I. **Purpose**

The purpose of this form is to help athletic training students and clinical instructor colleagues to evaluate the clinical instruction of an ACI. We recommend that the seven standards and associated criteria listed below be used as guidelines, not as minimal requirements. These standards/criteria were developed in a National Athletic Trainers’ Association - Research and Education Foundation research project and are considered to be clear, necessary, and appropriate for ACI’s in a variety of athletic training clinical education settings.

II. **Identification of Approved Clinical Instructor**

Name of ACI: ________________________________________

Please check if you are:  Colleague _____ or  Student _____

Date: ___________________

Employment setting

_____ College/University Athletic Training Facility

_____ High School Athletic Training Facility

_____ Community-based Health Care Facility (e.g., sports medicine clinic)

Name of institution/setting ______________________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________________________

                      Street       City      State       Zip

Telephone (____) ______________________ Email ________________________________

III. **Definition of Terms**

**Approved Clinical Instructor:** An Approved Clinical Instructor (ACI) is an NATABOC Certified Athletic Trainer with a minimum of one year of work experience as an athletic trainer, and who has completed Approved Clinical Instructor training. An ACI provides formal instruction and evaluation of clinical proficiencies in classroom, laboratory, and/or in clinical education experiences through direct supervision of athletic training students.

**Clinical Instructor:** A clinical instructor (CI) is an NATABOC certified athletic trainer or other qualified health care professional with a minimum of one year of work experience in their respective academic or clinical area. Clinical instructors teach, evaluate, and supervise athletic training students in the field experiences. A clinical instructor is not charged with the final formal evaluation of athletic training students’ integration of clinical proficiencies. A clinical instructor may also be an ACI.
IV. Use the standards and associated criteria below as guidelines to evaluate the performance of an ACI.

| Standard 1.0 |
The approved clinical instructor (ACI) demonstrates legal and ethical behavior that meets the expectations of members of the profession of athletic training.

Use the following scale to respond to the criteria listed below for this standard:
1 = Never; 2 = Seldom; 3 = Occasionally; 4 = Usually; 5 = Always

**Criterion 1.1**
The ACI holds the appropriate credential [NATABOC certification and state license, registration, certification, or exemption, if applicable] as required by the state in which the individual provides athletic training services.

Yes ____ No ____ Unknown ____

**Criterion 1.2**
The ACI provides athletic training services that are defined by the Role Delineation Study and within the scope of the respective state practice act (if applicable).

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

**Criterion 1.3**
The ACI provides athletic training services that are consistent with state and federal legislation. Examples include equal opportunity and affirmative action policies, ADA, HIPAA, and FERPA.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

**Criterion 1.4**
The ACI demonstrates ethical behavior as defined by the NATA Code of Ethics and the NATABOC Standards of Professional Practice.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

| Standard 2.0 |
The approved clinical instructor (ACI) demonstrates effective communication skills.

Use the following scale to respond to the criteria listed below for this standard:
1 = Never; 2 = Seldom; 3 = Occasionally; 4 = Usually; 5 = Always

**Criterion 2.1**
The ACI communicates with the Program Director and/or Clinical Education Coordinator regarding athletic training student progress towards clinical education goals at regularly scheduled intervals determined by the athletic training education program.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

**Criterion 2.2**
The ACI uses appropriate forms of communication to clearly and concisely express him/her to athletic training students, both verbally and in writing.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown
**Criterion 2.3**
The ACI provides appropriately timed and constructive formative and summative feedback to athletic training students.

1 2 3 4 5  Unknown

**Criterion 2.4**
The ACI facilitates communication with athletic training students through open-ended questions and directed problem solving.

1 2 3 4 5  Unknown

**Criterion 2.5**
The ACI ensures time for on-going professional discussions with the athletic training student in the clinical setting.

1 2 3 4 5  Unknown

**Criterion 2.6**
The ACI communicates with athletic training students in a non-confrontational and positive manner.

1 2 3 4 5  Unknown

**Criterion 2.7**
The ACI receives and responds to feedback from the Program Director and/or Clinical Education Coordinator, and athletic training students.

1 2 3 4 5  Unknown

**Standard 3.0**
The approved clinical instructor (ACI) demonstrates appropriate and professional interpersonal relationships.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use the following scale to respond to the criteria listed below for this standard:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = Never; 2 = Seldom; 3 = Occasionally; 4 = Usually; 5 = Always</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Criterion 3.1**
The ACI forms appropriate and professional relationships with athletic training students.

1 2 3 4 5  Unknown

**Criterion 3.2**
The ACI models appropriate and professional interpersonal relationships when interacting with athletic training students, colleagues, patients/athletes, and administrators.

1 2 3 4 5  Unknown

**Criterion 3.3**
The ACI appropriately advocates athletic training students when interacting with colleagues, patients/athletes, and administrators.

