

Work Group Title

Post-Professional Pathways Work Group

Work Group Composition: 7-9 Including a Chair; professional, post-professional, and residency faculty and administrators are encouraged to apply

Background (context for the work of the work group)

Athletic trainers are often looking for educational opportunities following their professional preparation. Historically, athletic trainers transitioned to practice in various forms of post-professional masters education, some of which were tightly tied to the profession, while others gave athletic trainers an opportunity to “diversify” their resume. As the profession continues to evolve in the delivery of professional education at the masters level, several post-professional learning opportunities have emerged, including residencies and advanced practice doctoral programs. At this critical time, we need to educate stakeholders (both consumers and their mentors) about these opportunities to ensure growth of these programs.

Scope of Work (focused and task-oriented)

The Post-Professional Pathways Work Group is tasked with examining the following as a basis for formulation of a recruiting strategic plan for the AATE:

- 1) Perceived value and barriers to entering post-professional pathways.
- 2) Mechanisms to better prepare applicants for residency and post-professional academic programs, including foundational knowledge and marketing the range of opportunities.
- 3) Dispelling myths and developing mechanisms for consistent terminology and messaging.
- 4) Exploring growth potential for post-professional pathways

Anticipated Commitment

Start Date: 7/15/20

End Date: 1/15/21

Time Commitment: 5 hours/month, one face-to-face meeting (tentative) and regularly scheduled on-line conferences

Deliverables

The work group will deliver a summary of findings and a comprehensive strategic plan that details an action-oriented approach to improve awareness of post-professional pathways. The plan should specify high-, medium-, and low-priority actions, anticipated impact on educational programs and the athletic training profession, recommended time-frames, and estimated costs (both financial and personnel-related).

Reporting Plan

Three step reporting plan:

- 1) Work group chair provides updates at regularly scheduled AATE Board conference calls
- 2) 2-month progress report, including appropriate funding requests
- 3) 6-month final report with action items.

Supporting Resources

The work group chair in conjunction with the AATE Board will agree upon initial required resources work group. This includes funding for a face-to-face meeting, mechanisms for on-line meetings, and supporting resources. Additional resources must be approved by the AATE Board.