



NATA Foundation Research Awards Update

Due to the decision not to hold the in-person 71st NATA Clinical Symposia & AT Expo in Atlanta, the NATA Foundation Research Committee, with the support of the NATA Foundation Board, voted to postpone the recognition of national award winners until NATA 2021 in Orlando. In addition, after thoughtful consideration of the potential impact on recognition efforts and timing, the 2020-2021 nomination and application cycle for research awards will be suspended and nominations will resume in September 2021.

These decisions were made in an effort to maintain the prestige of the research awards, and to provide the appropriate level of recognition for the 2020 Research Award recipients. Alternatives to the standard recognition process that do not include an in-person presentation, would deny each award recipient the recognition and experience that they have earned through their dedication to the Athletic Training Profession.

While we understand that individuals who were planning to nominate a colleague for an award this year may be disappointed that they will have to wait another year, the committee has decided to extend eligibility criteria so that a one-year suspension will not prevent a qualified candidate from eventually receiving an award. While the NATA Foundation Research committee members are aware of the possible impact on future candidates and potential award winners, their obligation is to ensure those who were already selected for awards are adequately recognized.