

Nicholas E. Grahovec Biography

Clinical Background: I started my career as a Physician Extender/Durable Medical Equipment Coordinator at Midwest Orthopaedic Institute in Sycamore, Illinois. During this time, I was also an Outreach Athletic Trainer at Kishwaukee College in Malta, Illinois. My next stop was working for ATI Physical Therapy, where I was an Outreach Athletic Trainer assigned to Benedictine University. I became the Head Athletic Trainer/Director of Sports Medicine position at Benedictine University the following year. I was there in that capacity for 5 years. My athletic training experience spans a variety of clinical settings, including high school, college/university, junior college, orthopedics, rehabilitation, and youth sports. Currently, I am active as a PRN athletic trainer, helping with the healthcare needs of local institutions.

Academic Background: As a learner, I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology and Psychology from Augustana College (Rock Island, IL), a Master of Science degree in Athletic Training from the University of Findlay (Findlay, OH), and my PhD in Health Science from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions (Provo, UT). As an educator, I was an adjunct professor for Kishwaukee College and Benedictine University during my tenure at those institutions. I was a Clinical Assistant Professor/Clinical Education Coordinator at Sam Houston State University (Huntsville, TX). I was a Visiting Assistant Professor/Clinical Education Coordinator at Northern Illinois University (DeKalb, IL). Currently, I am an Assistant Professor/Athletic Training Program Director at Northern Illinois University.

Volunteer: I have been steadily involved with athletic training at the state, district, and national levels over the past 10+ years. I am involved with many volunteer opportunities through NIU at the department, college, and university levels. I have been a medical volunteer at local events, including the Bank of America Chicago Marathon.

Research Interests: My current research interests include athletic training intervention effectiveness, athletic training pedagogy, and the esports athlete.

Personal: I am originally from Chicago but currently live in Sugar Grove with my wife, Amanda, and four girls, Audrey, Adalyn, Abigail, and Arianna. I enjoy staying active, doing DIY projects, and spending time with the family at home and abroad.