

## Letter from the Program Director

Spring 2020

The West Virginia Wesleyan College Athletic Training Program is currently in the process of transitioning to a master's degree. This change is a result of a decision made by the AT Strategic Alliance that consists of representatives from the BOC, CAATE, NATA and NATA Foundation. The timeline for implementation that must be adhered to states that baccalaureate programs may not admit, enroll, or matriculate students into the athletic training program after the start of the fall term 2022. Therefore, any institutions wishing to continue with an Athletic Training Program must transition to the graduate level.

Current enrolled athletic training students (sophomores through seniors) in the athletic training program will not be affected by this change. The BSAT program at WVWC has historically had a separate admission process into the AT program. The 2019-20 entering class at WVWC is presently undergoing this admission process. Applicants will be informed of application decisions by June 1, 2020. Accepted students will formally matriculate into the last BSAT program cohort in the Fall 2020 as sophomores.

WVWC plans to begin accepting and matriculating students into the master's level degree program with applicants beginning program coursework in the Summer 2021 and Fall 2021 terms.

Beginning with Fall 2020, incoming students wishing to pursue a degree in Athletic Training, will pursue a 5-yr MAT degree track. At the conclusion of the program, the student will earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science and a Master of Athletic Training in five years, completing a 3+2 curricular format.

WVWC is committed to continuing offering Athletic Training as a program of study for students. Faculty and administrators are currently working on obtaining all the necessary approvals through the Higher Learning Commission and CAATE for this transition. The athletic training program will have its next comprehensive review by CAATE during the 2021-22 academic year.

Additional information may be found at:

[www.caate.net](http://www.caate.net) or <https://www.atstrategicalliance.org/>

If there are any questions regarding the Athletic Training Program at WVWC, please feel free to contact me at [emrick\\_r@wvwc.edu](mailto:emrick_r@wvwc.edu).

Thank you,  
Dr. Rae Emrick, ATC, CSCS