

University of Delaware Sports Health Major 3 (Sports Health) +2 (Athletic Training) Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Financial Perspective

- 1) If I choose to take part in UD's unique 3 (Sports Health) +2 (Athletic Training) program and I enter the master's degree program beginning my 4th year what happens to my undergraduate financial aid award(s)?

Answer – Scholarships offered as part of the undergraduate admissions to the university are only available through year 3. In year 4, student billing follows the graduate tuition policy in place at the time of matriculation and billed to the students account accordingly. If a student is eligible for any additional scholarship awards, it will be communicated as part of the financial aid award package. Otherwise, financial aid awards granted to undergraduate students from the University of Delaware will expire at the completion of the 3rd year and upon entry into the 1st year in the MS-AT program.

- 2) As an undergraduate student, I have had to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year to determine eligibility for financial assistance; does the same hold true when I become a graduate student?

Answer - The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is a form completed by current and prospective college students in the United States to determine their eligibility for student financial aid. As a graduate student, the level of funding eligibility may change; in fact as a graduate student you may be eligible for up to \$20,000.00 each year in aid that can be used to offset a variety of educational expenses (housing, tuition, books, living expenses, etc,...) It is highly recommended that ALL students, regardless of need, complete the FAFSA.

- 3) Are there other non-program specific scholarships available for graduate students matriculating in UD's Master of Science degree program in Athletic Training?

Answer – YES – Students who are members of the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) are eligible to apply for numerous scholarship opportunities available at the state, regional, and national level. The following website is useful --- <https://www.natafoundation.org/education/scholarships/> Additionally, students are encouraged to check out UD's Graduate College website for information on other potential scholarship and assistance programs that may be available - <https://grad.udel.edu/fees-and-funding/funding-opportunities/#udfinancialaid>

- 4) When do I begin transitioning from paying undergraduate to paying graduate tuition?

Answer - In the UDSIS system you will be designated a “graduate student” when you begin matriculating in the Master of Science degree program in Athletic Training beginning summer session I at the beginning of your 4th year. In light of this, you will also begin paying graduate tuition at this time.

- 5) Is graduate tuition less or more than undergraduate tuition?

Answer – Graduate tuition and fees are advertised on the UD website at <https://grad.udel.edu/policies/tuition-rates/> Graduation tuition is charged per credit hour and at one rate by semester. For example, at the *current rate* (2020-21 academic year) for summer session I during the 1st year, tuition would be charged at \$950.00 x 7 credit hours = \$6,650.00 total. In-state and out-of-state students pay the same rate for graduate tuition, so it is not dependent on residency. The 3+2 program does have significant cost savings for all students in the program. By combining the undergraduate and graduate coursework in year 4, graduates of the program will obtain an advanced degree only paying 5 years of tuition instead of 6.

- 6) Are their scholarships available for the program as I transition to the graduate coursework?

Answer – YES. UD’s Master of Science degree program in Athletic Training has several program specific scholarships that students can apply for before and during enrollment in the program. Students are directed to the program’s website for further details on these awards - <https://sites.udel.edu/kaap/graduate-programs/athletic-training-ms/>

- 7) What if my parents work at UD and I benefit from undergraduate tuition remission. Will this benefit carry over to the 4th year of schooling, despite the fact that it is the 1st year in the MS-AT program?

Answer – With the transition to an active graduate program in year 4, Tuition Remission will not be available but a UD Course Fee Waiver is available for up to two 3-credit courses. UD Employees should contact HR-Benefits to understand tax implications related to use of a fee waiver for graduate tuition.

- 8) As graduate students what is the minimum number of credit hours necessary to be considered a “full-time” student? Is that minimum different for Fall/Spring and/or Winter/Summer sessions?

Answer – For *Winter/Summer* sessions students must be enrolled in a minimum of 5 credit hours of coursework in order to have “full-time” status with regard to financial aid assistance and possibly other benefits (health care, etc...). We are currently working on gaining an exemption from this policy in regard to the final semester in the MS-AT curriculum that involves the “clinical immersion” experience whereby students are enrolled in only 3-credit hours of coursework (KAAP694) that semester.

For *Fall/Spring* sessions students must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 credit hours of coursework in order to have “full-time” status with regard to financial aid assistance and possibly other benefits (health care, etc...).

- 9) Are there any teaching assistantships (TA’s) available for students matriculating in the MS-AT program?

