PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Doctoral Student Grants

Introduction
Proposals in all topic areas relevant to athletic training will be considered, with the highest quality of these being chosen. Doctoral student research grant funding will not be awarded to individuals to <u>duplicate</u> projects that are in progress and being supported by other funding agencies. However, student research grant funding may be requested for on-going projects so long as the requested funding <u>supplements</u> any support by other funding agencies and the additional funding is necessary for the student to complete the project described in their application. In addition, co-funding of a planned project that has not yet begun is allowed.

Pre-proposal Submission
Pre-proposals are not required for doctoral program applicants.

Availability
Multiple student grant awards are typically available each year. Funding limits are as follows:

Category	Direct cost limit	Indirect cost rate	Study period
Doctoral	$2500	0%	1 year

The Principal Investigator, or an approved Co-Principal Investigator, will be required to submit for peer review to present their findings at a future NATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposia or NATA Athletic Training Educational Conference (ATEC) within 2 years of project completion.

Eligibility Requirements
The grant applicant must be the individual whose research project is to be supported by the requested funding. They must:
1. Be a doctoral student at the institution where the research is to be performed
2. Have doctoral student status for the duration of the project term outlined in the grant during which all activities except for dissemination of the results will be conducted
3. Assume personal responsibility for conducting the research proposed in an ethical manner
4. Certify that they prepared the application and had primary responsibility for writing the proposal
5. Be a member of NATA at the time of submitting an application for funding.

Submission Instructions
1. Applications that do not conform to these formatting and content instructions will be returned without review.
2. Please read and follow the enclosed instructions and policy statements concerning research involving human and animal subjects.
3. All documents, disclosures, and signatures related to this proposal are submitted electronically via the NATA Application Manager website: https://new.forms.nata.org/applications. If you are a NATA member, you will use your nata.org login credentials for access to the site. Login to this site early in the proposal preparation process to familiarize yourself with the format of the required submissions. If you do not have nata.org login credentials follow the instructions on the website landing page.
4. **The applicant's faculty advisor AND a grant official from the institution must review and approve the proposal. ==The provided form must be signed and uploaded BEFORE the application is considered complete.== Forms can be found on the NATA Foundation website. You must login to application manager to monitor**

completion status.
5. All documents, disclosures, and required signatures must be completed in Application Manager prior to the submission deadline of 11:59 pm central standard time (CST) on February 15.

If you have questions, please contact Kathryn LaLonde MS, ATC, NATA Foundation Programs and Projects Coordinator kathrynl@nata.org.

APPLICATION INFORMATION
- The NATA Foundation Doctoral Grant Program follows the National Institutes of Health R03 application format.
- Information about the investigators, institutions, total costs, faculty advisor, and grant institutional official will be entered directly into the Application Manager webform.
- Total Page length: 7 page maximum (1 page Specific Aims + 6 pages Research Strategy) with no less than 1/2 inch margins and font size $\geq$ 11.
- Preliminary data are not required, but may be included if available.

PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS:
All elements of the proposal should be uploaded in one single PDF document.

ABSTRACT (limit to 200 words)
The abstract will be viewed as a stand-alone document (not included in page limit). State the rationale, hypotheses and specific aims of the proposal. Describe concisely the research design, methodology, statistical analysis and expected outcomes. This is not included in the 7 page limit.

SPECIFIC AIMS (1 page limit)

Applicants should include: 1) relevant background information, 2) the overall project objective, 3) the specific aim(s) accompanied by hypotheses, if applicable, 4) the general approach to be taken to achieve the aim(s), 5) the project's potential impact on the athletic training profession, and 6) how the project aligns with the NATA Foundation Research Priorities and the Athletic Training Research Agenda.

A well-written specific aims page should provide an overview of the entire project, and clearly establish an Athletic Training related problem, the gap in the knowledge needed to address the problem, and why this project will fill this critical gap. It should explain the overall significance of the project as well as the long-term goal of the application or investigator(s). Ideally, the aims should be related, but not dependent, upon each other. Hypotheses should be included whenever possible, though it is recognized that not all aims will require hypotheses. References to others' ideas or previous research are required to be cited in the specific aims page.

