



Dear Institutional Representative:

The National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Directors recently approved a joint recommendation of the NATA Executive Committee for Education (ECE) and the Commission on the Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) to transition accreditation services for post-professional athletic training graduate degree programs and residency programs from the NATA to the CAATE, effective July 1, 2012. With this move, the accreditation services for all athletic training education programs will be brought together under the auspices of the CAATE.

Historically, the responsibility for the processes associated with accreditation of post-professional graduate degree programs and residency programs has been with the Post-Professional Education Committee (PPEC) and the Post-Professional Education Review Committee (PPER), sub-committees of the Executive Committee for Education of the NATA. Ultimate decisions regarding accreditation status were with the NATA Board of Directors upon recommendation from the PPER. The decision to transition these services was predicated on the recognized expertise of the CAATE in providing accreditation services and the opportunity to create efficiency in the accreditation processes for all aspects of education in athletic training. The CAATE's emphasis on all aspects of accreditation – from developing standards to assuring compliance – make it the logical fit.

Plan for Transition

An additional commissioner representing the interests of post-professional graduate degree programs and residency programs will be recommended to the CAATE for approval within the next few weeks. The CAATE will also appoint a Post-Professional Review Committee and a Post-Professional Standards Committee. Information will be updated on the CAATE website as soon as it is revised. Until documents are revised, current standards will be utilized.

All fee structures will remain the same for the 2012 – 13 academic year.

As of July 1, 2012, all current programs, including those in development, should direct all relevant business to the CAATE office. Rejoinders for programs currently undergoing accreditation review will be submitted to the CAATE and will be due on November 15, consistent with CAATE's current time line for program review.

The next scheduled deadline for self-study submissions is July 1, 2013. Programs interested in submitting a self-study during the next year should contact the CAATE office for deadlines and instructions.

Please direct any related questions to Micki Cuppett, President, Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training.
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[Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education \(CAATE\)](#)
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We look forward to a successful transition and continued improvement of our accreditation processes.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Van Lunen, PhD, ATC, FNATA
Chair, NATA Post-professional Education Review Committee