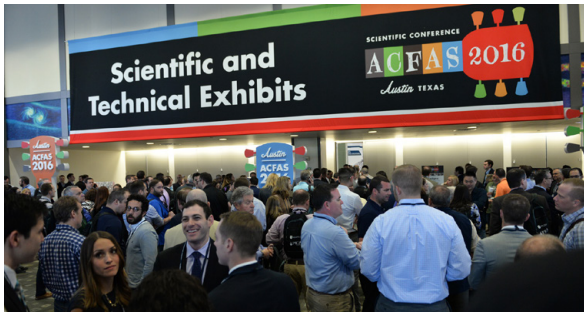


# ACFAS Update

student resident

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF FOOT AND ANKLE SURGEONS

## ACFAS 2016 a Showstopper for Students & Residents



Toppling last year's attendance record, ACFAS 2016 in Austin allowed students and residents to broaden their skillset, network with classmates, colleagues and potential employers and enjoy live music and local cuisine.

This year's Annual Scientific Conference featured nearly a dozen in-depth clinical sessions geared specifically toward young practitioners in addition to the popular hands-on workshops known for their no-nonsense approach to some of the most advanced surgical techniques.

Students and residents connected with ACFAS and ABFAS board members during an invitation-only event at Brazos Hall and learned the ins and outs of post-residency training during a special breakfast discussion led by 20 fellowship directors. Three Student Club posters also took home monetary prizes for their award-winning research: first place went to [Scholl](#), second to [Kent State](#) with [Temple](#) rounding out third place.

Saturday night's Wrap Party at Buffalo Billiards in Austin's historic Sixth Street district was a perfect way for students, residents and their guests to celebrate their last night in the Live Music Capital of the World.

Stay tuned for details on next year's 75th Annual Scientific Conference set for February 27–March 2 at the Mirage Hotel in Las Vegas.

## Interactive Map Shows Opportunities for DPMs State by State

If you're trying to determine which states offer the most opportunities for podiatrists, refer to HIPAASpace.com's [interactive map](#).

The map shows the availability ratio of podiatrists in each state. This ratio is the total number of professionals in a state divided by the total population.

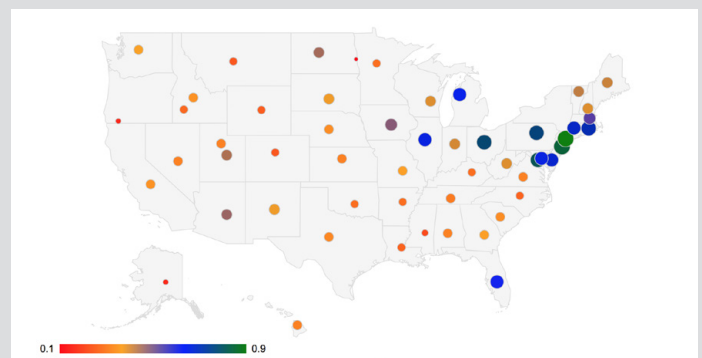
While the northeast coast tends to have the highest concentrations of podiatrists, states with lower concentrations include Alaska, Colorado, Mississippi, Montana and Wyoming. However, the concentration of podiatrists does not indicate practice location.

The trend throughout most health professions is that practices are located in urban settings (correlated to patient population), while rural areas tend to have fewer practices. States such as Alaska, Montana and Wyoming have large areas classified as "rural" by the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Note that in the four non-ankle states—South Carolina, Massachusetts, Alabama and Mississippi—DPMs' scope of

practice is limited to the foot only regardless of education and training.

*For more information about each state's scope of practice laws, refer to the [State Scope of Practice Grid](#) on the ACFAS website or contact [Sarah Nicholson](#), ACFAS director of Health Policy, Practice Management and Research, for more information.*



## Candid Advice on Seeking a Residency

Last fall, the ACFAS Board of Directors visited the Temple University Student Club. The club hosted a panel of residency directors, including Byron L. Hutchinson, DPM, FACFAS, Christopher Hyer, DPM, FACFAS, Christopher L. Reeves, DPM, FACFAS, Thomas S. Roukis, DPM, PhD, FACFAS, and John S. Steinberg, DPM, FACFAS, who held an open Q&A with students and discussed what they look for when they choose a resident.

### To look good as a potential resident:

- Work hard, not just for the director, but for the current residents and program coordinators. They have a say in the residents who are chosen.
- Plan to visit. If you like the program, make it a point to check back.
- Do something you don't need to do (volunteer, publish, be politically active) to make yourself stand out.
- Research the faculty before you visit a program.

### Residency directors aren't impressed by potential residents who:

- Have no questions or show no interest.
- Try to look better than other students.
- Badmouth classmates, co-externs or other programs.

### When researching a program:

- Find the best program for you. Consider geography, work schedule and the team.
- Make sure you fit in there.
- Know that the best program is what you make of it.

### When it comes to externships:

- January isn't a wasted month, so don't give up on a program because of the schedule.
- At the same time, some programs say January is too late. If in doubt, contact the program to find out.
- When done, find out whom you should contact and let the person know how much you like the program.
- Ask for an exit interview to learn how you can improve.

### To stand out in an interview:

- Have a high GPA.
- Be on time.
- Research the program.
- Be mindful of how you respond to questions.
- Be comfortable and carry yourself well.
- Be honest.
- Study the things you don't like. That's what will bite you, not the things that are comfortable or that you know inside and out.
- Have a good question at the end of the interview to show you know about the program.
- Be systematic in your responses.
- Try to control your nervousness.
- Acknowledge the person who asked the question but look at the whole panel.
- Be good at one-on-one interaction because that's what the profession is built on.
- Be careful and sensible in social settings.
- Don't blow off a social event. It's important to mesh personally.
- Watch your social media. It's a reflection of you.

### Program ranking tips:

- Rank how you want and don't overthink it.
- Student ranking has more power than what the programs rank.
- Be honest if the program administrator asks you how their program will be ranked or what other programs you like.
- Directors discuss prospective students with each other.
- With the new scramble program, unmatched programs/students have a better way of matching in round 2.
- You're less likely to scramble if you rank to 12 and don't limit to the top two.

