

ACFAS 2023 Meet the Fellow Questionnaire



American College of
Foot and Ankle Surgeons®

Fellow Name:

Avery K. Garner, DPM, AACFAS

Fellowship Program:

SMG Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Reconstruction Fellowship

City/State:

Cottonwood Heights, UT

Program Director:

Gregory S. Anderson, DPM, FACFAS

How many Attendings do you work with regularly?

5-6

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.

The program emphasizes foot and ankle reconstruction, this does include TAR, ankle fusions, flatfoot reconstruction, cavus reconstruction, ankle fractures, midfoot fusions, complex bunion correction, ankle arthroscopy, lateral ankle stabilization, ankle fractures, and limb salvage.

20% of cases are trauma, 60% forefoot/40% rearfoot.

There are opportunities to scrub with orthopedic surgeons to learn from orthopedic colleagues in sports medicine, hand, and trauma.

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

2 days OR and 3 days clinic

How many surgical cases do you typically scrub per month?

30 cases a month



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

AFCAS and UPMA

How would you describe your director's teaching style?

The director allows a great deal of autonomy to the fellow, however is hands on as needed.

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

Each fellow is required to do a research paper. Research is strongly encouraged.

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

Hospital call on average 1 weeks per month on average. Fellow is expected to be available for any patient needs or emergencies.

How many hospitals/surgery centers are you credentialed at?

5

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

Weekly academic meeting/journal club/radiology conference with the Intermountain podiatry residency program

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

Intermountain Podiatry Residency Program. The fellow interacts with residents for 5% of cases.

Are you able to collect cases for board certification?

No

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

Interested applicants should visit summer or early fall. A visit would including meeting the director and current fellow and seeing facilities.



What is the interview process like at your program?

Interview is usually virtual.

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?

Dr. Anderson is well connected in the mountain west region and has been very successful at helping his fellows find good jobs.

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

Willingness to work hard, be adaptable, personable.

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

I wanted to maximize my training experience and to set myself apart to find a good job.

Any advice for future fellowship applicants?

Reach out to the current fellow if interested.

