



CAATE

Commission on Accreditation
of Athletic Training Education

Residency & Fellowship Marketing Toolkit

The CAATE created this toolkit as a resource for promoting the value of accredited athletic training residency & fellowship programs.



CAATE

Commission on Accreditation
of Athletic Training Education

Key Marketing Message

Accredited athletic training (AT) residency and fellowship is a crucial step of professional development between graduate education and autonomous clinical practice in a specialty area. Residents in accredited programs benefit from **structured mentorship**, comprehensive specialty training, and **education standards**- set forth by the CAATE. Formal clinical development, structured didactic curricula, and scholarship within the specialty area are pillars of residency programs to expand upon the foundational knowledge and experience athletic trainers have acquired during professional education. Completing an accredited AT residency or fellowship program is a **transformative experience** that leads to better career outcomes for athletic trainers, including expanded career opportunities and increased compensation.



Athletic training residency programs continue the evolution of athletic trainers providing excellent musculoskeletal care to the active population of our country. At Prisma Health/USC, our athletic training residency in orthopedics, continues to increase patient satisfaction and better patient outcomes. We are excited that many of our graduates have elected to stay and help staff a new and growing model to providing an advanced level sports medicine care in our state.”



Jeffrey Guy, MD

Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
University of South Carolina
School of Medicine Columbia



RESIDENCIES & FELLOWSHIPS



78%

somewhat or extremely satisfied with their job, and 65.5% somewhat or extremely satisfied with their compensation



12.5 months

program length average, with a range of 12-22 months



79%

completed a program in Orthopedics



74 of 76

completed a program that is seeking or successfully earned accreditation as a residency



3 years

of experience prior to starting their program (+/- 2 y, range =0-14y)



40%

anticipate taking the Orthopedic Specialty Certification Exam

*2.6% ineligible



57%

in physician practice setting, with 11% in college/university, and 6% leaving the profession



only 15% positions

required completion of a residency/fellowship as part of the position's required qualifications



\$64,907 annual salary

which is improved less by a leadership role and more by setting and years of experience. Those in physician practice earn about \$7k more than those in college/university and those with more than 12 years of experience make about \$24k more than those in the first 6 years of practice

Overall variance: SD = \$14,312, range = \$40,000 - \$130,000

76 individuals who have completed a residency or fellowship since 2007 contributed to this database of information about Athletic Training Residency and Fellowship Programs.

July 2022

CAATE Specialty Areas

Many prospective residents or fellows are not fully aware of the CAATE's approved residency specialty areas. These eight specialty areas of clinical practice, identified by the CAATE, represent areas of specialty in which ATs clearly demonstrate advanced patient-care knowledge and skills.

Residents who complete an accredited residency gain advanced level skills and experience in a particular specialty area. Fellowship is advanced education and intensive programming beyond a core residency program for certified athletic trainers who desire to enter more subspecialized practice.

CAATE Residency Specialty Areas

- Orthopaedics
- Rehabilitation
- Performance Enhancement
- Behavioral Health
- Pediatrics
- Primary Care
- Prevention and Wellness
- Urgent and Emergent Care

Talking Points

Why Accreditation?

Providing residents/fellows with **clear messaging** around the accreditation status of your program helps indicate the quality and rigor associated with the training they will receive. That said, beyond recognizing a common seal of approval, they aren't always informed on the reasons accreditation benefits them.

Accreditation is a **powerful differentiator** between your program and others. We've included several talking points below which you may repurpose alongside the promotion of your program to highlight why **accreditation** is important and something your organization stands by.

Talking Points

- Accredited athletic training residency/fellowship programs benefit all involved-- from program faculty, patients, athletic training residents/fellows, to their future patients-- because the **rigorous quality standards** set forth by the CAATE ensure the best outcomes for athletic trainers.
- The communities surrounding accredited residency programs are strong because they promote **innovation**, mentorship, and excellent patient care.
- Accredited AT residency and fellowship programs are accountable for standards set by the CAATE, ensuring advanced level competency across the field of AT education.
- The CAATE provides support for program faculty and personnel in meeting accreditation standards. Our goal is to make attaining and maintaining accreditation not only achievable, but also a transformational process.
 - The CAATE works to grow the value, quality, and quantity of accredited residency and fellowship programs by supporting program directors, administrators, and residents/fellows.
- Residents and fellows in an accredited residency and fellowship programs are prepared for meaningful and successful careers in athletic training.
 - Faculty and personnel involved in accredited programs learn from and shape the next generation of talented athletic trainers, a process that is **rewarding** for both program personnel and the resident.
 - Employers can expect that individuals who complete accredited residency and fellowship programs will be advanced level specialists who bring **invaluable** knowledge and skills and professionalism with them as they work with patients and colleagues.

