MID ATLANTIC ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION

AWARDS, GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

THE PASSWORD FOR THE MEMBERS (LOCKED) SECTION OF THE MAATA WEBSITE FOUND HERE IS D3MAATA!

District Director– L. Ray Davis, Jr, MSS, LAT, ATC

Just a reminder the District has 2 openings for NATA Committee volunteers to apply through GATher:

- Connection & Engagement Committee
- Student Leadership Committee

The closing date has been extended to September 29th. If either fit your experiences, please apply!

District President– Matt Gage, PhD, LAT, ATC, CES

Nominate a Colleague for a MAATA or NATA Honors & Awards – Let's Celebrate Excellence Across Our District!

The Mid-Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association (MAATA) is excited to celebrate the outstanding professionals who elevate our profession through dedication, leadership, and service. There are many deserving individuals across our district—and now is the time to shine a spotlight on their contributions.

You are encouraged to nominate your colleagues for this year's Honors and Awards. Whether they've made a lasting impact in clinical practice, education, research, or advocacy, your nomination helps ensure their work is recognized and celebrated. Let's make this year truly special by receiving nominations from every state in our district—and the District of Columbia. Your voice matters, and your nomination could be the one that brings well-deserved recognition to a colleague.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to honor a fellow athletic trainer. Together, we can showcase the excellence that defines the MAATA.

District Vice-President – Ashley Thrasher, EdD, LAT, ATC, CSCS

MAATA Education Committee
Need reps from North Carolina and DC
Responsibilities include planning and executing the annual symposium

MAATA Free Communications Reviewers
All members are welcome to apply!
Responsibilities include reviewing free communications proposals and assisting with the Free Comm program at the annual symposium

To apply:
-Letter of interest specific to the committee they are applying for, resume/CV, include BOC, NATA, and NPI numbers
-Send application materials to Erin Cash, d3sectry@gmail.com
-Application Deadline: **September 19, 2025**

For more information:
https://www.maata.org/_files/ugd/b426d2_7754568368f341768bc4be4ae2709170.pdf

Honors & Awards Committee – Bob Casmus, MS, LAT, ATC

The deadline for nominations is **November 1st, 2025.**

The advocacy forms and the candidate profile/application information must be received by November 30th, 2025.

All MAATA Honors & Awards Information including eligibility can be found HERE

The MAATA Service Award honors individuals who have done service primarily at the local, state and district levels. The MAATA MDAT award recognizes individuals primarily for their service at the district and national levels. The MAATA Hall of Fame is focused on those individuals who have or had a lifetime of service and impact on the state, district, and the national levels.

LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee – Breyah Jones, M.Ed, M.S., ATC, LAT

NATA LGBTQ+ Inclusive Excellence award applications will open on 10/1 and will be open until 12/1/2025. Please stay tuned for more information!

Research and Grant Committee – Bonnie Van Lunen, PhD, ATC, FNATA, FNAP

We hope that this message finds everyone healthy and well!

As a reminder the MAATA Grants are **due on October 1, 2025,** and you will have the opportunity to request up to $5,000 for your proposal. We hope to have additional funds to award pending the influx of support we could receive through the MAATA Campaign for Research.

Our format for submissions has changed for this coming year, as we adopted components that the NATA Foundation Professional Research Grant Program follows (the National Institutes of Health R03 application format). New proposal information FOUND HERE.

Thinking about how you can support your district and the researchers who are exploring important areas within athletic training? Please consider making a donation to the new MAATA Campaign for Research initiative (MAATA Campaign for Research | maata). The goal of this funding campaign is to increase the research funding for the members of District III in order for our membership to pursue projects that require larger amounts of funding. This campaign will be instrumental is supporting our membership and those who lead the way through the discovery, integration and application of scholarship within the discipline.

This fund will allow our team to add support to the $5,000 annual amount that is already allotted for grant funding and will open up new doors for specialized calls throughout the year.

We look forward to reviewing your proposals this fall!

Secondary Schools AT Committee – Adam Wall, MS, LAT, ATC

The Secondary School committee is offering a district grant to members who have applied for and/or received the NATA Safe Sports Award. Members that have applied for the NATA Safe Sports award will be selected to receive the district grant after completion of the required google form. The district grant is $75 which will be applied retroactively after submission of your application to NATA. The grant will be awarded to any member who has applied from January 2025 to November 24th, 2025. The required google form can be located on the district website. (https://www.maata.org/safe-sports-schools)

Scholarship Committee – Sara Pittelkau, MA, LAT, ATC

Attention students, program directors, preceptors, and anyone else interested in MAATA scholarship information: We hope the following information and/or the links provided will help answer any questions you may have regarding which scholarship you qualify for and what the requirements are.

