

AATS Leadership Academy Guidelines for Applicants and Sponsor Letters

The AATS Leadership Academy Committee considers Candidates on how they meet the following criteria:

- Eligibility – In order to be considered for this year’s Leadership Academy applicants must be either:
 - An active North American surgeon, currently serving as a junior faculty member. Candidates must be in an academic appointment for no more than four years
 - A resident with intentions of completing their residency in 2019 and starting an academic appointment upon its conclusion.
- Displays evidence of academic and leadership accomplishments.
- Quality of their letters of support outlining how participation in this program coincides with their career aspirations.
- Personal statement outlining future career goals.

Criteria for Letters of Support:

When writing a letter of support, sponsors are urged to touch on the following qualifications, (1) Personal knowledge of candidate; (2) Candidates leadership and academic potential; (3) outline benefits of participation in the program

AATS Program Goals

- To provide participants with the administrative, interpersonal, and mentoring skills necessary to serve successfully as an academic cardiothoracic surgeon
- To provide an opportunity for participants to interact with well-known cardiothoracic surgical leaders who might subsequently serve as personal mentors.

Leadership Academy Values

Regardless of the size or location of an institution, the core non-technical skills associated with serving in a leadership position remain the same. This program aims to help those interested in acquiring or refining that skill set in an informal setting where faculty presentations and open forum discussion generate ideas that can be implemented upon returning to your institution.

In addition to being one of the more intimate sessions in cardiothoracic surgery to gain insights into non-technical skills development, the Leadership Academy Committee has taken pride in providing attendees with a focused networking opportunity to build long-term professional relationships. An important part of this is a 1:1 ratio of attendees to faculty with mandatory attendance and active participation required of everyone.

AATS Values

- **Leadership**: Demonstrating citizenship, integrity and professionalism
- **Education**: Disseminating knowledge and commitment to lifelong learning
- **Research and Innovation**: Advancing the field through the creation and application of new knowledge
- **Excellence in Patient Care**: Dedicating ourselves to the care of thoracic and cardiovascular patients
- **Mentoring**: Fostering the next generation of healthcare specialists for thoracic and cardiovascular patients