Social Media Samples



Facebook/LinkedIn

- Did you know? Attending an accredited athletic training residency and fellowship program is essential because it enables residents and fellows to develop specialized expertise in the field. Learn more at (ADD WEBSITE LINK)
- Residents and fellows in accredited athletic training residency programs benefit from supportive mentorship, comprehensive specialty training, and education standards, set forth by the CAATE (Facebook tag: [@commissionaccreditationAeducation](#) LinkedIn tag: [@CAATE - Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education](#)). Completing an accredited AT program is a transformative experience that leads to the best career outcomes for athletic trainers, including expanded career opportunities and increased compensation. Learn more at (ADD WEBSITE LINK)



Twitter

- The communities surrounding accredited [#athletictraining](#) residency and fellowship programs are strong because they promote innovation, mentorship, and excellent patient care. [@CAATEUS](#) (ADD WEBSITE LINK)
- (PROGRAM NAME) is accredited by [@CAATEUS](#), meaning we meet the quality standards that ensure the better career outcomes for our athletic trainers. [#athletictraining](#) Learn more at (ADD WEBSITE LINK)
- Did you know? Attending an accredited [#athletictraining](#) residency and fellowship program is essential because it enables athletic trainers to develop specialized expertise in the field. Learn more at (ADD WEBSITE LINK)

Sharable Graphics

[Click here to access graphics](#)



Quality

Accredited AT residency programs are accountable for meeting the quality standards set by the CAATE, ensuring consistency across the field of AT education.



Support

The CAATE provides support for program staff in meeting accreditation standards. Its goal is to make attaining and maintaining accreditation an achievable and attainable process.





Professional Development

Residents in an accredited residency program are prepared for meaningful and successful careers in athletic training.



Staff Development

Employers can expect that individuals who completed an accredited residency program will be specialists or experts in their field, bringing invaluable skills and professionalism with them to the workplace.



Community

The communities surrounding accredited residency programs are strong because they promote innovation, mentorship, and excellent patient care.



“

Emory's Orthopedic Athletic Training Residency provided me with the skills necessary to have a successful career in the physician practice setting. Through mentorship and clinical immersion, I felt ready to tackle the skills and tasks required of me in a full-time job."



Dana Levey, MPS, LAT, ATC, OTC

Surgical Athletic Trainer to Dr. Joseph Lamplot
Emory Orthopaedics & Spine Center



“

Athletic training residency programs continue the evolution of athletic trainers providing excellent musculoskeletal care to the active population of our country. At Prisma Health/USC, our athletic training residency in orthopedics, continues to increase patient satisfaction and better patient outcomes. We are excited that many of our graduates have elected to stay and help staff a new and growing model to providing an advanced level sports medicine care in our state."



Jeffrey Guy, MD

Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
School of Medicine Columbia



“

CAATE-approved residencies and fellowships provide a great access to sub-specialty care in the athletic training profession. These professionals are invaluable staff members at my current and former institutions. Student athletes benefit from advanced concussion rehabilitation and coordination of care in the athletic training room in addition to musculoskeletal ultrasound and rehabilitation techniques. **I recommend hiring a CAATE-approved resident or fellow** to my sports medicine colleagues across the country to help augment care for their treatment team."



Douglas Comeau, DO, CAQSM, FAAFP, FAMSSM

Director, University Health Services and Primary Care Sports Medicine, Boston College
Clinical Associate Professor, Family Medicine
Boston University School of Medicine
Head Primary Care Team Physician, Boston College
Head Primary Care Team Physician, Boston Bruins



“

The value and importance of accredited residency programs- To be able to work alongside and learn from orthopedic surgeons, fellows, residents, nurses and other experienced athletic trainers in the clinic setting as well as in the OR is unparalleled in our profession. The vast knowledge that was learned and applied through hands on training, rigorously enhanced my skills and abilities as an Athletic Trainer."



Johnny Pascuzzi, MS, LAT, ATC, OTC

Surgical Athletic Trainer for Dr. Gregory Lee



Create Your Own!

Download a template to create your own testimonial graphic [here](#).