

International Examination and Certification Board

Academic Fellowship Certification Guide

FCOVD-A Qualifications & Requirements

Eligibility

The designation of Academic Fellow (FCOVD-A) is available to those visual scientists and optometric educators who have benefited optometry by their contributions to vision as it is related to human development, rehabilitation, and behavior. These contributions may have been made by scholarly activities such as teaching, research, publications in peer reviewed optometric and/or related journals, and editing or authoring chapters in vision related texts or books.

Application Process

The Academic Fellowship Application (Appendix A) is to be completed, including the application fee (Appendix C). Applications can be completed and submitted at anytime.

An accepted application remains active for two years. Once the two years has passed, you must reapply.

At time of application acceptance, a Dropbox folder will be provided to you by the COVD International Office, you are to import all electronic materials to this folder including:

1. Your current curriculum vitae. This should include, but not be limited to your academic degrees and the year and institution from which you attained each; a list of your current and past educational and/or research positions; a documented list of your published papers, articles, chapters, editorial activities, posters presented; a list of your formal courses taught, invited papers and lectures presented; a list of your research activities.
2. An essay of your major academic interests including research and how they have and or will impact/advance developmental, behavioral, and or rehabilitative vision care. This essay is be no less than three and no more than five double spaced pages in 12 point font.

3. Ten papers that have been published in peer reviewed journals; or a combination of seven published peer reviewed papers and three text book chapters relating to the major academic/research topic(s) discussed in item 2 above. These papers and chapters may be singularly or co-authored by the candidate. ***Note: Papers originating in non-English format must be translated to English. If a large work (like a textbook) is being used for consideration, an English abstract must be provided.***
4. The names, mail, and e- mail addresses of two individuals who can attest to the quality of your educational and scientific professional activities.
5. All materials must be submitted by December 31st to complete in April at the Annual Meeting. For example, if you are looking to complete in April of 2017 at the COVD Annual Meeting, all materials must be imported to dropbox by 12/31/2016.

Evaluation of Credentials and Oral Interview

A team of three fellows, at least two of who are FCOVD-As, will review your submitted materials. When the team deems that the requirements are met, you will be invited to take the Oral Interview, conducted by the team. The interviews take place at the Annual Meeting. For scheduling questions or concerns please contact Katie Kirschner at Katie@covd.org. The Examination Fee (Appendix B) is due upon scheduling of the Oral Interview. In addition, the COVD International Office will provide you with a conflict of interest form that must be completed and submitted prior to your interview.

Upon successful completion of the interview, you will be invited to take part in the induction banquet held on Saturday evening during the Annual Meeting.

Requirements for Maintaining Certification

Your certificate, once awarded, is valid for five years. The expiration date will be noted on your certificate. You must provide the following to the COVD office, either periodically during the five years, or prior to the expiration of your certification:

- An updated CV which contains:
 - Documentation of a combined total of six from the following categories:
 - Papers or research reports that have been published in peer reviewed optometric or related journals
 - Textbook chapters
 - Posters presented at optometric or related meetings
 - Documentation of formal courses taught at an institution of higher education
 - A history of CE courses taught