ORTHOPEDIC PHYSICIAN EXTENDER GRADUATE CERTIFICATE
(PENDING SCHEV APPROVAL)

Banner Code: E1-CERG-ORPE

Academic Advising
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Note: as of catalog publication in April, the program described below has been approved by the Board of Visitors and sent to the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia for consideration as a new degree program. The university cannot accept applications or enroll students in this program until SCHEV approval has been granted.

An Orthopedic Physician Extender is a highly educated healthcare specialist who works directly under the orthopedic physician involved in the management of musculoskeletal conditions in a guided, supervised orthopedic and surgical setting. The student will learn casting, splinting and orthotic device application, surgical considerations, and appropriate healthcare administration for orthopedic patients. This certificate will afford students an additional opportunity beyond the entry-level athletic training degree to market themselves as key members of the health care team and elevate their clinical specialty in the orthopedic setting.

The curriculum will prepare graduates for the National Board for Certification in the Orthopedic Specialties (NBCOS) Orthopedic Physician Extender certification examination (OPE-C).

Admissions & Policies

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Admissions
Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions (http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/). In addition, applicants must be

1. a currently certified athletic trainer or
2. in the process of completing a professional athletic training program, a post-professional athletic training program, a residency athletic training program, or a clinical doctoral athletic training program.

For specific information about this program, see Graduate Application Deadlines and Requirements on the college website (https://education.gmu.edu/academics/academic-programs/graduate-programs/).

Policies
For policies governing all graduate certificates, see AP6.8 Requirements for Graduate Certificates (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-8).

Certificate Requirements
Total credits: 15
This certificate may be pursued on a part-time basis only.

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>ATEP 540</td>
<td>Lower Body Physical Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ATEP 570</td>
<td>Upper Body Physical Assessment</td>
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<td>ATEP 571</td>
<td>Orthopedic Bracing</td>
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<td>ATEP 573</td>
<td>Special Topics</td>
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