Answer – YES. The Department of Kinesiology & Applied Physiology (KAAP) which houses both the undergraduate Sports Health and graduate Athletic Training programs offers TA lines to faculty involved in both programs to offer to selected students. These assistantships involve:

a) Lab TA for the Pre-Athletic Training Seminar classes ---- These are two ½ TA lines (1/2 tuition & ½ stipend) to assist instructors involved with the six Pre-Athletic Training Seminar courses (KAAP106, KAAP107, KAAP206, KAAP207, KAAP306, and KAAP307). The selection process is competitive and these sports are traditionally reserved for students rising from the 3+2 feeder program. Notification

of the award occurs during the Spring semester and the award period covers a traditional school year Fall & Spring semester.

b) Lab TA for the Advanced Human Anatomy (KAAP620) class ---- These are two ½ TA lines (1/2 tuition & ½ stipend) to assist instructors involved with the laboratory portion of the Advanced Human Anatomy (KAAP620) class. The selection process is competitive and these spots are reserved for 2nd year MS-AT students who have already completed the KAAP620 class. Notification of the award occurs during the Spring semester and the award period covers a traditional school year Fall & Spring semester.

Academic Perspective

- 1) If I intend to take part in UD's unique 3 (Sports Health) +2 (Athletic Training) program as a freshman what is my major in the UDSIS system?

Answer – Sports Health

- 2) When do I designate the 3 (Sports Health) +2 (Athletic Training) program?

Answer – After completing the 2nd semester of the Sophomore year, students electing this option will be required to complete a “Change of Major” for the “3+2” option in the UDSIS system.

- 3) Will I graduate with an undergraduate degree?

Answer – YES, your undergraduate degree will be conferred upon reaching 120+ credit hours and your academic transcript will be noted accordingly. For most students in the 3 (Sports Health) +2 (Athletic Training) program, 120 credit hours will be reached at some point during the 1st year of the graduate program. An internal “degree audit” will be conducted on all 3+2 students as they near the end of their 4th year (1st year in the MS-AT program) to insure compliance with undergraduate degree requirements. Credits taken during the 1st year of the MS-AT program are factored into the credit hour count for the undergraduate degree.

- 4) Can I participate in departmental and college Convocation and UD Commencement activities to receive the undergraduate diploma?

Answer – YES, students will be encouraged to take part in these joyful events following the completion of the Spring semester of the first year in the Master of Science degree program in Athletic Training (technically the 4th year).

- 5) When am I technically deemed a “graduate student”?

Answer – In the UDSIS system you will be designated a “graduate student” when you begin matriculating in Master of Science degree program in Athletic Training beginning Summer Session I at the beginning of your 4th year.

- 6) Students who enter UD's Master of Science degree program in Athletic Training having already secured a baccalaureate degree have a rigorous set of admissions criteria they need to meet. Are students

coming from the 3 (Sports Health) +2 (Athletic Training) program subject to the same admissions criteria?

Answer – YES, students will be held to the same admissions criteria except that the interview step will be waived.

- 7) If I am part of the 3 (Sports Health) +2 (Athletic Training) program do I still have to apply via the Athletic Training Centralized Application System (ATCAS)?

Answer – NO, UD’s Graduate College uses a streamlined application process for internal 3+2 students that only requires the student to submit minimal materials including a resume, personal statement, and “unofficial” UD transcript using an on-line portal - <https://grad-admissions.udel.edu/register/?id=982014e4-3a9b-4beb-af5a-81c4bc957000>

- 8) I am required as part of the Graduate College admissions process to submit letters of recommendation, does this hold true even for students in the 3+2 program?

Answer – NO, letters of recommendation are not part of the admissions application process for internal 3+2 students.

- 9) Are there any fees associated with the application process?

Answer – NO, UD’s Graduate College is *waiving* the application fee for internal 3+2 students

- 10) Is there a minimum number of credit hours I must accrue before I can gain admission into the Master of Science degree program in Athletic Training?

Answer – YES, students in UD’s 3 (Sports Health) +2 (Athletic Training) program must attain a minimum of 92 credit hours, including satisfaction of all necessary pre-requisite courses and other admissions requirements (<https://sites.udel.edu/kaap/graduate-programs/athletic-training-ms/>) before they can be considered for admission into the Master of Science degree program in Athletic Training. An internal “degree audit” is conducted at the end of the sophomore year to ensure that 3+2 students are on time and tracking correctly.

- 11) Is the overall GPA on their transcript from the BS degree in sports health a combination of the first 3 years from the undergraduate and the first year of the graduate program?

Answer - All coursework taken in the undergraduate career is included in the undergraduate GPA. Any graduate career coursework that is transferred back to the undergraduate career in order to complete the BS will also factor into the undergraduate GPA – that same graduate career coursework is also included in the graduate GPA since it applies toward both degrees.