

**Nebraska State Athletic Trainers' Association
Scholarships and Grants Committee – CALL FOR STUDENT PROPOSALS**

**GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION – Research Grants
Deadline for Submission – 5:00pm (Central) June, 1, 2020**

SCOPE OF WORK – Invitation for Proposals

The Nebraska State Athletic Trainers' Association's (NSATA) Scholarship and Research Grants Committee (RGC) invites proposals focusing on research that will advance the profession of Athletic Training. The total award available is \$500.00 for a one-year grant period, no cost-extensions may be available for material/supply expenditure with written approval from the committee chair. Investigators are encouraged to submit grant proposals requesting funds for research in the science or practice of Athletic Training in any of the domains of athletic training. Evaluation of projects is based on scientific merit, significance, innovation and overall impact.

GENERAL TIMELINE FOR APPLICATIONS/GRANT PROPOSAL

- All proposals should be submitted electronically according to the guidelines below and to the chairs of the Scholarships and Grants Committee.
- Successful applicants will be notified by May 29th.

WHO MAY SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

- Athletic Training students from any Nebraska CAATE accredited institution; or a NSATA member Athletic Trainer currently enrolled in a post-professional degree program at either the Master's or Doctoral level.
- A faculty member at the student's respective institution must mentor the student through the duration of the proposed study.
- Grants will be awarded one time, only for the duration of the proposed project and are not renewable.
- Funds will only be dispersed to an institution; not to an individual.

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL: Three items (Title/cover page, full grant proposal and letter of mentor support) should be combined into a single PDF and submitted electronically to the committee chairs:

1. **Grant Application Title/Cover Page:** The principal investigator (PI) should complete the grant application title/cover page. A review by the NSATA Scholarship and Research Grants Committee chairs will occur in order to prepare materials (mechanical evaluation, investigator review, conflict of interest, etc.) to be sent out for blind review by committee members.
2. **Grant Proposal:** Complete the full grant proposal process as per the template provided and details that follow. Grant proposal writers should not refer to individuals or institutions by name in this portion of the proposal, as this portion will be circulated to reviewers, again for blind review.
3. **Letters of Mentor Support:** A letter of support from the student's mentor must be submitted to demonstrate the ability of a project to be completed within the given timeframe suggested by the student as well as a mentorship plan for the duration of the study.

WHERE TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL: Final and complete proposal material should be submitted electronically as a PDF. by 5:00PM CST on the established deadline. Late proposals will not be reviewed. Proposals can be electronically submitted at the following website address: to the NSATA Scholarship and Research Grant Committee Co-Chair: Adam B. Rosen, PhD, ATC, arosen@unomaha.edu

RESTRICTIONS AND OBLIGATIONS

- The NSATA Scholarships and Grants Committee will consider requests to support of research, scholarly and creative projects in fields directly associated with the athletic training profession.
- Grants awarded by the Scholarships and Grants Committee are intended to support limited research projects in athletic training.
- **Monies may be used for** materials or supplies, student stipend/salary, travel to conduct of research and other minor expenses.
- **Monies may NOT be used:**
 - To pay indirect costs (facilities and administrative costs assessed by the institution with which the grantee is associated or under whose auspices the grantee is conducting research funded by this grant).
 - For professional travel not associated with grant related research.
- All research proposals that utilize human or animal subjects must provide evidence that Institutional Review Board approval has been granted or is being sought. Final IRB authorization is not required at the time of the grant application, but is required prior to the disbursement of funds. *The title of the IRB does not necessarily need to be the exact title of the grant application, but the IRB must have a clear relationship to the proposal as written.*
- Research projects using existing or publicly available data or any project that falls under exempt status must provide their rationale in the application cover letter.
- All funds will be disbursed to a sponsoring institution. No funds will be disbursed to individuals.
- ***Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.***

OBLIGATIONS OF AWARD RECIPIENTS: The recipient of an NSATA Grant is obligated to:

1. Ensure that any individual or agency associated with the conduct of the project will subscribe and adhere to the guidelines for nondiscrimination, reporting obligations and use of funds associated with this award.
2. Notify the NSATA Scholarship and Research Grants Committee chair of any modifications of the original project or project budget during the time that awards are made available to the recipient.

Post-Project Completion Responsibilities

1. The project will be completed and submitted to present at either a state, regional or national athletic training meeting within one year after completion of the research study.
2. The student's mentor must submit the abstract of the presentation to the NSATA Scholarships and Grants Committee.
3. A poster-file by the student or mentor must be created and shared with the committee chair within one year after completion of the research study. The chair will have the poster printed and displayed at the closest NSATA meeting.
4. The NSATA must be acknowledged (via either text or displaying the NSATA logo) in any presentation or manuscript involving data from the funded study.