The Bobby Gunn Scholarship is a District Director award. The application and recommendation forms are open now unless otherwise specified within its application. **The due date for application materials for the Bobby Gunn Scholarship is February 15, 2026.**

Links to the applications and recommendation forms will be available January 1 (the scholarship committee is working diligently to hopefully have them open December 15, please be on the lookout in future MAATA communication (e-blasts and/or social media). **The deadline for Block, Gwynne, Sutton, and Prentice scholarships is March 15, 2026**.

The Prentice Scholarship is now geared toward those ATs within D3 who are currently in a post-professional degree program that focuses on athletic training or anything AT related. See below for more information!

Requirements for Each Scholarship: ****No scholarship is based on financial need*****

- Block

- 1st year students in MSAT in an institution within DIII (MAATA) who have completed a minimum of 1 semester
- 3 month minimum of NATA/MAATA membership
- NPI number
- 3.0 minimum GPA

- Gwynne

- 2nd year MSAT students in an institution within a DIII (MAATA)
- Intend on going into the workforce as an AT and DO NOT intend to further academics such as pursuing PhD, EdD, fellowship, residency, etc.
- 1 year minimum NATA/MAATA membership
- NPI number
- 3.0 minimum GPA

- Sutton

- 2nd year MSAT students in an institution within a DIII (MAATA) or have graduated within the past year, or pursuing another post-graduate degree
- Intend to further academics such as pursuing PhD, EdD, fellowship, residency, etc.
- 1 year minimum NATA/MAATA membership
- NPI number
- 3.0 minimum GPA

- Prentice

- Enrolled in or accepted into a post-professional degree granting Athletic Training or AT related program including AT residencies/fellowships, PhD, EdD, or DAT programs or a post-professional certificate program (the program does not have to be in DIII)
- Currently working as an AT within DIII (MAATA)
- 1 year minimum NATA/MAATA membership
- NPI number
- 3.0 minimum GPA

Each application requires a Google Form Application and 2 Recommendation Google Forms (typically one from a preceptor/clinical and one from a professor/academic which take the place of a formal letter of recommendation). Recommendation forms will open at the same time as the applications.

For more information (including a link to NATA Foundation scholarship opportunities), please click this link.

To apply for scholarships, please visit this link.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your state representative or the scholarship committee chair, Sara Pittelkau @ maata.scholarships@gmail.com

Social Media & Young Professionals' Committee – Kassy Mosley Riddle, MS, LAT, ATC

Young Professional Committee

Be sure to check out our social media accounts, IG and X: @maata_ypc for the latest information on all things happening with our committee!!

Nominations are now open for the MAATA Distinguished Young Professionals Award. Completion of application materials including online form and resume must be submitted by November 30th for consideration. For more information and for the nomination form please go to: https://www.maata.org/youngprofessionals and click on the PDF for the MAATA Distinguished Young Professionals Award.

We have committee openings for our Virgina state representative and District of Columbia Representative Member at Large Representatives (2). These positions are a one year, twice renewable term.

Candidates should be:

- Within 0-12 years of certification
- Able to attend monthly video conference calls
- Collaborate with other members to create YPC events at the annual district symposium.
- State representative: serve as liaison between the district and state YPC

Interested applicants should email an updated resume and letter of interest to d3sectry@gmail.com by **September 15th.**

Please reach out to Chair, Kassy Mosley at mosleyk18@ecu.edu with any questions regarding the positions.

Social Media Committee

Be sure to follow us on our District social media handles for the latest up to date information on happenings, events and volunteer openings throughout the district! **Instagram:** d3athletictrainers **X:** @D3_MAATA **Facebook:** Mid Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association

Student Senate – Emily Meyerl, MS, LAT, ATC and Erin M. Moore, PhD, LAT, ATC, CSCS

Happy Fall semester, everyone. The applications for First-Year Student Senators are officially open! The due date is Monday, October 6th, by 11:59 pm. Please review the roles and responsibilities, along with the required materials, for the application. This information will be shared on social media soon, so keep an eye out for important updates. Please reach out to your state's Student Senator if you have any questions about the application process. Student Senate | maata

We are excited to announce that Dr. Erin Moore is the new Chair of the MAATA Student Senate. Dr. Moore is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Clinical Education at the University of Virginia. She has served on the VATA Annual Meeting Planning Committee and is excited to take her leadership to the district level. Additionally, Emily Meyerl has been elected as the Junior Faculty Advisor. She is a high school educator and has served on the student senate in the past as a senator and a Junior Faculty Advisor. Most recently, she served as the District 3 representative to the NATA's Early Professionals' Committee (EPC). We are excited to have them begin their roles and continue to guide our students.

Finally, the Student Senate would like to thank Dr. Emily Hildebrand of Towson University for her 10 years of service as Chair of this committee. Through her hard work and dedication, she has helped grow the Student Senate in many ways while being an advocate for student involvement in District leadership. We are grateful for her time, commitment, and care that she has provided for many students!

