

ACFAS 2023 Meet the Fellow Questionnaire



American College of
Foot and Ankle Surgeons®

Fellow Name:

Evan Lenertz

Fellowship Program:

Nebraska Foot and Ankle Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship

City/State:

Hastings, NE

Program Director:

David Waters, DPM

How many Attendings do you work with regularly?

4

Describe the diversity of your cases so far in fellowship. (For example, has your experience included TAR? Is there an emphasis on: Pediatrics? Sports Medicine? Deformity correction? Complex reconstruction? What percentage of your cases are trauma? Rearfoot/ankle? Forefoot? Please be as descriptive as you'd like.

Wide range of forefoot and rearfoot pathology with an emphasis on complex hindfoot reconstruction and deformity correction, sports medicine, supramalleolar osteomies and total ankle replacements. Trauma is seen regularly including ankle fractures, Lisfranc injuries, calcaneal fractures, digital dislocations and open injuries.

How many days per week do you typically spend in the OR? In clinic? Do you have your own "fellow" clinic?

Typically I spend 4-5 days in the OR per week with 1 day of clinic pending case volume. I run my own clinics at various locations and schedule my own surgical procedures.



How many surgical cases do you typically scrub per month?

Between 40-50 cases per month

What conferences have you attended/are you encouraged to attend?

Attended the paragon 28 fellows course, Stryker trauma seminar, ACFAS conference, various cadaver labs, along with any other courses that would be good learning opportunities.

How would you describe your director's teaching style?

Engaged, knowledgeable and eager to teach but also allows time for the fellow to independently problem solve and work through issues to find solutions

How is research incorporated into your experience? What resources are provided/available?

Research is very important to all attendings, and several projects are currently in process. We have access to IRB through some outside institutions and are working on increasing the resources at our home hospital system.

Do you take any "call"? If so, how often? What type of call? (general vs. trauma, hospital vs. private practice?)

Call is required every other weekend and occasionally during the week depending on the type of consult. It is at 1 hospital and consists of trauma and routine consults.

How many hospitals/surgery centers are you credentialed at?

15

What is your didactic schedule like? What academic opportunities are available to you during fellowship? (Cadaver labs, journal club, radiology conference, etc.)

We do fellow run journal club and case review weekly as well as participate in the ACFAS journal club monthly series. We also do cadaver labs with mobile lab set ups and at the hospitals in our main locations.



Is your fellowship affiliated with a residency program? If yes, what are your responsibilities?
How often are you interacting with residents (What % of cases?)

No

Are you able to collect cases for board certification?

Yes

When should interested applicants visit? What does a visit look like?

Generally in the spring/early summer of their 2nd year after applications have been submitted. Because of the rural nature of the program, it is important to come for a 2 day visit to experience the variety our program offers and see multiple clinics and surgical sites.

What is the interview process like at your program?

Do you have a co-fellow? What percentage of your cases are scrubbed with them?

No

What support is available for finding post-fellowship employment?

An extensive network of attendings with contacts all across the country in both private practice and hospital employment models

What qualities make an applicant a good fit for your program?

Self-motivated, hardworking, solid surgical foundation, compassionate, eager to learn

Why did you apply for fellowship? And why did you choose your fellowship program?

I had a great base of surgical knowledge and skill from residency, but I wanted to expand on that and get exposure to some more advanced reconstruction and also fine tune my skillset in clinic evaluation and billing/coding. I chose my fellowship because the attendings are passionate about high quality surgery and large case volume, they strive to advance the profession through research and the program actively embraces teaching the next generation of foot and ankle surgeons.

Any advice for future fellowship applicants?

Do your research on programs and talk with current fellows if you are interested in pursuing fellowship. Make sure you have a solid foundation surgically so that you can get the most out of a fellowship program.

