

NATA Career Advancement Committee National Distinction Award Nominee Form

BEFORE YOU BEGIN: The National Distinction Award is the highest honor given by the NATA CAC. It recognizes athletic trainers in the 7-12 years of their initial certification who are making a clear and lasting impact at the national, district, state or community level while advancing in their careers.

Each response should include at least one clear and specific example that illustrates the nominee's actions, outcomes or influence. While brief responses are welcome, general statements (e.g., "they work hard" or "they are a strong leader") may not fully reflect the depth required for national-level recognition.

You do not need to write long or formal responses. What matters most is clarity and substance. Aim to be specific, thoughtful and complete. Working with the nominee or others who know them well is encouraged to ensure each prompt is addressed thoroughly.

Please respond to every prompt. Recommended length: 150–250 words per response. Incomplete submissions may limit a nominee's ability to be fully considered.

PROMPTS:

1. Character Traits: How does this person consistently show strong character in the way they live and lead? Share at least one specific example that demonstrates who they are in meaningful moments and why their actions stand out. This may reflect qualities that include but are not limited to integrity, humility, generosity, commitment or respect for others.

2. Personal Well-Being and Growth: How does this person take care of their own health and personal development? Share specific actions or habits that show how they stay healthy, manage stress or pursue self-improvement and why that matters in their life or work.

3. **Career and Job Growth:** How does this person stay motivated in their role, grow in their career and support others along the way? Share real examples of how they have developed their skills, taken on new responsibilities, helped others grow and/or remained committed to the profession over time.

4. **Clinical Practice:** How has this person gone above and beyond in patient care? Share a brief example or outcome that demonstrates how their care made a meaningful difference beyond everyday expectations.

5. **Teaching and Learning:** How has this person helped others learn, grow or stay informed whether through formal or informal education? This may include classroom teaching, mentoring, clinical instruction, public health education, research or other forms of knowledge-sharing. Share specific examples of how they have taught, guided or informed others in ways that made a lasting impact.

6. **Service, Leadership, and Advocacy** How has this person helped advance the profession or led others in meaningful ways? Share specific examples of how they have volunteered, taken initiative, led projects or people or made contributions that positively impacted others or the profession.

7. **Inclusive Leadership:** How has this person made health care or the profession more fair, accessible or supportive for others? Share specific examples of how they have created inclusive environments, improved access to care, advocated for systems, policy changes or supported individuals and communities who often face barriers.