

Maintenance of Fellowship (MOF) FAQs

What is the purpose of maintaining my Fellowship?

To ensure the substantial qualifications met at the initial conferring of Fellowship are continued and to further encourage a commitment to lifelong learning and professional excellence.

Can I earn MOF points during the virtual Academy meeting, December 3-5, 2021?

Yes, CE earned during this meeting will count for MOF points, one point per two hours of CE attended.

(Delete this question? Or do the dates need to be updated?)

Is there another way to obtain MOF points?

Obtaining the Diplomate distinction and Diplomate renewal satisfies the 15 points required for MOF.

How are MOF points tracked?

Points received from the AAO annual meeting will be automatically transferred into the AAO MOF portal along with your CE certificates.

What about points I received from the 2010 meeting? (Since this is a question about 2010, is it relevant?)

The required MOF renewal period for the new Fellows in 2010 began at the end of the conference when they were installed. The CE received during the 2010 meeting does not count towards MOF.

When does my 10-year MOF certification period begin?

It starts after you obtain or reactivate Fellowship in the Academy. The tracking period for all grandfathered Fellows began after the 2010 conference.

What happens if I don't meet the 10-year deadline?

Fellows will be granted a one year probationary period to fulfill the requirements for MOF. There will also be a probationary service fee (\$150) for additional administrative costs incurred by late renewal. If the requirements are met in the probationary period, MOF certification for another 10-year period will be granted with the start date from the original renewal date. For example, if the MOF certification period was 2010 - 2020 and probationary renewal was granted in 2021, the next certification period will be 2020 - 2030.

If a Fellow does not meet the requirements during the probationary period, the FAAO designation will be rescinded and normal procedures for reinstatement must be followed to regain active status in the Academy. Reinstatement entails completing the Candidate for Fellowship application process again to earn the FAAO designation.

Points earned during the probationary period may not be used for the next renewal.

What happens if I obtain all of my MOF points before the 10-year deadline?

Certification for that 10-year MOF renewal period will be granted once the 15 required points are accrued, but the next certification period will not begin until the following 10-year renewal period. For example, if the renewal period is 2010 - 2020 and certification is earned after four years, the next renewal period will begin in 2021. Additional points cannot be carried forward from one renewal period to the next.

Why should I participate if it is not required for me?

Staying current and active in the Academy demonstrates a commitment to the profession. Many Fellows will earn the necessary points for MOF simply by continuing their annual meeting attendance and obtaining CE course credit. The MOF program provides additional encouragement and recognition for those who support Academy functions and strive for a lifetime of learning.



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