

EM APC Fellowship Handbook



Capitol Emergency Associates of TeamHealth
Austin, Texas

Contents

Mission Statement	3
Program Description	3
Affiliations	3
Curriculum.....	3
Evaluation and Graduation	5
Credentials Awarded.....	6
Financial Information.....	6
Application Requirements	6
Application Calendar.....	7
Contact Information.....	7
Frequently Asked Questions	8
EM APC Fellowship Application Form.....	9
EM APC Fellowship Recommendation Form	12

Mission Statement

To promote excellence in Emergency Medicine patient care by providing a 12-month, comprehensive postgraduate training program to prepare physician assistants and nurse practitioners to be highly proficient members of the emergency healthcare team.

Program Description

The Capitol Emergency Associates of TeamHealth Emergency Medicine Advanced Practice Clinician Fellowship was created in 2018 for both physician assistants and nurse practitioners in response to a rapidly increasing need for Emergency Medicine specialty trained APCs. The EM APC fellowship is an intense 12-month postgraduate program that combines didactic and clinical training to prepare the APC to be a skilled partner in the delivery of quality patient care in the Emergency Department, and will provide the APC with the foundational skills and knowledge required for a career in Emergency Medicine. The fellowship program is appropriate for any APC, both new graduate and experienced, with a desire to gain advanced Emergency Medicine training.

Affiliations

Fellowship clinical training will be provided through the CEA of TeamHealth staffed emergency departments and associated specialists of the St. David's HealthCare system in Austin, Texas. St. David's HealthCare includes seven of the area's leading hospitals and is one of the largest health systems in Texas. The primary clinical site of the fellowship program is St. David's South Austin Medical Center, a level II trauma and tertiary care center and the highest volume Emergency Department in the Austin area with 85,000 annual visits. Specialized training may also take place at other sites within the system.

Curriculum

Didactic Training: Fellowship didactic training has been designed to provide the APC with the essential information needed to practice in Emergency Medicine and consists of a combination of in-depth video lecture series, certification classes, hands-on courses and other academic activities. Tintinalli's Emergency Medicine, Roberts and Hedges' Clinical Procedures in Emergency Medicine and The Manual of Emergency and Critical Care Ultrasound are provided.

EM APC fellows will complete 3 video lecture series:

- Emergency Medicine Bootcamp (26 hours)
- Advanced Emergency Medicine Bootcamp (23.5 hours)
- HIPPO EM Board Review (57.25 hours)

EM APC fellows will complete the following certifications:

- ACLS certification (8 hours)
- PALS certification (8 hours)
- ATLS certification (19 hours)

EM APC fellows will participate in the following hands-on course:

- Simulation lab (6 hours)

EM APC fellows participate in the following academic activities:

- **Journal Club:** Monthly scholarly article discussion
- **Grand Rounds Conference:** Monthly fellow case presentation including a discussion of the differential, disease process identified and treatment rendered.

Clinical Training: Fellows will work an average of 7 ED shifts per month as a practicing APC and will gradually gain responsibility and autonomy. All shifts will be worked under the supervision of a board certified/board eligible Emergency Medicine physician. The remainder of each month will be spent training alongside a physician or practicing APC, either on an Emergency Medicine core rotation (42 weeks) or on a specialty rotation (10 weeks).

Emergency Medicine core rotations include:

- **Emergency Medicine:** 34 weeks
Fellows will train with an EM physician and participate in all aspects of patient care.
- **Pediatric Emergency Medicine:** 4 weeks (PALS required)
Fellows will train with a Pediatric EM physician at St. David's Children's Hospital and participate in all aspects of patient care.
- **Emergency Ultrasound:** 4 weeks
Fellows will be instructed by a trained Ultrasound provider in the Emergency Department. Emergency Ultrasound curriculum will encompass the following topics:

Basic Ultrasound	Procedures	Diagnostic Studies	
Basic US science	Peripheral IV	Early Pregnancy (IUP)	Pneumothorax
Basic US Mechanics	Central line	Soft Tissue	Echocardiogram
	Paracentesis	FAST	
	Thoracentesis	Gallbladder	

Specialty rotations include:

- **Trauma:** 4 weeks (ATLS required)
Fellows will respond to trauma codes and participate in all aspects of patient care as a part of the South Austin Medical Center Trauma Surgery service.
- **Anesthesia:** 2 weeks ^{[[L]]}_{SEP}
Fellows will participate in OR airway management. ^{[[L]]}_{SEP}
- **Orthopedics:** 2 weeks
Fellows will participate in all aspects of ED and post-operative orthopedic patient care.
- **Radiology:** 2 weeks
Fellows will train with a radiologist and participate in the interpretation of X-rays and CTs.

