



3309-E: 2025 University of Pennsylvania Canine Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation Residency

University of Pennsylvania Principal Investigator: Cynthia M. Otto, DVM, PhD, DACVECC, DACVSMR

Total Grant Amount: \$244,732.68

Grant Period: July 14, 2025 – July 13, 2028

The Canine Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation Residency Program is a collaboration between the American Kennel Club (AKC) and AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) to increase the number of specialists trained to meet the needs of active dogs.

The popularity of performance and companion dog sports continues to rise, with increasing numbers of dogs competing in performance and companion events, and a growing number of sports. This trend highlights the strong connection between canine athletes and their humans.

While some sports highlight purpose-bred dogs, many welcome all dogs and appeal to a large owner population who are focused on enriching their dog's life. This program supports cutting-edge medicine and health research to benefit these special canine athletes.

Rehabilitation focuses on recovery after surgical procedures, as well as improving the quality of life in animals suffering from debilitating diseases such as arthritis or neurologic impairments.

Contribution: \$4,000.00

Approved: 3/04/2026