evaluations.
- 4.4 Athletic Training Students shall educate other athletic training students in the practice of athletic training with regard to this Code of Conduct and the NATA Code of Ethics and encourage their adherence to it.
- 4.5 Whenever possible, Athletic Training Students are encouraged to participate and support others in the conduct and communication of research and educational activities that may contribute knowledge for improved patient care, patient or student education, and the growth of athletic training as a profession.
- 4.6 When Athletic Training Students are researchers or educators, they are responsible for maintaining and promoting ethical conduct in research and educational activities.

*Furthermore:*

- Athletic Training Students are encouraged to participate in a variety of educational and professional activities. These include, but are not limited to, workshops, seminars, conferences, research projects, and volunteer medical activities.
- Athletic Training Students are expected to take an active responsibility for their own learning. This includes, but is not limited to, formulating and asking questions, facilitating learning amongst other Athletic Training Students, and practicing all clinical skills.
- Athletic Training Students are encouraged to become members of the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA), their district athletic training organization, and their home state athletic training organization by the time they enter Professional Phase of the AT Program.

**Principle 5: Athletic Training Students shall not engage in any form of conduct that constitutes a conflict of interest or that adversely reflects on the profession or the King's College AT Program.**

- 5.1 The private conduct of the Athletic Training Student is a personal matter to the same degree as is any other person's except when such conduct compromises the fulfillment of Athletic Training Student responsibilities.
- 5.2 Athletic Training Students shall not use, directly or by implication, the National Athletic Trainers' Association's name or logo, the King's College AT Program name or logo, or their affiliation with either organization in the endorsement of products or services.
- 5.3 Athletic Training Students shall not place financial gain above the welfare of the patient being treated and shall not participate in any arrangement that exploits the patient.
- 5.4 Athletic Training Students may seek remuneration for their services that is commensurate with their services and in compliance with applicable law, applicable Commission on the Accreditation of Athletic Training Education standards, and applicable King's College AT Program rules and regulations.

*Furthermore:*

- Athletic Training Students shall maintain a professional distance in their relationships with all patients.
- Athletic Training Students shall follow all King's College AT Program rules and regulations at all times. These include, but are not limited to, the following: Confidentiality Policy, Health and Infectious Disease Control Policy, Clinical Policies and Procedures, and the Social Media Policy.
- Athletic Training Students shall not engage in any activity that may jeopardize the athletic eligibility status of a student-athlete at any affiliated clinical site.
- Athletic Training Students must demonstrate appropriate behavior and maturity on campus, at affiliated clinical sites, and in the community in order to ensure that King's College and the AT Program are represented in a positive manner.
- Athletic Training Students must remain in good academic standing and good behavioral standing at King's College. The guidelines for maintaining such standings are found in the King's College Student Handbook and the King's College Catalog.

**AT Program Code of Conduct Contractual Agreement Statement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, affirm that I have read the King's College Athletic Training (AT) Program Code of Conduct. I understand the content of the AT Program Code of Conduct and all of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I agree to abide by the AT Program Code of Conduct. I understand that a breach of the AT Program Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, may result in an 'F' in one or more AT Program courses, may affect my progression in the AT Program, and may result in my dismissal from the AT Program. .

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athletic Training Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date