NATA Foundation – Pete Kotz, MS, LAT, ATC, WFR

Last year District 3 continued to have multiple winners for scholarships, grants, and Foundation awards. For additional information on how to apply for an NATA Research & Education Foundation *Scholarship, Grant, or Award*, please click on the appropriate link below:

NATA Research & Education Foundation:

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Awards

NATA Honors and Awards

The Honors and Awards Committee needs your help to make sure our profession's top contributors are recognized! Any NATA member may nominate a colleague for one of the association's national honors or awards. Please refer to our timeline to make sure your nomination is received in plenty of time:

2025 HONORS AND AWARDS RECIPIENTS (PDF)
HONORS AND AWARDS PORTAL

The 2026 National Honors and Awards Cycle is open for nominations August 1st, 2025 - September 15th, 2025. Applicants have until October 1st to turn in all their materials. We will be launching a new website this year! If you have applied between 2022-2025 and would like to obtain a previous copy of your application, please submit the request to engage@nata.org indicating the year and award you applied for. Requests may take up to 2 weeks to process.

There are a variety of awards bestowed each year to worthy members of NATA, each with their own unique requirements, application, review processes, timelines and recognition efforts. These awards include: Hall of Fame (HOF), Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer (MDAT), Athletic Trainer Service Award (ATSA), Eve Becker-Doyle Leadership Award, Fellows and the Gail Weldon Award of Excellence, Jack Weakley Award of Distinction and Honorary Membership. The Tim Kerin Award has a separate application process.
Many awards require that a candidate complete an application or submit supporting materials (letters of recommendation, vitae, etc.). We recommend you allow ample time to complete these materials by submitting your nominations early.

You can find all NATA Honors and Awards information HERE.

NATA Political Action Committee – Steve Cole, MEd, LAT, ATC

NATAPAC Sweepstakes is here: September 8-29**.** Please consider participating! The sweepstakes provides another way members can contribute to the advancement of the profession by supporting the NATAPAC while having a chance to win great prizes. Every entry gives you the chance to choose from top prizes: an Apple iPad Air, Apple Watch Series 10, or PlayStation 5. Your donation strengthens athletic trainers' voice on Capitol Hill. Get your entries **here**. *See full rules **here**.*

NCATA – Nina Walker, MA, LAT, ATC

The following links are the NCATA opportunities for awards and grants. Many are directed for our students and young professionals. So please take a look at all of them.

Scholarships- Students in the NCATA (must be a member)
https://www.ncathletictrainer.org/scholarships

Awards- For all, we have amazing ATs, lets celebrate them!!!
https://www.ncathletictrainer.org/honors-awards

Grants- for all, consider nominating a worthy AT or applying for your own personal needs. Have special grants for students and YPs for help with NATA/NCATA membership, licensure, and other financial needs.
https://www.ncathletictrainer.org/oath

So don't be shy, apply and nominate! These are part of your member benefits!!

One Last Congrats to Our 2025 Award Winners

(MAATA Scholarship Winners)

A.C. “Whitey” Gwynne Scholarship:
Amanda Pendleton – 1st Place (Liberty University)
Madison Dewar – 2nd Place (University of South Carolina)
Larry Sutton Scholarship: Victor Delgado (University of South Carolina)
Edward Block Scholarship: Meghan Bell – 1st Place (West Virginia University)
Justin May – 2nd Place (Charleston Southern University)
Bobby Gunn Leadership Award: Landon Murray (University of South Carolina)

(MAATA DOCTORAL RESEARCH AWARDS)

Caitlin Brinkman - The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Aleiza Higgins - The University of North Carolina Greensboro
Elaine Reiche - The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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(MAATA MASTER RESEARCH AWARDS)

Claire Akard - University of Virginia
Kaitlyn Okin - University of Lynchburg

(NATA Foundation Scholarship Winners)

Hannah Robison - UNC at Chapel Hill
Isabel Chavis - University of South Carolina
Landon Murray - University of South Carolina
Rollo Mulliner - University of South Carolina
Colin Serredszum - University of South Carolina
Meghan Bell - West Virginia University
Maguire Dinnan - University of Lynchburg
Kaitlyn Okin - University of Lynchburg
Amanda Pendleton - Liberty University

(NATA Foundation Awards)

2025 Medal for Distinguished Athletic Training Research: Joe Hart, PhD, ATC, FACSM, FNATA, FNAK – UNC-Chapel Hill
2025 Student Writing Contest Award: Carlos Rivera – University of South Carolina
Free Communications Pre-Professional/Professional Student: Taisei Chiba – University of South Carolina

Free Communications Established Career: Erik Wikstrom, PhD, LAT, ATC, FNATA UNC – Chapel Hill

NATA FOUNATION 2025 SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT: Erik Wikstrom, PhD, LAT, ATC, FNATA UNC – Chapel Hill

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MAATA Distinguished Young Professionals Award: Zachery Richards, MS, LAT, ATC

(NATA Fellows)

Dr. Shane Caswell: George Mason University
Dr. Abbey Thomas Fenwick: UNC-Charlotte

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