

## 2026 MSAT Application Procedures

There are **3 steps** in the application process for the Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) program at Cal State Fullerton.

### 1. Athletic Training Centralized Application System ([ATCAS](#)) application

- Most questions related to completing the application can be answered in the [Help Center](#)

#### Academic History

- Enter all coursework completed (make sure your entries match exactly to your official transcript)
- **Send official transcripts from each college or university previously attended directly to ATCAS** (Do NOT send transcripts to Cal State Fullerton)
- *\*Note:* ATCAS must verify that the coursework submitted in your application and your official transcript(s) match. This verification process can take 1-2 weeks after your application is submitted and your official transcripts are received by ATCAS. We cannot evaluate your application until this is complete, so we advise you to hit "Submit" your application by mid-October. See recommended timeline below.

#### Supporting Information

- [Observation Verification form](#)
- Personal Statement (500-word limit)
- Miscellaneous optional information (achievements, experiences, etc.,)

#### Program Materials

- Professional Recommendations
  - Provide contact information for at least 2 references who will submit recommendations:
    - One must be from a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) who supervised your clinical observation hours.
    - One must be from a professor/teacher who can describe your academic ability.
  - In lieu of writing a letter of recommendation, we are asking references to complete this [recommendation form](#).
  - After submitting contact information for your evaluators, they will electronically submit their letters directly to your ATCAS application. You will need to send them the form to complete and submit. We must receive these by November 1<sup>st</sup> to evaluate your application. We recommend asking for a recommendation at least one month in advance.
- Essay Questions (3)
  - Responses are limited to 2000 characters (approximately 300-400 words)

**\*\*Applications must be verified by November 1 at 9:00 PM Pacific to be reviewed\*\***

## 2. On-campus Interview

- The strongest applicants will be invited for an on-campus interview at Cal State Fullerton
  - Note: travel costs related to attending an interview are the responsibility of the applicant
- Candidates will be notified of the decision (admit/deny/waitlist) shortly after the last interview is completed (~December 1).

## 3. Cal State Apply Application

- Applicants who are offered placement in the cohort will complete an application in [Cal State Apply](#) to be formally admitted to Cal State Fullerton.
  - Please DO NOT submit a Cal State Apply application until requested to do so by the MSAT program.

## Have Questions?

Please visit our website: <https://msat.fullerton.edu/>. The answers to many of your questions can be answered there. Please also check out the FAQ's:

