



## Grant Information Summary:

# Selection and Evaluation Guidelines for Clinical Education Settings in Athletic Training

### Purpose:

**The purpose of this study was to develop and test standards and associated criteria for the selection and evaluation of a clinical education setting in athletic training.**

A previously validated set of 20 physical therapy clinical education setting standards, criteria, and 2 related evaluation forms were systematically revised and adapted through a survey process. Program directors, clinical instructors, and students involved with athletic training clinical education (representing college / university, high school, and clinic-based settings) from 28 NATA-approved or CAAHEP-accredited athletic training education programs participated in this study. Items were judged as to whether they were relevant, clear, practical, and predictive of high quality clinical education settings. We accepted a final set of 12 standards and 31

associated criteria to measure these standards. The student form lists 23 criteria relevant to these accepted standards. The accepted standards are as follows: learning environment; program planning; learning experiences; ethical standards; administrative support; effective communications; staff number; clinical instructor selection; principles of teaching and learning; professional associations; adequate space; and setting coordinator of clinical education. These standards / criteria could be helpful in forming an impression not only about a particular clinical setting, but also about the requirements of clinical education in general.

## Recommendations from the Principle Investigator

These standards/criteria should be used as guidelines rather than as minimal requirements. They could be helpful in forming an impression not only about a particular clinical setting, but also about the requirements of clinical education in general. Further research should include evaluating and comparing perceptions among genders and ethnic groups concerning their clinical education experiences.

## Principal Investigator:



**Thomas G.  
Weidner,  
PhD, ATC/L**

Dr. Weidner is Director of the Athletic Training Education Program at Ball State University. He served on the Board of Editors of the *Journal of Athletic Training* for ten years and is the 1996 recipient of the Athletic Training Research and Education Society's "Researcher and Educator of the Year" Award.

## Publications & Presentation List

NATA Annual Meeting  
Nashville, TN, June 29 - July 2, 2000



2952 Stemmons • Dallas, TX 75247  
214-637-6282

***The mission of the NATA Research and Education Foundation is to enhance the healthcare of the physically active through funding and support of research and education.***