



Central State University DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

POLICY ON ATHLETIC INJURIES, ILLNESSES, AND MEDICAL CARE

I **Physical Examination:**

Every student-athlete must have a physical examination to qualify for participation in intercollegiate athletics. This examination is to be completed by a qualified physician. Freshman and transfers must have a completed physical examination prior to participating in athletics. **ALL** student-athletes must complete or update a medical history questionnaire.

All athletes' physicals will be updated annually by the Head Athletic Trainer and the team physician. Athletes who leave school for one or more years or athletic seasons (in the individual's sport) must undergo a new physical exam before being re-admitted to the athletic program.

Students who do not have a current physical on file with the Head Athletic Trainer will not be permitted to participate in the intercollegiate program. Should the student do so anyway, the Athletic Department will not assume responsibility for their treatment or well-being.

II **Insurance Forms**

All participants must have on file an updated insurance form completed by their parent(s)/guardian(s)/spouse/or self (if an independent over the age of 23). If this form is not on file the athletic department may not be responsible for bills incurred by the athlete.

III **Injury or Illness**

The student-athlete is responsible to report to a member of the athletic training staff all injuries or illness as soon as possible. The Head Athletic Trainer will make the necessary medical referral as indicated. In the event of an emergency due to athletic injury or illness, the athlete will be transported by the appropriate method to a pre-arranged hospital or Urgent Care facility. The athlete should not seek outside medical attention for an athletic injury or illness without prior authorization by the Head Athletic Trainer, except in the case of an emergency. Athletes with their own medical insurance are free to seek care under their policy. Athletes may be referred by the physician at the Student Health Center if the athlete is seen there.

IV **Referral to team physician, medical specialist, Student Health Services**

If in the opinion of the Head Athletic Trainer, an athlete should be referred to the team physician, medical specialist, or Student Health Services, the Head Athletic Trainer will make the appointment with the appropriate medical professional. Transportation to an appointment will be arranged and provided accordingly.

Follow-up Referrals

If an athlete is seen at the emergency room or Urgent Care Facility, any follow-up appointments are to be arranged through the training room or through Student Health Services.



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V **Dental Care**

The Athletic Department will be responsible for the care of dental injuries incurred while participating in an official practice session or athletic competition. In those sports where protective intra-oral devices (mouthpieces) are mandatory and provided for use in official practices or competitions, the Athletic Department will assume responsibility for care only if the device is worn by the student-athlete at the time of injury. Dental care for pre-existing conditions and not directly related to an athletic injury shall be the responsibility of the student-athlete.

VI **Treatments**

The training room hours will be posted with each sport season. Treatments will be available to all athletes, but those in season will receive first priority. Failure of an injured athlete to keep appointments will be interpreted as the athlete's unwillingness to cooperate with the athletic medical staff for the earliest possible return to participation. The individual's head coach will be informed of an athlete who fails to keep scheduled appointments. This includes appointments with the team physician or other medical specialist.

VII **Practice or game participation for an injured or ill athlete**

Decisions on the availability of an athlete for practice or game competition shall be the sole responsibility of the team physician, Head Athletic Trainer, and/or Student Health Services Medical Director.

VIII **Replacement of corrective equipment for student-athletes with vision, hearing and oral defects.**

All athletes with disabilities must report said disabilities to the Head Athletic Trainer prior to the athletic program. Failure to report such disability will result in the student-athlete assuming full liability for any injuries incurred due to prior disabilities.

All student-athletes with vision impairments must wear contact lenses or glasses with approved safety lens and frames. The athlete is responsible for reporting the loss or damage to corrective equipment to a member of the medical staff upon occurrence. The Athletic Department will assist in the arrangement for repair or replacement of corrective equipment.

IX **Out-of-season injury or illness**

The Athletic Department shall not assume responsibility for care of injuries or illness incurred when the student-athlete is not actively engaged in a formal, official game or practice during the competitive season, or a conditioning program in preparation for intercollegiate competition.

X **Claim Forms / Insurance**

Upon a medical referral to the team physician or medical specialist, the student-athlete is responsible for reporting to the training room to complete an insurance claim form for all injuries within 24 hours of the occurrence.



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To submit a claim please follow the below directions.

1. All claims must **FIRST** be submitted to the athlete's **PRIMARY CARE INSURANCE CARRIER**.
2. If denied or if there is a balance after their insurance carrier has paid, the athlete must submit all bills and an Explanation of Benefits (commonly known as a EOB) from the carrier within 30 days of denial or receipt of notice of the balance.

These procedures must be followed for each athletic injury. It is the athlete's responsibility to bring all bills, received by the athlete, to be filed against the athletic insurance to the training room within 10 days of receipt.

All claims against the athletic insurance must be filed within one year of injury. It is very difficult to get insurance companies to pay bills after the filing period.

***THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY CHARGES
INCURRED DUE TO EXAMINATION AND/OR TREATMENT BY A MEDICAL
PROFESSIONAL IF THESE POLICIES ARE NOT FOLLOWED!!!***