

TOPIC: PROPOSAL TO OFFER A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY-PUEBLO

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I. SUMMARY

Colorado State University-Pueblo (CSU-Pueblo) has submitted a proposal for a Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training.

The goals of the Colorado State University-Pueblo Athletic Training Education Program are to enable the student to successfully complete and pass the Board of Certification (BOC) Exam, to enter and succeed in the Athletic Training Profession, and to promote a positive attitude of healthful living.

The Board of Governors for the Colorado State University System approved the Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training to be offered at CSU-Pueblo on June 24, 2009.

II. BACKGROUND

The following is summarized from the CSU-Pueblo proposal for a Bachelor of Science degree in athletic training.

The mission of the CSU-Pueblo Athletic Training Education Program is to provide a comprehensive educational experience and a strong clinical foundation to prepare the undergraduate student to enter the allied health profession of athletic training. Students will acquire experience and skills that will enable them to demonstrate an understanding of the foundations of human kinetics and the assessment, rehabilitation, and treatment of athletic injuries. Students will acquire knowledge in proper prevention, management, and rehabilitation of injuries and illness to physically active individuals.

Program Objectives:

- Enable students to acquire professional experience and skills in Athletic Training through practice and field experience.
- Prepare students to acquire knowledge and demonstrate the skills for proper prevention, management, assessment, rehabilitation, and treatment of injuries and illness to athletes and physically active individuals.
- Enable students to acquire knowledge, experience, and skills to assure successful completion of the BOC certification examination.

- Enable students to enter and succeed in athletic training in any of the following settings: collegiate/university, clinical, high school, military, and industrial.

ROLE AND MISSION SUPPORT

The Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training supports the role and mission of Colorado State University-Pueblo. The statutory mission of CSU-Pueblo is:

to be a regional, comprehensive university, with moderately selective admissions standards. The university shall offer a broad array of baccalaureate programs with a strong professional focus and firm grounding in the liberal arts and sciences. The university shall also offer selected masters-level graduate programs.”C.R.S. 23-31.5-101.

EVIDENCE OF NEED FOR THE PROGRAM

The Athletic Training Education Program at CSU-Pueblo is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education, which will require a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training. In order for CSU-Pueblo to remain compliant with these standards, it must offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training.

The Athletic Training market is currently good and appears to be demonstrating an upward trend in opportunities available for certified athletic trainers. The job market includes positions in professional and collegiate sports, secondary and intermediate schools, Sports Medicine Clinics, Hospital Emergency Room and Rehab Clinics, Occupational Settings, Fitness Centers, and Physicians’ Offices. Athletic Training is listed number two by AllHealthcare.com in their list of “10 Coolest Jobs in Health Care.” Currently, there are only four other schools in Colorado that offer a CAATE accredited, undergraduate Athletic Training Education Program. CSU-Pueblo is the only school in southern Colorado offering this type of program.

EVIDENCE OF STUDENT DEMAND

Current records indicate that over sixty students at CSU-Pueblo have selected athletic training as their major option. All but fifteen of these students are freshman and sophomores. Prior to Spring 2004, when the program received initial CAATE accreditation, there were only thirty majors. Athletic Training has become a popular option and is expected to continue to grow in the future.

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

The Department staff has reviewed this proposed program to ensure that it meets the State's performance measures outlined in C.R.S. 23-1-017. The program meets all performance measures set forth by the state.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Commission approve the Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training to be offered by Colorado State University-Pueblo.

V. ACCOMPANYING MATERIALS

The program proposal materials are attached.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. 23-1-107