Procedures and Skills: Fellows will be instructed in the performance of emergency medical procedures and skills by their supervising physician and through the simulation lab course. Fellows must document the completion of required procedures in the fellowship procedure log (simulation lab procedures may be counted). There are separate procedure logs for basic and advanced procedures. Fellows will be proctored on all advanced procedures until the minimum number is documented and competency has

been demonstrated. Basic procedures will be proctored at the discretion of the supervising physician. Procedures and skills, with minimum number required in parenthesis, include:

Airway Techniques:	Cardiothoracic:	HEENT:
Airway adjuncts	Advanced EKG interpretation	Control of epistaxis (5)
Cricothyroidotomy	Cardiac pacing	Corneal FB removal (3)
Endotracheal intubation (15)	Cardioversion	Ocular tonometry
Mechanical ventilation	Pericardiocentesis	Peritonsillar abscess drainage
Non-invasive ventilation	Thoracentesis	Slit lamp exam (5)
Resuscitation:	Tube thoracostomy (3)	Tooth stabilization
Adult resuscitation (10)	Cutaneous:	Musculoskeletal:
Pediatric resuscitation (5)	Abscess I&D (10)	Arthrocentesis (5)
Post-resuscitation care	Laceration repair (25)	Compartment pressure meas.
Arterial access	Nail bed repair	Joint/fracture reduction (10)
Central line placement (10)	Nail trephination	Splinting
Intra-osseous placement (2)	Wound management	Nervous System:
Defibrillation	Gastrointestinal:	Lumbar puncture (5)
Anesthesia:	G-tube replacement	Urogenital:
Local anesthesia	Paracentesis (3)	Foley placement
Regional nerve block (5)	Thrombosed hemorrhoid excision	Urostomy tube replacement

Evaluation and Graduation

Evaluation: Fellows will be evaluated on a quarterly basis with both written and verbal feedback.

Fellows will be evaluated on:

- Emergency Medicine and specialty rotation performance
- Procedural competency
- Clinical competency including the ability to fulfill all ACGME core competencies:
 - **Patient Care:** Fellows must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.
 - **Medical Knowledge:** Fellows must be able to demonstrate knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and cognate (e.g. epidemiological and social-behavioral) sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care.
 - **Practice-Based Learning and Improvement:** Fellows must be able to investigate and evaluate their patient care practices, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and improve their patient care practices.
 - **Interpersonal and Communication Skills:** Fellows must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, patients' families, and professional associates.

- **Professionalism:** Fellows must be able to demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.
- **Systems-Based Practice:** Fellows must be able to demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value.

Graduation: For successful completion of the fellowship, fellows must receive a satisfactory EM evaluation, a passing grade on all off service rotations, demonstrate procedural competency while performing the required minimum number of all procedures, demonstrate clinical competency including the ability to fulfill all ACGME core competencies, and complete all didactic requirements. Remediation will be on a case-by-case basis.

Credentials Awarded

Program Credentials: Upon successful completion of the program, EM APC fellows are awarded a Certificate of Completion of the Emergency Medicine Advanced Practice Clinician Fellowship by Capitol Emergency Associates of TeamHealth.

Certifications Completed: ACLS, PALS, ATLS

Financial Information

Annual Stipend: \$50,000

Employee Benefits:

- Malpractice insurance: Texas Medical Liability Trust (no tail)
- Medical insurance: United Healthcare
- Retirement: 401(k)

Application Requirements

- Graduation from either an ARC-PA or CCNE accredited program
- NCCPA certification or PANCE eligible / APRN certification or eligible
- Texas state licensure or eligibility
- DEA licensure or eligibility
- Completed application packet including:
 - Current Curriculum Vitae
 - Personal statement
 - Three letters of recommendation, including one letter from a program faculty member if new graduate or one letter from a supervising physician if employed
- Personal interview

All fellows must be licensed and boarded prior to program entry and admission is contingent on the fellow obtaining hospital credentials from the St. David's HealthCare System.

Application Calendar

- **Application Deadline:** The fellowship program has no set start date and accepts new fellows on a rolling basis. The licensing and credentialing process is lengthy and a rolling admission ensures each fellow is able to start as soon as licensing and credentialing are complete. Applications may be submitted at any time for consideration. Current students should plan to apply 2-3 months prior to graduation.
- **Interviews:** Interviews are scheduled with well-qualified applicants based on program openings approximately 6 months prior to the anticipated start date.

