



NATA International Ambassador Program Application Process

The NATA International Ambassador Program was officially launched in 2018. The purpose of the program is to serve NATA members who were moving abroad, presumably to a country where they have little exposure or experience, by connecting them with other athletic trainers (an ambassador) who currently lives in that host country or has had significant international experience. The point of the connection is for the ambassador to offer assistance to the incoming athletic trainer by helping them integrate into their new international community as seamlessly as possible. Specifically, to offer advice on how to navigate the logistics of an international move including help finding schooling for school-age children, locating relevant and safe places of worship, realtors for housing recommendations, banking needs, insurance needs, securing necessary visas, finding reliable health care, and other logistics. As a resource, this is proving to be a valuable and needed service, and with the increasing interest in athletic training abroad, we anticipate an ongoing need for this service.

As important as it is to discuss what the ambassador program is, it's also necessary to delineate what it's not. The ambassador program does not offer job placement or search assistance. The ambassador program will not connect NATA members interested in living abroad with an ambassador before that member has secured employment in a particular country. NATA's international ambassadors have not been asked to assist NATA members with finding employment or job leads in a country where they are interested in working.

We are proud to report that the ambassador program is growing! Currently, we have NATA's international ambassadors representing 17 different countries in every continent (other than Antarctica). Some of the countries where we have ambassadors include Australia, Belgium, China, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Paraguay, Panama, Rwanda, Taiwan, Spain, Vietnam, Ireland, UK, Uruguay, Canada and the Netherlands. Despite this growing list, we continue to need ambassadors with meaningful and significant experience living and working abroad, while at the same time adding additional ambassadors to our existing list of countries.

If you are an AT who has *significant/meaningful experience* in another country who is able to advise and is interested in being an NATA international ambassador by making yourself available to interested ATs, volunteer by reaching out to NATA International Committee member Thomas Kaminski, PhD, ATC, FNATA, by filling out [this email form](#).

International Program Review Process:

- 1) After receiving the "interest" form, potential ambassadors will:
 - a) Submit resume/CV to be examined by the IC committee member assigned to vet applicants.
 - b) Include contact information of at least two references.



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c) Submit a one-page statement of interest including your qualifications to serve as an NATA international ambassador, including your meaningful and significant experience living and working abroad and the number of years that you have been serving as an athletic trainer internationally.

2) NATA IC internal review process will include:

a) Careful review of the applicant's qualifications and commitment to ambassador program, as well as hone in on the applicant's "*significant/meaningful experiences*" in an international environment.

b) Follow up with at least two listed references to better understand the applicant's character and identify any potential "red flags."

c) If selected, every five years applicants must submit a progress report to the IC committee member assigned to the NATA International Ambassador Program.

d) An Excel spreadsheet of all current/former ambassadors will be cataloged and updated by the IC committee member assigned to the NATA International Ambassador Program in a timely manner. This document will be saved and stored on the NATA IC Dropbox site for retrieval and access.