EVALUATION CRITERIA CATEGORIES:

Committee Review Criteria:

Overall Impact – Reviewers will provide an overall impact score to reflect their assessment of (1) the clarity of writing, (2) the extent to which the desired outcome of the project is clear, specific and attainable and (3) extent to which the findings can be disseminated and implemented. Clarity of writing, grammar and punctuation are important aspects reviewed for the project. PIs should write in such a way that even if the reviewer is not a content expert in the methods, the reviewer can understand the process and importance of the project. (Based on entire presentation of proposal)

Criterion 1: Significance and/or Innovation: Does the project address an important and/or original problem in the field of Athletic Training? Is there a strong scientific premise for the project? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field? *(Based on introduction, purpose/specific aims and significance of project)*

Criterion 2: Approach/Methodology: Does this section include areas of specific consideration for appropriate methodological design, procedures for data collection and statistical analysis? Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Have the investigators presented strategies to ensure a robust and unbiased approach, as appropriate for the work proposed? Do the investigators offer a plan for the work to be disseminated and implemented in a timely manner? *(Based on purpose/specific aims, research plan/methodology and dissemination/implementation)*

Criterion 3: Budget and Timeline: Reviewers will consider whether the budget and the requested period of support are fully justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed research. The reviewers will consider if the explanation of how the research will be completed if partial funding is awarded and where and how shared funding will be provided. Is there adequate information to support each budget category? 1. Equipment, 2. Research Materials/ Supplies, 2. Travel, 3. Publication/ Presentation Costs, 4. Other Costs (printing, copying, etc.). *(Based on budget and budget justification, timeline of work)*

Criterion Rating: Each criterion will be given a value of 1-9 (please see rubric for scoring)

Overall Impact or Criterion Strength	Score	Descriptor
High	1	Exceptional
	2	Outstanding
	3	Excellent
Medium	4	Very Good
	5	Good
	6	Satisfactory
Low	7	Fair
	8	Marginal
	9	Poor

Due to this being a student-led project, the committee feels it is their duty to provide a document with scoring and rationale to provide feedback to the student/mentor. However, this may not arrive immediately but will be returned to the student and mentor within 1-month of the funding decision.

CONTENT OF THE GRANT PROPOSAL:

- **The format shall be 1-inch margins, single-spaced, 11 pt font minimum).**
- **Title Page** (1 page maximum)
 - **Student and contact information**
 - **Mentor and contact information**
 - **Project Summary (<200 word) with the following headings:**
 - **Context**
 - **Research Question(s)/Hypothesis**
 - **Study Design**
 - **Methods**
 - **Potential Impact**
- **Project Proposal** (2 page maximum)
 - **Introduction/Rationale for the Project** (300 words or less): Describe the background and/or rationale for this project. Why should this project be carried out? (If references are used to support rationale, please include the references – these will not be included in the word count)
 - **Purpose and Specific Aims** (300 words or less): In this section, concisely state the purpose, short term goals and/or objectives of the proposed research, and the research questions or specific aims (hypothesis may be included if appropriate). Please include a long-term objective if appropriate; how does this project fit into the long term objective?
 - **Significance of the Project** (300 words or less): In this section, briefly describe what this project will contribute to the profession of athletic training or athletic training education? How will the findings be used by practitioners, researchers and/or educators?
 - **Research Plan and Methodology** (600 words or less): In this section, please include a summary of (1) participants/recruitment, (2) methods/process to study each specific aim, (3) instrumentation, (4) outcomes to be measured, (4) data collection, and (5) data analysis.
- **References and/or Citations** (No limit)
 - References will follow the Journal of Athletic Training formatting author guidelines:
 - In-text citations should be numbered consecutively, using superscripted numerals following punctuation, in the order in which they appear.
 - AMA style bibliography, with abbreviated journals. Example Journal Citation: Boling MC, Padua DA, Creighton RA. Concentric and eccentric torque of the hip musculature in individuals with and without patellofemoral pain. *J Athl Train.* 2009;44(1):7– 13.
- **Timeline, Budget and Budget Justification** (1 page maximum)
 - **Timeline of Work** (200 words or less): Due to the nature of the funding for these projects, projects should be completed within one year of the award. Please see restrictions and obligations section above. Briefly describe the timeline of work.
 - **Budget:** Please create a line-item budget table.
 - **Budget Justification:** (200 words or less) Please include a brief justification/narrative for the requested funding amount in each of the applicable categories. Please provide a budget justification that includes: 1. Equipment, 2. Research Materials/ Supplies, 3. Travel, 4. Salary/Stipend, 5. Other Allowable Costs (printing, copying, etc.)
- **Letter of Mentor Support** (1 page maximum, single-spaced, 11 pt font minimum):
 - The letter must address the program requirements listed in the RFP. If the project is a part of the mentor's research or creative activity program, the mentor letter should explain how the proposed project fits into but is distinguished from this program. The letter should also indicate the mentor's commitment to overseeing the project, specifying means to measure progress and frequency of anticipated meetings.