

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title	GB Students Lead Physiotherapist
Employer	British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS)
Team	GB Students
Manager	Chef de Mission (GB Students), Head of International Student Sport (BUCS).
Place of work	Remotely during pre-Games with requirement for medical provision preparations at the BUCS Office (20-24 King's Bench Street London, SE1 0QX) where necessary. Multi-site village model in Changchun, China.
Dates of Availability	WUGS event runs from the 15th to 25 January, 2027 – it is expected the Lead physio will leave on 10th of January and return on the 27th of January.
Main purpose of role	British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) is seeking to appoint a highly qualified and experienced volunteer Lead Physiotherapist to lead physiotherapy support and delivery for the GB Students delegation due to compete at the Winter Universiade in 2027. The successful applicant will take the role for a Winter Universiade cycle, from appointment through to the end of the Games. The FISU Winter Universiade are staged biennially as a celebration of international university sports and culture. The FISU Winter Universiade is considered one of the largest multi-sport Winter Games in the world. The Games represent an experience comparable to an Olympic and Paralympic in terms of scale, village life and competition format. It is anticipated that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will send a delegation of around 40 - 60 to the FISU Winter Universiade 2027 in Changchun, China.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- To lead and provide high-quality physiotherapy support to all athletes during their preparation and competition phase and for the whole duration of the Winter Universiade.
- To establish and build relations with the Organising Committee and physiotherapy structures, and work with the GB Students CMO to cascade all relevant information to HQ and National Governing Body medical staff.
- To participate within regular meetings (in-person or via Teams) as a member of the GB Students Senior Leadership Team offering constructive opinion and support for the overall delivery of medical and performances services across the GB Students Changchun 2027 footprint.
- To work closely as part of the GB Students SLT in the detailed planning for the 6 months in advance of the Winter Universiade.

- To work with the Chef de Mission, Chief Medical Officer, BUCS Head of International Student Sport and TASS to recruit a diverse team of HQ Physiotherapists to be deployed during the Winter Universiade, and noting numbers based on final delegation size, requirements and accreditation available.
- To input on and act in accordance with Incident Management Reporting.
- To collate, refine and stock check all necessary medical and physiotherapy consumables and equipment required by the HQ clinical team at The Games with the GB Students CMO; assisting in the ordering, packing, freighting of all items before, during and after The Games in coordination with the BUCS International Student Sport Coordinator.
- To provide a responsive, accessible physiotherapy support service to all GB Students delegates, both in a clinic village setting, as an escort during travel, in competition and training venues, on-call and across all other locations deemed appropriate to meet the requirements of the role.
- To ensure a high standard of health promotion and preventative care for athletes and athlete support personnel including Medical Officers, Physiotherapist, Team Leaders, Coaching Staff and others.
- To liaise with other medical personnel and performance services support staff to ensure the highest standards of care of an athlete's injury or illness and optimum rehabilitation and management extending post-Games, whilst always working within the CSP guidelines on patient confidentiality.
- To promote drug-free sport and have a working knowledge of UKAD best practice and The Code (WADA)
- To contribute to pre-event educational resources and materials designed to support delegates.
- To keep detailed, confidential and secure physiotherapy records of all consultations.
- To act and meet requirements in accordance with the official FISU regulations.
- To provide accurate reports on physiotherapy activity within the village or other locations as required.
- To participate in pre-event planning of equipment and supplies in conjunction with the Chief Medical Officer.
- To liaise as required with local medical and emergency staff.
- To maintain such information on assessment and treatment as required to provide accurate reports and records.
- To liaise with the Chief Medical Officer on a regular basis regarding duties and to feedback any issues that arise.
- The successful candidate will play an active role in the pre-Games planning and organisation of the GB Students Delegation.

HOURS OF WORK

Working hours will be as required to fulfil the role and the significant fluctuating demands throughout the Winter Universiade. The post-holder will be required to acknowledge this and work in a flexible manner to accommodate all requests where appropriate. One visit to the BUCS London office will be required, or in coordination with the BUCS staff to stock-check all physio supplies for the Games.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

DBS check up to date and full driving licence.

RELATIONSHIPS & INTERFACES

Report directly to the GB Students Chef de Mission and BUCS Head of International Student Sport. Work closely with the Chief Medical Officer, Deputy Chef de Mission, HQ Staff, NGB Staff at Games, including Team Leaders and support staff.

ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Degree in Physiotherapy or equivalent
- Post graduate Masters in Sports and Exercise Medicine or Advanced MSK physiotherapy
- Member of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) - with evidence of public liability insurance
- Registered with the Health Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- Current up-to-date level 2 or above Advanced pitch side trauma certificate (PHICIS, FA,, Lubas Medical, Scrumcaps etc)
- Current UKAD Clean Sport Advisor course certification.
- Currently working with, or have worked with elite sport athletes for at least 5
- Experience of delivering and leading medical support to athletes and teams at elite competition level internationally.

DESIRABLE EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Previous experience working within BUCS as a Physiotherapist on the BUCS domestic programme; ideally including multisport events such as BUCS Nationals and BUCS Big Wednesday.
- Previous work within the international university sport programme including WUGs, EUGs, EUCs
- Previous work at similar multi-sport Games including EYOF, YOG, EOG, OG, CWG
- Current or previous experience as a Physiotherapist working within home nations high performance network (UKSI, SIS, etc) or employed directly by a Olympic or paralympic NGB.
- MHFA Mental Health First Aider
- Experience is helping lead a team of Physiotherapists or health professionals within a national or international sporting competition.
- Experience is helping recruit a team of physiotherapist

OTHER INFORMATION

Appointments will be made subject to References.

The post-holder will act in accordance with the BUCS Team Members' Agreement and Code of Conduct.

REMUNERATION

This is an honorary position, although reasonable travel and subsistence costs will be paid (where not otherwise provided).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Candidates can apply by sending their CV and Cover Letter to Chef de Mission, Chris Purdie and Head of International Student Sport – Leyanne Jenkins via GBStudents@bucs.org.uk

The deadline for applications is 23:59hrs Wednesday 23rd September 2026

Interviews will take place Thursday 1st – likely between 9.30 and 2.30pm.