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FAQs about the FASHP Recognition Program

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What is the Practitioner Recognition Program?

The ASHP Practitioner Recognition Program is intended to recognize excellence in health-system pharmacy practice and grant recognition to and promote public awareness of pharmacists who have distinguished themselves in practice.

What is Fellow status?

Each person who achieves Fellow status is designated a Fellow of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (FASHP) and is awarded a recognition plaque at a ceremony held during the ASHP Summer Meeting. Fellows may use the “FASHP” designation after their name.

Who determines Fellows status?

The ASHP Practitioner Recognition Program is conducted at the direction of the ASHP Board of Directors. The ASHP Board also approves all criteria pertaining to the Recognition Program

The ASHP Board of Directors receives recommendations from the FASHP Recognition Committee which is appointed by the ASHP President-Elect and is comprised of ASHP Fellows. ASHP’s FASHP Recognition Committee is responsible for administration of the program and for maintaining quality assurance. Specifically, the Committee reviews the completed application files of all candidates and recommends Fellows to the ASHP Board of Directors. The Committee recommends to the Board any future changes in the Administrative Guidelines of the program.

What are the criteria for recognition?

In general, candidates for ASHP’s Practitioner Recognition Program shall have exhibited a sustained level of excellence over the course of their pharmacy career by:

- Demonstrating practice excellence and professionalism in health-system pharmacy practice for 10 years or greater
- Contributing to the total body of knowledge in pharmacy practice
- Educating practitioners and others and
- Demonstrating active involvement and leadership in professional activities

Do I have to meet all of the criteria to achieve Fellow status? For example, I am very active in professional activities, but I do not have any publications.

Yes, the successful candidate must demonstrate achievement of all criteria.

What is the interpretation for sustained practice excellence in health-system practice?

Candidates shall have completed pharmacy practice experience within health-system settings for a minimum of 10 years.

In fulfilling this criterion, it is expected that the level of demonstrated practice will reflect a commitment to practice excellence throughout his or her career. The candidate must provide sufficient documentation that a level of excellence has been achieved through sustained practice. For example, development, implementation, or enhancement of systems or programs (within the candidate's current or a previous practice site) that resulted in an improved level of practice.

Particular emphasis shall be placed on innovation, creativity, and conceptualization of new or improved practice methods. Since it is recognized that these factors are not the exclusive basis upon which to determine practice excellence, other evidence submitted by the candidate that addresses this criterion will be considered.

What is the interpretation for contribution to the total body of knowledge in pharmacy practice?

The following may be submitted as evidence that the candidate has a record of contributing to the total body of knowledge in pharmacy practice:

- a. Publication of scientific or professional papers on relevant topics of pharmacy in refereed journals (senior author or coauthor is acceptable); and/or
- b. Publication of a textbook or several chapters in a textbook(s) on some aspect of pharmacy; and/or
- c. Presentations at professional meetings; and/or
- d. Production or publication of educational aids on some aspect of pharmacy.

Contributions to the total body of knowledge in health-system pharmacy practice are interpreted as publications and/or presentations at a national level. Publications and/or presentations at one's work setting(s) or within one's state may be included but successful candidates shall have a broad national contribution to pharmacy practice in health-systems.

What is the interpretation for education of practitioners and others?

Each candidate must be actively involved in educational programs. For example: a) making presentations to health-care practitioners on topics that pertain to pharmacy practice; b) providing guidance to colleagues practice; c) precepting residents; d) mentoring staff; e) training technicians; f) conducting clerkships; g) educating students; and/or, h) educating the public.

What is the interpretation for active involvement and leadership in professional activities?

Candidate must support the profession as evidenced by a record of consistent and active involvement and leadership in professional activities, such as membership and participation in ASHP. Some examples of activities in which a candidate may have participated are as follows:

- a. served as an elected officer of a national, state, regional, or local pharmacy organization;
- b. served as member of a pharmacy association policy recommending body;
- c. served as a member of a commission, committee, task force, or ad hoc group established by a national, state, regional or local pharmacy association;
- d. served as a reviewer, editorial board member, or editor for a national, professional refereed journal; and/or
- e. served as a reviewer of papers submitted for presentation at national pharmacy meetings.

Active involvement and leadership in professional activities are interpreted as a record of continual involvement and leadership. Memberships and involvement at one's local, regional or state organization may be included but successful candidates shall have a broad national involvement as well.

Do I need references?

Yes, you will need a minimum of six letters of reference.

At least three colleagues (practitioners, administrators, or academicians) must attest to your professionalism and contributions as a practitioner. It is recommended that colleagues writing on your behalf must not focus on one accomplishment only but, rather, must personally assess the extent to which your overall contributions have made a positive impact on pharmacy practice.

At least three colleagues (different than those who attest to your contributions as a practitioner) must each provide written commentary that addresses your commitment to education.

How do I submit my name for Fellow status?

The application and program guidelines for the Practitioner Recognition Program can be found on the ASHP Web site under "ASHP Awards" or contact fellows@ashp.org for more information.

Members of the ASHP Board of Directors are not eligible to apply during their term of office.

Can I submit an application on behalf of one of my colleagues?

It is permissible for an individual to request an application on behalf of a member of ASHP. Individuals choosing to submit an application on behalf of a colleague shall bear the responsibility for ensuring that all application materials are completed. In such instances, the candidate must still provide personal statements addressing criteria #1 and #3 of the application.

Is my application confidential?

All requests for applications submitted as well as completed applications will remain confidential. Materials submitted in support of a candidate's bid for recognition status shall not be received by anyone other than the members of the FASHP Recognition Committee, or others involved in the review process.

What if I submit my application but change jobs shortly thereafter?

Completed applications, including all supporting materials that address the specific criteria outlined for recognition status, are due to ASHP no later than October 1. Only information contained in the application will be considered. An application may be amended, expanded, or supplemented at any time until it is submitted to the FASHP Recognition Committee; thereafter, no changes can be made.

Will the FASHP Recognition Committee consider other information in addition to the application?

The FASHP Recognition Committee renders its decision based only on the application materials and the criteria for recognition.

What if I do not receive Fellow status?

The Practitioner Recognition Program is considered an award. Candidates that are not recommended for Fellow status are contacted by ASHP and are given feedback based on the FASHP Recognition Committee's assessment. Candidates may re-apply for Fellow status in the future.

When will I hear if I have been awarded Fellow status?

Application materials are accepted June 1 through October 1. The deadline for receipt of all application materials is October 1st of each year. An extensive review of each applicant is necessary by the FASHP Recognition Committee, which meets in February of each year and makes recommendations to the ASHP Board of Directors. Candidates will be notified by ASHP in March in preparation for the FASHP Awards Ceremony at the ASHP Summer Meeting in June.

What happens after I receive Fellow status?

All new Fellows will receive a recognition plaque from ASHP. A special ceremony will be conducted at the ASHP Summer Meeting for all new Fellow recipients. New Fellows will also be recognized in ASHP publications and communications such as the *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*, ASHP NewsLinks, and through Press Releases.

Fellows receive special communications from ASHP asking for input and recommendations on Society matters such as policy agenda items and requests for nominations.

What if I am not in attendance to accept my plaque?

The name of any new Fellow who is unable to attend the Summer Meeting is announced and his or her photo is shown on the screen during the ceremony. Your plaque will be shipped to you in late June. Given the nature of the ceremony, it is not appropriate to have a colleague participate on your behalf.