



QUALITY



## OPEN COMMENT

### OPEN COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED TIMELINE AND STANDARD FOR TRANSITION TO THE MASTERS DEGREE

As announced on May 20, 2015 the Strategic Alliance has determined that the professional degree for athletic training will be at the master's level. The Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) welcomes comments from its stakeholders on the proposed **Standards language and timeline** to implement this change. Modifications to Standard 2 (underlined below), from the *Standards for the Accreditation of Professional Athletic Training Programs*, have been proposed by the CAATE Standards Committee to provide a timeline to implement the transition of the professional degree to the masters.

#### Proposed Standard 2:

CAATE accredited professional athletic training programs must result in the granting of a master's degree in Athletic Training. The program must be identified as an academic athletic training degree in institutional academic publications. The degree must appear on the official transcript similar to normal designations for other degrees at the institution.

#### Proposed Timeline for Compliance with Standard 2:

*For those programs with a baccalaureate only program, or for those who have started transitioning from a baccalaureate to master's program, all students must be enrolled in the professional phase of a baccalaureate program by the beginning of the fall 2022 term. No new students may enroll in the professional phase of a **baccalaureate** program after the start of the fall term of 2022.*

This request for comment is being distributed to all accredited program Clinical Education Coordinators, Program Directors, Department Chairs, Deans, Provosts, and Presidents. Recipients are encouraged to share it with other programmatic stakeholders who may also wish to comment.

The CAATE appreciates your thoughtful participation and input regarding how the proposed degree transition timeline impacts your program and institution. The Commission will review the feedback received from this open comment and intends to determine the final timeline during our August 2015 meeting. Please direct questions regarding this process to the CAATE office at 1-844-GO-CAATE or through email to [support@caate.net](mailto:support@caate.net).

The open comment survey can be accessed [HERE](#) and will remain open and available until July 31, 2015.

### ONGOING PROFESSIONAL DEGREE DISCUSSION

The CAATE recognizes the magnitude of the ongoing professional degree discussion and we look forward to working closely with our strategic partners at the NATA, BOC, and NATA Foundation as we examine this issue.

The strategic alliance website is now available to provide information about the professional degree transition to all stakeholders. Visit the Strategic alliance website at [www.ATStrategicAlliance.org](http://www.ATStrategicAlliance.org) to view official statements, additional FAQs, or for the opportunity to submit questions about the professional degree transition.

