**University of Houston**

**Department of Health and Human Performance**

**Master of Athletic Training Program**

As a part of the application process for the Master of Athletic Training (MAT) Program at the University of Houston, you are required to complete fifty (50) hours of observation hours with a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC/AT). These hours must be completed by April 1st of the candidate’s application year.

In addition to fulfilling the application requirement(s) for the MAT Program at the University of Houston, students completing observation hours give the faculty and staff associated with the MAT Program a first impression and also allow for evaluation of the applicant.

**Requirements for Scheduling Observation Hours:**

1. Observation hours are available in the Fall and/or Spring of the candidate’s year of application. Observation hours must be completed and submitted by April 1st of the candidate’s application year.
2. Candidates will need to complete the observation hours in the semester they were initiated (eg. Start in Fall, Finish in Fall, etc).
3. Candidates will have to observe a variety of different Athletic Training environments and settings with a variety of Athletic Trainers.
4. All observation hours will need to be scheduled ahead of time. Candidates will need to initiate contact with the MAT Director, Dr. Josh Yellen (jbyellen@central.uh.edu) and then will be referred to Amanda Barbee (asbarbee@central.uh.edu), Assistant Athletic Trainer.
5. Prior to beginning observation hours, candidates will need to be orientated to the policies and procedures of the University of Houston Sports Medicine facilities.
6. Observation hours will be documented using the form provided in the application packet.
7. Only a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC/AT) can sign off on observation hours.

**Appropriate Dress Attire and Behavior for Observation Hours:**

1. Observation hours provide candidates with an opportunity to “shadow” a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC/AT). It is mean to be an interactive experience where a candidate can ask questions, observe evaluation, treatments, rehabilitation programs, practice coverage and other daily duties of an Athletic Trainer.
2. The University of Houston Sports Medicine Complex and Athletic Training Rooms are medical facilities. This is a professional environment and will be treated as such.
3. Observation hours will not be treated as an environment for social interaction with student athletes.
4. Cell phone use should on a limited basis. This is not an environment for text messaging or social media (eg. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc)
5. Khaki shorts or Khaki pants with a polo shirt (red, black, white or gray) are acceptable. No Jeans , sweat pants or t-shirts will be permitted unless otherwise advised by the supervising Athletic Trainer.
6. No dresses or skirts will be worn unless otherwise advised by the supervising Athletic Trainer.
7. Closed toed shoes or appropriate Nike tennis shoes are acceptable to wear.
8. No hats inside.

For more information regarding observation hours for application to the Master of Athletic Training Program at the University of Houston please contact Dr. Josh Yellen, Director, Master of Athletic Training Program via email, jbyellen@central.uh.edu or by office phone (713) 743-5902.