RESEARCH STRATEGY (6 pages)

Within the Research Strategy, the applicant should structure the application with sections on **Significance**, **Innovation**, and **Approach**. When reviewing, the reviewers will consider all of the criteria below in the determination of scientific and technical merit, and give a separate score for each. An application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact. For example, a project that by its nature is not innovative may be essential to advance a field.

    Significance. Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? Is there a strong scientific premise for the project? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field? How does this project align with the NATA Foundation Research Priorities and the Athletic Training Research Agenda?

Investigator(s). Does the applicant have the necessary training or immediate support/mentorship to successfully complete the study? Is the applicant, faculty mentor, collaborators or other researchers well suited to the project?

Innovation. Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical Athletic Training practice or education paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?

Approach. Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Has the applicant presented strategies to ensure a robust and unbiased approach, as appropriate for the work proposed? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and a timeline for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed? Has the applicant presented adequate plans to address relevant biological variables, such as sex, for studies in vertebrate animals or human subjects? If the project involves clinical research, are the plans for 1) protection of human subjects from research risks, and 2) inclusion of minorities and members of both sexes/genders, as well as the inclusion of children, justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed? Are the statistical approaches well explained and adequately powered.

Environment. Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the applicant adequate for the project proposed? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?

APPENDICES
Beyond the Research Strategy, the additional information outlined below should be included as appendices. Additional content addressing the research approach will not be considered.

Appendix A: Timeline
Clearly identify a progressive timeline (including specific dates) for completion of the project. Project timeline should include time for subject recruitment, data collection, data reduction, analysis, and dissemination. Please note that a two year funding period is allowed. However, the project timeline must reflect the completion of all study activities except for dissemination by the end of Year 1. Only costs associated for travel to the NATA annual meeting to present results are allowed in Year 2.

Appendix B: Additional Materials
Provide supplementary materials that support the Research Approach. When available and applicable, the following materials should be presented in this appendix:
1. Preliminary data (if applicable)
2. Informed consent form. (If available)
3. Applicable forms to support study (e.g., questionnaires, data collection forms)

Appendix C: Budget and Budget Justification (not to exceed $2,500 for doctoral)
Provide budget detail with justification for each line item using the *Budget Table Template.* Address the following categories at a minimum.
   Salaries: List all positions for which salary support is requested. This includes technical, secretarial and other support roles. Identify each position by name and degree, if known, or by required qualifications if not yet employed. Indicate estimated percentage of time and effort each individual will spend on the project. Salaries cannot be paid to faculty or consultants.

Equipment: Items of all non-expendable equipment must be itemized.

Supplies: Itemize the cost of supplies by major categories, such as animals, chemicals, glassware and expendable equipment.

Animal or Subject Costs: In the case of animals, indicate number to be used, unit cost per animal and cost for daily care. If subjects are to be paid, indicate the number, fee per subject and total cost.

Other: Funds are not permitted to be used for the payment of fees to professional organizations or for overhead costs. No funds are allowed for subscriptions to journals or purchase of books. Inclusion of funds up to $400 for travel and one night's lodging at the NATA annual meeting to present results are permitted. Funds may be requested for stipends but not for payment of tuition.

Appendix D: Personnel
Include a biographical sketch for each individual (key personnel) involved with the project, formatted using either the *Biosketch Template* found on the NATA Foundation website or the standard NIH biosketch format. At minimum, each application should include a biosketch for the student investigator and the faculty advisor.

Appendix E: Facilities
This appendix will contain a description of the facilities that are currently available for the completion of the project. If a facility (e.g., laboratory, high school, clinic, etc.) will be used that is not controlled directly by the unit in which the applicant is enrolled, a letter from the facility's director, indicating that the facility will be available for the duration of the study, must be included.

Appendix E: References
Provide complete bibliographical information for references cited using an appropriate format (e.g., AMA). Use numbered citations in the text of the proposal.