

## ACFAS 2023 Meet the Fellow Questionnaire



American College of  
Foot and Ankle Surgeons®

Fellow Name:

Edgar Sy

Fellowship Program:

Weil Foot, Ankle & Orthopedic Institute Advanced Surgical Fellowship

City/State:

Chicago, Illinois

Program Director:

Jonathan L. Hook

How many Attendings do you work with regularly?

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Describe the diversity of your cases so far in fellowship. (For example, has your experience included TAR? Is there an emphasis on: Pediatrics? Sports Medicine? Deformity correction? Complex reconstruction? What percentage of your cases are trauma? Rearfoot/ankle? Forefoot? Please be as descriptive as you'd like.

Diverse surgical case volume, ranging from forefoot, hindfoot and ankle reconstruction, total ankle replacement, charcot foot reconstruction, sports medicine and trauma. Emphasis on complex forefoot reconstruction, hindfoot/ankle reconstruction, and sports medicine. Trauma is present as well, typically sent from urgent care/ED or patient coming straight to clinic.

How many days per week do you typically spend in the OR? In clinic? Do you have your own "fellow" clinic?

OR typically 2-3 days a week with an average of 12-30 cases a week. Yes, fellows have their own dedicated clinic which allows us to hone in on clinical skills, patient communication skills, and most importantly medical business/billing skills, art of surgical consultation, and management of post-operative patients.



How many surgical cases do you typically scrub per month?

60-70

What conferences have you attended/are you encouraged to attend?

ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference. Educational conferences/events are encouraged

How would you describe your director's teaching style?

Comfortable learning environment, allows fellows to be heavily involved in clinical/surgical decision making, post-operative management and practice management. Emphasis on surgical skills but also other intangibles such as developing medical business skills, billing, industry product innovations, developing habits for efficiency in the OR and clinic to confidently run clinic/be in the OR proficiently. Teaching and the mentorship from both goes beyond the clinic, but also helps building character and develop a relationship that feels part of a family. Pushes you to pay attention to little details that may not be emphasized in residency to provide highest patient satisfaction and outcome in an efficient manner. Both make you feel like family, being their Fellow goes beyond 'work' and make you feel part of the family which is one of my highlights of the fellowship.

How is research incorporated into your experience? What resources are provided/available?

The fellowship is committed to research, and required to present at ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference. Encouraged to create studies that are submitted for peer-to-peer reviewed publication. There are many resources available and support available with faculty and research coordinator

Do you take any "call"? If so, how often? What type of call? (general vs. trauma, hospital vs. private practice?)

As of now, no call. However may be subjected to change

How many hospitals/surgery centers are you credentialed at?

Primarily in 3 surgery centers in IL. However, you will be credentials in hospitals and surgery centers in IL & WI as well

What is your didactic schedule like? What academic opportunities are available to you during fellowship? (Cadaver labs, journal club, radiology conference, etc.)

Weekly MRI reads, pre- & post- surgical discussion, cadaver labs

Is your fellowship affiliated with a residency program? If yes, what are your responsibilities? How often are you interacting with residents (What % of cases?)

No residency affiliation



Are you able to collect cases for board certification?

Yes, any cases booked through your Fellow clinic provides the opportunity of cases towards your board certification

When should interested applicants visit? What does a visit look like?

Typically PGY-2 is an optimal time to visit. Visitation will typically during clinic hours (full day or half depending on visitors availability), very comfortable environment. Will get to interact with the Director and Fellow to ask questions and observe.

What is the interview process like at your program?

Do you have a co-fellow? What percentage of your cases are scrubbed with them?

No, currently this is a one person Fellowship

What support is available for finding post-fellowship employment?

Heavy support system to help the Fellow find employment nationally. Support for contract review and advice as well, and what to look for in a contract to help the Fellow find an employment opportunity to suit their need.

What qualities make an applicant a good fit for your program?

Candidate must be diligent, eager and enthusiastic about the profession and to their patient.

Why did you apply for fellowship? And why did you choose your fellowship program?

Serious about taking foot/ankle surgery to the next level, re-thinking and honing clinical and surgical skills with details to provide best patient outcomes, understanding practice management and medical business decision making (billing/coding) in an ethical manner, better understand the art of surgical consultation and management of post-operative patients. Aspiration to be a leader in my future community and profession.

Any advice for future fellowship applicants?

Apply early, develop a comfortable and respectable director(s) who as these mentors will be for life ideally not only for work but life, decide what specialty you would like to focus in to be able to appropriately select which fellowships to apply

