

OTRF Clinical Athletic Training Program receives accreditation



The Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine Teaching and Research Foundation (OTRF) founded by Dr. Steven Chudik in 2002 received accreditation for its post-professional clinical residency program for athletic trainers, an accomplishment only a handful of other programs nationwide have achieved.

According to Dr. Chudik, the accreditation process requires several years of documentation and demonstration of educational measurements and benchmarks with didactic and clinical components. “To say I am thrilled to have achieved

this goal would be an understatement,” said Dr. Chudik. “Every athletic trainer who participated in the OTRF program can take pride in this accomplishment and their contributions,” he added.

The CAATE also is responsible for accreditation of baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate degrees that lead to the eligibility of sitting for the Board of Certification (BOC) examination which is required to practice as an athletic trainer. There are more than 350 of these programs nationwide.

The OTRF Clinical Athletic Trainer Program is a 13-month paid residency that prepares athletic trainers for careers in clinical orthopaedic settings. “Our program allows certified athletic trainers to expand their education, improve their clinical evaluation skills, first assist in the operating room, increase their knowledge as allied healthcare professionals and make an immediate impact to an orthopaedic practice,” Dr. Chudik explained. “During the CAATE accreditation visit the committee shared the OTRF program provided a number of original educational elements they want to consider including in requirements for all programs,” he added.

Applications for the OTRF Clinical Athletic Training Program will be accepted for 2022-2023 from December 1, 2021 to March 1, 2022. For additional information visit <https://www.OTRFund.org/> and to learn more about the athletic trainer experience visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0dkpqVTmP2I/> to watch a video overview of the program.