

# Foot and Ankle Fellowships: Taking the Next Step

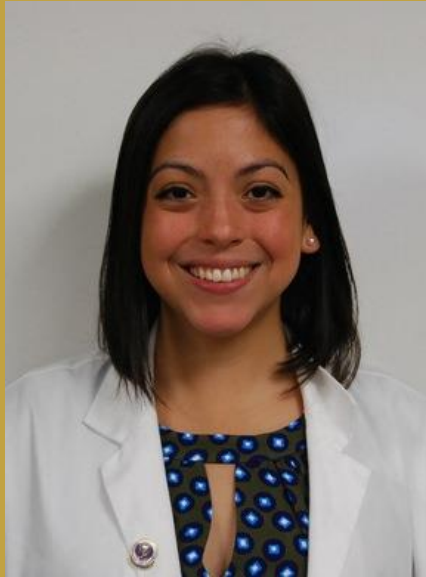
**Moderator: Heidi Godoy, DPM**



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# Presenters



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# Poll Question:

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Where are you in your career path?

- Podiatric medical student
- Resident PGY 1 – PGY2
- Resident PGY 3 +
- Currently in fellowship
- Practitioner, but considering extra training
- Other



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# Poll Question:

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Are you considering applying for a fellowship?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure



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# Content Overview : Some questions we'll try to answer

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- Is fellowship training right for me?
- How does it help your career?
- Any downsides to the choice?
- What do program directors look for in a potential fellow?
- How do I choose a fellowship?
- Where can I find a list of fellowships?



# Why do fellows choose to do a fellowship?



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# Reasons to consider a fellowship:

- You'd like the chance to further hone your surgical skills with one more year of training.
- You like the idea of differentiating yourself from your peers.
- You're competitive: the process to get into a fellowship isn't easy, and many of the strongest residents consider it.
- You see the value you'll receive in putting off going into practice for one more year.



# Some reasons NOT to take on a fellowship:

- Residency training is enough.
- The cost is too high (postponing work and student loan repayment).
- Too competitive: not enough fellowships.
- The added value of a fellowship isn't enough.





# How does fellowship differ from residency:

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- What is the schedule/rotations like (office, surgery, clinic, rounding)?
- Are there any pre/post fellowship exams/boards?
- How does the fellow's call schedule work?
- Does the fellow mainly scrub with the fellowship director, or multiple attendings?



# Can you explain the different specialties:

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- Foot and Ankle Reconstruction
- Sports Medicine
- Trauma
- Research
- Other? (i.e. non-surgical)



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# What about fellowships linked with residencies?

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- How does this relationship work?
- Do you feel the fellow takes away from senior resident cases or do you see it as a learning experience?
- How does the role between fellow and senior resident differ?



# What do directors look for in a fellow?



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# What is the timing for the decision process?

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- What year of residency should I make the decision?
- What year and month of residency is best to visit programs?
- When are applications accepted? How do I apply?
- When are interviews held?
- When are incoming fellows notified?
- How competitive is it?



# What do program directors look for in a fellow?

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- Academic achievement: residency program ranking/history, research, outside activities/volunteer work
- Personal interview: presentation, communication skills, professional interaction, affability, common interests with attendings



# Fellowship programs are like a family:

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Most importantly, after everything else is considered, we have to LIKE you and want you as a part of our family!



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# Poll Question:

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How important do you believe fellowship training is for our profession?

- Very important
- Moderately important
- Not important



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# Where can I find information about available programs?

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- ACFAS website: [acfas.org/fellowshipinitiative](http://acfas.org/fellowshipinitiative)
- All programs list contact information on their individual webpages
- A standard program application is available on the ACFAS website



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# Attending the Annual Scientific Conference?

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- Be sure to attend the Fellowship Breakfast Fair
- Invitation-only: all resident and student conference attendees are invited. Your ticket will be in your registration packet.

- Mark your conference calendar:

Wednesday, March 1, 6:30 – 7:30 AM

Room: St. Thomas AB

25 fellowship programs in attendance



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# Questions?



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