<http://msat.fullerton.edu/prospective-student/faq.html>

## Still have Questions? Contact:

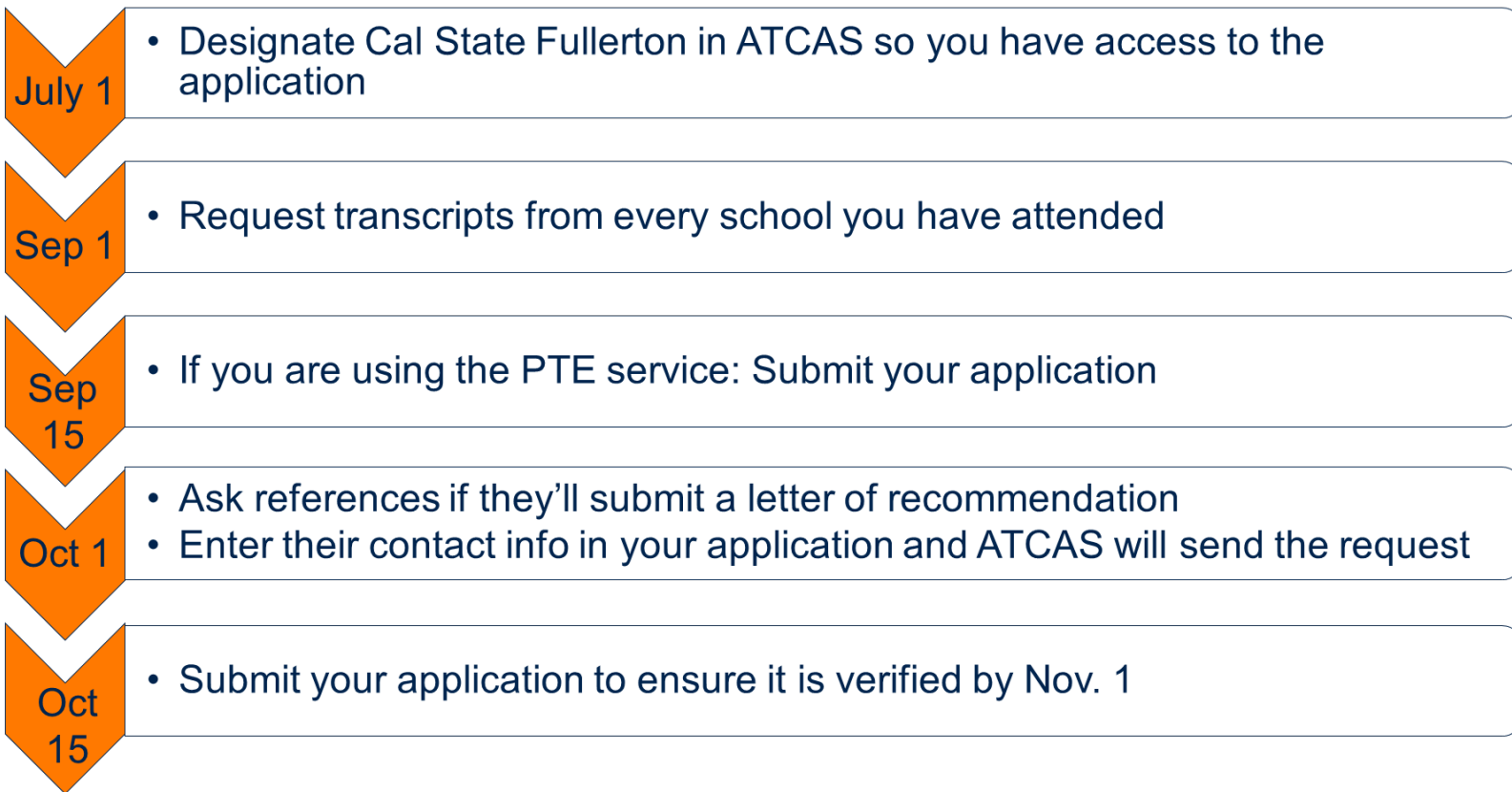
Melissa M. Montgomery, PhD, ATC  
Director, Master of Science in Athletic Training program  
California State University, Fullerton  
[msat@fullerton.edu](mailto:msat@fullerton.edu)

## Recommended Application Timeline

**Applications must be complete and verified by ATCAS by the deadline: November 1.**

Once you hit “Submit” in ATCAS, your application will be placed in a queue for verification as long as your transcripts have been received. This can take up to 2 weeks. If your transcripts have not been received when you submit your application, the verification process can take longer. You can submit your application even if transcripts or letters of recommendation have not been received yet.

**We cannot review applications until they are complete AND verified so it is imperative that you submit your application in time for it to be verified by November 1.**



## MSAT Applicant Evaluation Rubric

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Weight</b>
1. Academic Record a. Prerequisite GPA (30%) b. Undergraduate Cumulative GPA (20%)	50%
2. Quality of ATCAS Application a. Responses to program-specific application questions (10%) b. Personal statement (5%)	15%
3. Professional Recommendations (2) a. Athletic Trainer (5%) b. Professor or Academic Advisor (5%)	10%
4. Interview	25%

These application items help us evaluate the qualities that we believe are crucial to being successful in our program AND the athletic training profession: academic ability (transcripts), character & work habits (essay questions and letters of recommendation), and interpersonal skills and communication (interview).

All candidates are evaluated by the MSAT Admissions Committee which includes core faculty and may include preceptors and/or current MSAT students.