Contact Information

- Kathryn Masters, PA
EM APC Fellowship Program Director
Kathryn_Masters@TeamHealth.com
- Andy Jones, MD
EM APC Fellowship Medical Director
Jacob_Jones@TeamHealth.com

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What are the advantages of a postgraduate education?**

The most important advantage to postgraduate education is the increased knowledge base and experience achieved by working alongside board certified Emergency Medicine physicians and experienced Advanced Practice Clinicians. Other benefits include improved job opportunities, increased respect from physician colleagues, improved productivity and patient satisfaction, potential for leadership positions, advanced skill competency and much more.
- **How long is the fellowship?**

The fellowship is 12 months.
- **How many hours/week do fellows typically work?**

Fellows average 45 clinical hours per week plus didactic activities and self-study. The fellowship schedule may include varying shift lengths, rotating shifts, weekend shifts, and holiday shifts.
- **Is there vacation time?**

Fellows have 2 weeks of vacation time. Vacations may only be taken during EM rotations.
- **How do I apply?**

Complete and return the application form and include all required documents.
- **What should I include in my personal statement?**

The personal statement should be a one page statement of personal / professional goals and your reasons for pursuing a postgraduate Emergency Medicine fellowship.
- **What makes an applicant competitive?**

The ideal candidate has demonstrated leadership ability, academic achievement, excellent interpersonal and clinical skills, and a sincere interest in Emergency Medicine.
- **How many fellows are accepted each year?**

Up to three fellows are accepted annually. This ensures fellows receive one-on-one instruction and a comprehensive educational experience.
- **Is the fellowship program accredited?**

Currently there is no accrediting body for postgraduate APC programs. The structure and curriculum of the fellowship program is based on the Emergency Medicine Physician Assistant Postgraduate Training Guidelines produced by the Society of Emergency Medicine Physician Assistants (SEMPA).
- **After completion of the fellowship, are fellows eligible for any additional certifications?**

The fellowship is designed to prepare Family Nurse Practitioners for the Emergency Nurse Practitioner Specialty Certification exam and Physician Assistants for the Emergency Medicine Certificate of Added Qualifications exam.
- **Do you hire fellows after completion of the fellowship?**

We invest heavily in our fellows' education and make every attempt to retain as many as possible; however, a full time staff position is not guaranteed after completion of the fellowship. Fellows are required to apply for staff positions and are hired based on departmental needs.

EM APC Fellowship Application Form

Demographic Information

Last		First		MI	
Address					
City		State		ZIP	
Email		Phone		DOB	

Education / Experience

Undergraduate School					
City		State		Graduation Date	
Degree Received		GPA			
Graduate School					
City		State		Graduation Date	
Degree Received		GPA		EM block grade	
Rotations Completed					
Honors/Awards					
Other Relevant Experience:					

Licenses / Certifications

Licensing boards taken and passed? Yes No*

**If No, provide scheduled testing date:*

Do you have a current DEA license? Yes No Applied

Check active certifications: ACLS PALS ATLS

Have you ever had any legal or disciplinary action taken against you? Yes* No

**If Yes, please provide explanation on a separate sheet.*

References

Please list three individuals from whom we should expect references. New graduates must include one reference from program faculty. If currently employed, one reference must be from a supervising physician. Please use the reference form provided and have the references mailed directly to the program in a sealed envelope.

Name		Phone	
Address		City/State	
Email			

Name		Phone	
Address		City/State	
Email			

Name		Phone	
Address		City/State	
Email			

In addition to the completed application form, please also include the following:

- Graduate program transcripts (unofficial transcript is sufficient for application)
- NCCPA / APRN certification copy
- Texas state license copy
- DEA license copy
- Curriculum Vitae
- Personal statement
- Three profession references should be mailed directly to the program in sealed envelopes. Please use the EMAPC Fellowship Recommendation Form provided.

Please email the completed application form and all necessary items to:

Kathryn Masters, PA
EM APC Fellowship Program Director
Kathryn_Masters@TeamHealth.com

EM APC Fellowship Recommendation Form

General Information:

Applicant name:		Date:	
Reference provided by:		Email:	
Present position:		Institution:	
How long have you known / worked with this applicant?			
Nature of contact:			
If this candidate rotated in your Emergency Department, what grade was given?			

Qualifications for Emergency Medicine: Please rate applicant relative to other EM applicants / peers

	Excellent	Very Good	Average	Below Average
Commitment to Emergency Medicine – has carefully thought out this career choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work ethic, self direction, and willingness to assume responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to develop and justify an appropriate differential and a cohesive treatment plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Able to work independently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
What is your prediction for success for this applicant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Compared to other PA/NP candidates you have recommended, this candidate ranks as	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Written Comments:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for your time and candid responses. Please mail this form in a sealed envelope to:

Capitol Emergency Associates of TeamHealth
EM APC Fellowship
ATTN: Kathryn Masters, Program Director
8301-1 N Capitol of Texas Hwy
Suite 450
Austin, TX 78731