Advancing to ACP Fellowship
Outline of Presentation

• Why apply for ACP Fellowship?
• What are the requirements?
• What is the application process?
• What are common obstacles?
• What is the timeline?
• Questions?
What is ACP Fellowship?

• An honor and a responsibility, representing the epitome of integrity, professionalism, and scholarship for those pursuing careers in Internal Medicine.

• A distinction earned from peers and colleagues to recognize professional accomplishments and achievements over and above the usual practice of medicine.
  • Application process is peer-supported and peer-reviewed
Who are ACP Fellows?

- 31,000 Fellows in 104 countries exemplifying ACP’s mission and goals in their professional lives by:
  - Upholding and practicing the highest clinical standards and ethical ideals
  - Serving as leaders in matters related to public health, citizenship, and social improvement
  - Advocating responsible positions in health and public policy
  - Providing education and information to other physicians and trainees, including students, residents, and fellows-in-training
Benefits of ACP Fellowship-Organizational

• Hold office in the college at both the national and chapter level

• Judge national abstract competitions and more sought after for local events for ACP

• Serve as a member of the Certificate in Physician Leadership Program’s Capstone Review Board

• Sponsor other candidates for Fellowship

• Celebrate Fellowship at the Convocation Ceremony held at the Annual Meeting
Indirect professional benefits of ACP Fellowship

• Enhances promotion and academic advancement opportunities

• Enhances growth and leadership opportunities in your professional environment

• Perception to patients-leader in the field of internal medicine and high level of dedication to the profession
Requirements for ACP Fellowship
Basic Requirements for ACP Fellowship

• Board certification in internal medicine or neurology
  • ABIM or equivalent
  • Recertification is strongly encouraged

• ACP member in practice or a subspecialty fellowship for at least 3 years since the completion of residency
  • Membership should be active and current
  • Dues must be paid for at least 3 consecutive years

• Active medical license, if in practice

• Documentation of continuing scholarship and professional accomplishments

• Teaching (institutional and community-based), hospital committee work, and/or volunteer and community service, especially in the voluntary provision of medical care
Domains of Additional Professional Accomplishment
Not Mutually Exclusive!

• Publications
  • Articles; abstracts; book chapters; books; or online media

• Education and Continuing Education
  • Teaching of physicians, residents, students, patients, communities, other healthcare professionals
  • Subspecialty certification; recertification; advanced degrees

• Active ACP Participation
  • Attendance at chapter/national meetings; abstract competition judging; MKSAP or exam question review; or ACP committee/council participation

• Leadership or Community Service
  • Medical director; committee chair; or working group responsible party
  • Voluntary provision of medical care to underserved populations
Applying for ACP Fellowship
Applying for ACP Fellowship-Traditional Pathway

Applications must be complete and include the following before review and consideration:

• Completed application form, signed by candidate
• Sponsoring letters/forms from two current MACPs/ FACP
• Updated CV
• $175 Fellowship initiation fee
Letters of Sponsorship

• Each application requires two sponsoring letters or forms

• Sponsors must be current ACP Fellows or recipients of ACP Mastership
  • The ACP Governor of your current ACP Chapter cannot act as a sponsor
  • A family member cannot act as a sponsor

• A list of eligible sponsors may be obtained at www.acponline.org/membership

• Sponsorship letters/forms must be *unique* and highlight special accomplishments, leadership qualities, or professional values
Options Available for Sponsors

- Download a PDF sponsorship form, complete it, and give to you to enclose or upload with your application
- (E)Mail a letter directly to ACP or facp@acponline.org
- Complete the endorsement electronically on ACP Online
  - Sponsor needs to log in, and supply the name, city, and state of the candidate
Two Ways to Apply for ACP Fellowship-Traditional Pathway

1. Apply electronically at www.acponline.org/facp
   - Auto-populates with your contact information, training information, and ACP CME activities
   - Upload your CV
   - Upload two sponsor letters

2. Use paper application form and mail to ACP
   - Include copy of your CV
   - Include the two sponsor letters
ACP Guided Fellowship Program

• Only available to early career physicians, at the end of residency training
• ACP-mentored guidance on meeting requirements for ACP Fellowship
• Structured framework over a 3 year period
• Create a personalized “Progress Dashboard”
• Progress reviewed throughout the program with written guidance and recommendations for each year of participation
• Enrollment for the 2023 cohort now open through November 15 for those who completed residency on or before June 30, 2022
Helpful links to the ACP Guided Program

• More information on Guided Pathway:  
  ACP Guided Fellowship Program | ACP Fellowship | ACP (acponline.org)

• Webinar on the Guided-Pathway to FACP:  
  https://www.acponline.org/meetings-courses/acp-courses-recordings/acp-leadership-academy/acp-leadership-academy-webinars/achieving-facp-through-the-acp-guided-fellowship-program

• For questions about Guided Pathway:  
  guidedfACP@acponline.org
ACP Fellowship Application Timeline

• Elections are held 5 times each year
  • July, September, November, January, and March

• The peer review process takes approximately 8-10 weeks

• Some applications may require review at a Credentials Committee meeting which are held twice each year
  • May and November
Updating Your CV

• Document the following activities:
  • Teaching, either institutional or office-based
  • Committee participation
  • Community service, especially the voluntary provision of medical care
  • ACP activities
    • ACP meetings, chapter activities, MKSAP for CME, etc.

• Sample CV and webinar recording on Writing a Professional CV are available on ACP Online
Possible Challenges
Challenges in Advancing to ACP Fellowship

• Lack of board certification

• Lack of teaching, hospital committee work, or community service activities
  • Rural or remote practice setting

• Cannot locate local MACPs/FACPs to act as sponsors
  • ACP chapters can help
  • International members without chapters can contact ACP for help

• Non-clinical or non-traditional career path
Overcoming the Challenges

• Reapply for ACP Fellowship
  • Members < 3 years should reapply after membership > 3 years

• Take advantage of opportunities to teach, serve on hospital/university committees, participate in community service projects and initiatives, assume leadership responsibilities

• Participate in ACP activities, such as local chapter meetings, annual ACP Internal Medicine Meetings, and MKSAP

• ACP can help you find sponsors in your region

  Unsuccessful candidates are notified in writing and given specific instructions on steps to qualify in the future.
Achieving FACP
New Fellows are invited to participate in the Convocation Ceremony at the annual ACP Internal Medicine Meeting

April 27, 2023: San Diego, CA
April 18, 2024: Boston, MA
April 3, 2025: New Orleans, LA
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ACP Fellows may use the credential **FACP**

- Membership must remain current
- Uphold the responsibilities of an ACP Fellow
Frequently Asked Questions
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• Who reviews my application?
  • ACP staff, your ACP Governor, and the ACP Credentials Committee

• How can I identify sponsors for my application?
  • ACP members may locate potential sponsors in the Membership Directory on ACP Online or by asking your local chapter

• What if I need more help?
  • www.acponline.org/facp
  • facp@acponline.org
Thank you!

www.acponline.org/facp

laacp2015@outlook.com

Louisiana Chapter Social Media

@LAChapterAcp