

## *Quotes from Current Hope College AT Students*

“I first became interested in Hope when I was looking for a smaller college with a strong kinesiology department (I had been considering being pre-OT). When I first visited Hope during my senior year of high school, I had an interview with the head of the department who perceptively advised that athletic training might be a better fit for me given my love of swimming. I came away not only impressed with the AT program but also by the commitment of the faculty towards the AT students. I was also drawn by the availability of a vibrant spiritual presence on the campus and the close connection between the college and the wonderful Holland community. My parents and I were also impressed by the financial aid that was offered by Hope. While other schools I explored offered some of these elements, the total package offered by Hope persuaded me that this was where I wanted to be. So I eagerly filled out an application and was delighted to be accepted by Hope and the AT program!

From the very first day, I have loved Hope, this program and the Holland community. The professors demonstrate their desire to see us succeed through the one-on-one help they give to their AT students and by infusing in us a passion for academic and professional excellence. My years at Hope have also given me important academic and social relationships with other AT professionals and students. The program’s emphasis on hands-on clinical experiences have been invaluable, enriching my classroom training and helping me to confidently decide to pursue a graduate program in athletic training.”

“I chose to come to Hope because, well, it just felt right! I loved the atmosphere, the people, really everything about it, including the athletic training program. Hope’s athletic training program is not only one of the best in the state, but it offers a great education in a family-like environment. The certified athletic trainers here truly care about the success and happiness of students and provide us with endless opportunities to make the most of our education.”

**“I applied to the Hope College Athletic Training program because it is one of the best programs in the nation and also because it is such a small program. With only 24 other students sharing your major there is plenty of time for one on one attention.”**

**“The most special aspect of this program for me, seeing how I am from a few states away, is that it is like a big family, from the students to the professors; its truly a unique experience.”**

"The one thing that stuck out about Hope's program was the simple fact that freshman or first year students are able to engage and work with athletes. Other colleges have an observation year before applying to the program. Coming into college I already knew what I wanted to study and would have been frustrated and bored at a college with an observational year."

*"My experiences at Hope College have been great. I have learned a lot from day one and have been able to apply my knowledge. I have had the opportunity to work with men's tennis, men's soccer, football, and the women's basketball teams and also with a local high school. This is one of the positives about the program. I have been assigned to work with these teams and create friendships, and also trusting relationships with the athletes and coaches. I have also had the opportunity to work with the Michigan Athletic Trainers Society. This has been a great opportunity for me to work in student leadership within athletic training at the state level."*

**"So I decided to attend Hope and leave with a degree in a profession that I thought I would really enjoy; little did I know it would be a decision that changed my life. It is something that I enjoy learning about, and is a profession that I can see myself waking up every morning excited for what the day may bring. There are many things about Hope's program that has fostered this growth, one being the attention that you get as a student in the classroom and in the clinical settings. It is also a plus having the same professors in the classroom setting and in the clinical setting, which really allows theory to turn into practice. The program also allows freshmen into the program, so you get started right away, which I feel is a huge advantage over other programs."**

"I decided to come to Hope because I grew up hearing what a great school it is (my parents are both alumni) and I wanted a small personal atmosphere. My freshmen year I took many different classes, but couldn't narrow down what I wanted to major in. After talking with several professors, and doing a lot of soul searching, I decided I wanted to do Athletic Training. So far I have found the program to be challenging, and also a lot of fun. I love that the professors are always available to help, but you also get to experience a lot of things by yourself first hand."

"Hope College wasn't a college that I was seriously looking at until a friend told me to go check out the campus. When I did that, I instantly fell in love with the campus and the people. The Athletic Training Program at Hope has many people who are willing to help you in and out of the Athletic Training Program. Everyone in the program is very close, making it seem like family. People willing to help, family atmosphere, and a great campus were major factors in

my decision to apply to Hope's Athletic Training Program,  
not to mention that the program is a nationally accredited  
by the Commission for Accreditation of Athletic Training  
Education (CAATE)."