

Administrative Policies/Procedures

The UAB Foot and Ankle Fellowship is working on becoming an ACGME-accredited program. Three fellows are accepted each year for a 12-month fellowship, August 1 through July 31.

I. Resident Eligibility/Selection

Foot & Ankle Fellowship Application requirements:

M.D. or D.O. degree

ACGME

Completion of an ACGME approved orthopaedic surgery residency program Completed American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society

Universal

Fellowship application

Three letters of recommendation

CV

Copy of Visa (if applicable)

ECFMG certificate (if applicable)

Eligible for license in the state of Alabama

The fellowship director and faculty will review each application. Based on this review, applicants will be invited for interviews with the fellowship director and faculty. Following the interviews, the fellowship director and faculty will determine the selection of fellows.

Transfers: If a fellow transfers from a fellowship program at another institution, written verification of the previous educational experiences and a statement regarding the resident's performance evaluation must be received prior to acceptance into the foot and ankle fellowship.

II. Conference Attendance

Fellows will attend the monthly Grand Rounds and M&M conferences of the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery.

Fellows will attend the weekly Foot and Ankle Conference.

Fellows will attend the monthly Foot and Ankle Journal Club.

III. Duty Hours

The following policy has been implemented regarding fellow duty hours and reflects the current ACGME mandates.

Duty hours are defined as all clinical and academic activities related to the residency program, i.e., patient care (both inpatient and outpatient), administrative duties related to patient care, the provision for transfer of patient care, time spent in-house during call activities, and scheduled academic activities such as conferences. Duty hours do not include reading and preparation time spent away from the duty site. Specific provisions include:

Duty hours will be limited to 80 hours per week, averaged over a four-week period, inclusive of all in-house call activities.

Fellows will be provided with 1 day in 7 free from all educational and clinical responsibilities, averaged over a 4-week period, inclusive of call. (One day is defined as one continuous 24-hour period free from all clinical, educational, and administrative activities.)

The program will provide adequate time for rest and personal activities, which consists of a 10-hour time period provided between all daily duty periods and after in-house call.

In-house call will not occur more frequently than every third night averaged over a four-week period.

Continuous on-site duty, including in-house call, will not exceed 24 consecutive hours.

In order to assess the program's compliance with ACGME working condition stipulations, the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery employs the Med Hub system. The policy requires the fellows to log duty hours four times during the fellowship year using the Med Hub system.

Duty hour reports will be reviewed by the fellowship director and submitted to the GME office.

IV. Disciplinary Procedures

Certain actions may result in suspension or dismissal of a fellow from the program. In all cases in which revocation of a fellow's appointment has been recommended by the program director, the fellow and the Designated Institutional Official shall be notified in writing by the director. An opportunity for the fellow concerned to have a hearing shall be afforded as provided in the GME policies.

V. Moonlighting

Moonlighting is not permitted.

VI. Sleep Deprivation Training

Sleep Deprivation Training Provided by GME Lecture Series.

Goals and Objectives

1. The fellow will learn the diagnostic and therapeutic treatment rationales for foot and ankle with special focus on the management of complex traumatic injuries; reconstructive surgery
2. The fellow will participate in a wide range of surgical procedures and clinic coverage in conjunction with the faculty of the Divisions of Orthopaedic Surgery. Over the 12-month fellowship-training period, experience and responsibility will be gradually increased and by the end of the program each fellow will be comfortable and competent in all areas of foot and ankle surgery.
3. During working hours and when on call, the fellow will be readily available for urgent and routine consultations at University Hospital and UAB Highlands Hospital, whether from the Emergency Department, the Hospital floor, or the Clinic.
4. The fellow will develop and expand his/her familiarity with contemporary and historical literature related to journal club dedicated to review of articles in the Journals of *Foot & Ankle International*, *The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* and *Journal of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery*. Journal club meetings will be organized and directed by the fellows presently rotating on the UAB Orthopaedic Service. Attending assigned to be in charge each month or the fellowship coordinator.
5. The fellow will gain knowledge related to a variety of foot and ankle pathologies through weekly didactic lectures presented by the fellowship faculty, invited guests and the fellows. The lectures are based on a one year curriculum cycle.
6. The fellow will either develop his/her specific research studies or participate in ongoing foot and ankle research projects. At a minimum the fellow will engage in one clinical or one basic science investigation and complete the projects to the point he/she is able to present findings at the Academic Day during UA graduation festivities and prepare the results for submission to a peer-reviewed journal.