1 2 3 4 5  Unknown
Criterion 3.4
The ACI is a positive role model and/or mentor for athletic training students.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

Criterion 3.5
The ACI demonstrates respect for gender, racial, ethnic, religious, and individual differences when interacting with people.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

Criterion 3.6
The ACI has an open and approachable demeanor to athletic training students when working in the clinical setting.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard 4.0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The approved clinical instructor (ACI) demonstrates effective instructional skills.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use the following scale to respond to the criteria listed below for this standard:
1 = Never; 2 = Seldom; 3 = Occasionally; 4 = Usually; 5 = Always

Criterion 4.1
The ACI collaborates with the Program Director and/or Clinical Education Coordinator to plan learning experiences.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

Criterion 4.2
The ACI implements, facilitates, and evaluates planned learning experiences with athletic training students.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

Criterion 4.3
The ACI understands the athletic training students' academic curriculum, level of didactic preparation, and current level of performance, relative to the goals of the clinical education experience.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

Criterion 4.4
The ACI takes advantage of teachable moments during planned and unplanned learning experiences by instructing skills or content that is meaningful and immediately applicable.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown

Criterion 4.5
The ACI employs a variety of teaching styles to meet individual athletic training students' needs.

1 2 3 4 5 Unknown
Criterion 4.6
The ACI helps athletic training student’s progress towards meeting the goals and objectives of the clinical experience as assigned by the Program Director and/or Clinical Education Coordinator.

Criterion 4.7
The ACI modifies learning experiences based on the athletic training students' strengths and weaknesses.

Criterion 4.8
The ACI creates learning opportunities that actively engage athletic training students in the clinical setting and that promote problem-solving and critical thinking.

Criterion 4.9
The ACI encourages self-directed learning activities for the athletic training students when appropriate.

Criterion 4.10
The ACI performs regular self-appraisal of his/her teaching methods and effectiveness.

Criterion 4.11
The ACI is enthusiastic about teaching athletic training students.

Criterion 4.12
The ACI communicates complicated/detailed concepts in terms that students can understand based on their level of progression within the athletic training education program.

Criterion 4.13
The ACI encourages athletic training students to engage in self-directed learning as a means of establishing life-long learning practices of inquiry and clinical problem solving.
Standard 5.0
The approved clinical instructor (ACI) demonstrates effective supervisory and administrative skills when working with athletic training students.

Use the following scale to respond to the criteria listed below for this standard:
1 = Never; 2 = Seldom; 3 = Occasionally; 4 = Usually; 5 = Always

Criterion 5.1
The ACI directly supervises athletic training students during formal acquisition, practice, and evaluation of the Entry-Level Athletic Training Clinical Proficiencies.

Criterion 5.2
The ACI intervenes on behalf of the athlete/patient when the athletic training student is putting the athlete/patient at risk or harm.

Criterion 5.3
The ACI encourages athletic training students to arrive at clinical decisions on their own according to their level of education and clinical experience.

Criterion 5.4
The ACI applies the clinical education policies, procedures, and expectations of the Athletic Training Education Program.

Criterion 5.5
The ACI presents clear performance expectations to athletic training students at the beginning and throughout the learning experience.

Criterion 5.6
The ACI informs athletic training students of relevant policies and procedures of the clinical setting.

Criterion 5.7
The ACI provides feedback to athletic training students from information acquired from direct observation, discussion with others and from review of athlete/patient documentation.

Criterion 5.8
The ACI treats the athletic training students' presence as educational and not as a means for providing medical coverage.
Criterion 5.9
The ACI completes athletic training students’ evaluation forms requested for the Athletic Training Education Program in a timely fashion.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Criterion 5.10
The ACI provides the Program Director and/or Clinical Education Coordinator with requested materials as required for the accreditation process.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Criterion 5.11
The ACI collaborates with athletic training students to arrange quality clinical education experiences which are compatible with the students’ academic schedule.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Standard 6.0
The approved clinical instructor (ACI) effectively evaluates athletic training student performance.

Use the following scale to respond to the criteria listed below for this standard:
1 = Never; 2 = Seldom; 3 = Occasionally; 4 = Usually; 5 = Always

Criterion 6.1
The ACI notes the athletic training students' knowledge, skills, and behaviors as they relate to the specific goals and objectives of their clinical experience.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Criterion 6.2
The ACI communicates with the Program Director and/or Clinical Education Coordinator regarding implementing and/or clarifying the Athletic Training Education Program's performance evaluation instruments.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Criterion 6.3
The ACI records student progress based on performance criteria established by the Athletic Training Education Program and identifies areas of competence as well as areas that require improvement.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Criterion 6.4
The ACI approaches the evaluation process as constructive and educational.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Criterion 6.5
The ACI communicates with the Program Director and/or Clinical Education Coordinator in a timely manner when an athletic training student needs remediation.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown
Criterion 6.6
The ACI and athletic training students participate in formative (i.e., on-going specific feedback) and summative (i.e., general overall performance feedback) evaluations.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Standard 7.0
The approved clinical instructor (ACI) demonstrates clinical skills and knowledge which meet or exceed the athletic training education competencies and clinical proficiencies.

Use the following scale to respond to the criteria listed below for this standard:
1 = Never; 2 = Seldom; 3 = Occasionally; 4 = Usually; 5 = Always

Criterion 7.1
The ACI is capable of teaching and evaluating the clinical proficiencies which are particular to their setting or environment.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Criterion 7.2
The ACI's knowledge and skills are current and support care decisions based on science and evidence-based practice.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Criterion 7.3
The ACI maintains his/her clinical skills and knowledge through participation in continuing education programs.

1  2  3  4  5  Unknown

Comments regarding strengths, weaknesses, and/or suggestions for improvement:

Funding support provided by the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Research and Education Foundation, 2002
Work completed by Thomas G. Weidner, PHD, ATC/L and Jolene M. Henning, EdD, ATC-L
Copyright 2004, Ball State University. All rights reserved.