

Explanation of the Point System

A point system has been put into place to allow candidates more options for meeting the written requirements. Once the candidate has achieved 50 points, they will be invited to sit for an oral examination at the next Annual Meeting of the Academy. It is the candidate's responsibility to provide their Subcommittee Chair with any documentation requested before consideration for awarding points can be made, and it is the Subcommittee Chair's responsibility to assess whether or not the materials presented satisfy the intent of the category.

All written work should be submitted through the online candidate portal.

Written Requirement Options

Case Reports (10 points each)

This must be a case report of a patient the candidate has managed after graduation/licensure/accreditation in optometry. For assistance with writing case reports, visit the Case Report Guidelines webpage.

Publications (10 points each)

1. An article may be acceptable if it was published in one of the following or similar peer reviewed journals. Published case reports and review papers will not be accepted. No more than 1 peer-reviewed systematic review will be accepted toward the required number of 3 publications. unless approved by the Scientific Subcommittee Chair.
2. When multiple authored published articles are submitted for credit, the article will only be considered if the candidate appears as the first author. If the article is over tens years old, it may be acceptable, but a brief paper describing what changes have taken place on the topic since it was published may also be requested.
3. The Subcommittee Chair will make the decision if a submitted article meets the standards outlined above.
4. Complete citations MUST be included in the submission or your proposed plan will be returned to you.

List of Approved Journals *(Updated January 2022)*

Acta Ophthalmologica

American Journal of Ophthalmology

American Journal of Ophthalmology Case Reports

Arquivos Brasileiros de Oftalmologia

BMC Ophthalmology

Brain

Brain Injury

British Journal of Ophthalmology

Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology

Canadian Journal of Optometry

Clinical & Experimental Ophthalmology

Clinical & Experimental Optometry

Clinical & Refractive Optometry

Contact Lens and Anterior Eye

Cornea	Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness
Current Eye Research	Klin Monatsbl Augenheilkd
Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology	The Lancet
Documenta Ophthalmologica	Molecular Vision
European Journal of Ophthalmology	Neuro-Ophthalmology
Experimental Eye Research	Ocular Immunology and Inflammation
Eye	Ocular Surface
Eye & Contact Lens	Ophthalmic and Physiologic Optics
Frontiers in Neuroscience	Ophthalmic Epidemiology
Journal Français D'Ophthalmologie	Ophthalmic Genetics
Gerontologist	Ophthalmic Plastic Reconstructive Surgery
Graefes Archive for Clin and Exp Ophthalmol	Ophthalmic Research
Indian Journal of Ophthalmology	Ophthalmic Surgery Lasers & Imaging Retina
International Ophthalmology	Der Ophthalmologe
Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science	Ophthalmologica
JAMA Ophthalmology	Ophthalmology
Japanese Journal of Ophthalmology	Optometric Education
Journal of AAPOS	Optometry and Vision Science
Journal of American Geriatrics Society	Optometry & Visual Performance
Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery	PLOS One
Journal of Contact Lens Research and Science	Progress in Retinal and Eye Research
Journal of Current Ophthalmology	Retina, the Journal of Retinal and Vitreous Diseases
Journal of Dry Eye Disease and Ocular Surface Disease	Spektrum Der Augenheilkunde
Journal of Glaucoma	Survey of Ophthalmology
Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology	Translational Vision Science & Technology (TVST)
Journal of Ocular Pharmacology and Therapeutics	Vision Development and Rehabilitation
Journal of Optometry	Vision Research
Journal of Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Visual Neuroscience
Journal of Refractive Surgery	
Journal of Vision	

Posters and Papers (10 points each)

A poster or paper presentation (e.g. clinical case report, research investigation) written after graduation/licensure/accreditation in optometry will be considered, including periods of time when the candidate was a resident. Presentations made at the Residents Day Program of the Academy meeting may be accepted for points as well.

Candidates for AAO Fellowship can submit posters and papers from the organizations/meetings listed below. Please note that the Admittance Committee will still review each document submitted and make the final decision on approval of points. You **MUST** be the first author listed on the poster or paper for the work to be considered.

- American Academy of Optometry (AAO)
- Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)
- American Optometric Association (AOA)
- Global Specialty Lens Symposium (GSLs) - only able to accept from 2012 and forward
- College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD) - only able to accept from 2014 and forward

- Heart of America (HOA) - only able to accept from 2017 and forward
- Southeastern Educational Congress of Optometry (SECO) - only able to accept from 2018 and forward
- Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Optometry - only able to accept from 2021 and forward

To be eligible for points, the candidate must have been the presenting author and had the opportunity for interaction with attendees. For example, discussion with attendees in a poster session or responding to questions from the audience in a paper session. A candidate cannot use a paper/poster being presented at the same Academy meeting where he/she is sitting for the oral exam. A paper or poster more than ten years old might not be accepted.

All peer-reviewed materials (e.g. an abstract of the paper/poster) and an electronic copy/PDF of the paper and/or poster must be uploaded. The uploaded copy of the paper/poster needs to be readable with good resolution. If the text cannot be read, the paper/poster will not be accepted.

Academy Lecture (10 points each)

A unique lecture given within the past ten years at an Annual or International meeting of the Academy may be accepted if the candidate was the sole presenter of a one-hour lecture or presented for at least one hour of a two-hour lecture. Grand rounds (Is this capitalized?) presentations do not count toward this requirement. Documentation of successful completion of the lecture with dates and location must be provided along with a description of the lecture.

Residency of Other Graduate/Professional Degree (20 points maximum)

The candidate must document completion of one residency program accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education or one post-baccalaureate degree other than an OD (e.g. MS, MPH, MEd, PhD) in a vision science-related curriculum affiliated with an accredited college or university.

Documentation of the successful completion of the program* with dates of attendance and location must be uploaded along with a description of the scope of the program. Copies of any research reports, case reports, thesis, etc., completed within the program may be requested by the Subcommittee Chair.

* The Residency certificate may be uploaded after the May 15 written work submission deadline in order to sit for the oral exam at the next Academy annual meeting. However, a letter from your direct residency supervisor indicating your status will be required for upload by the May 15 deadline.

Leadership Contribution (10 points maximum)

While most candidates are in positions that inherently require leadership skills, points for leadership will only be awarded for activities at the national or state level outside of the scope of the candidate's regular compensated position. Leadership points will only be awarded for those candidates who can document a sustained record of highly significant contributions to the profession or vision science that resulted from the individual's leadership position.

Candidates with accomplishments that might make them eligible for leadership points should seek preliminary approval from the Subcommittee Chair by submitting the organization(s) served, dates of service, leadership position(s), and a statement outlining the significant contribution(s) to the profession.

After receiving preliminary approval from the Subcommittee Chair, the candidate must complete a 1,200-word essay demonstrating to the satisfaction of the committee that significant contributions to the profession or vision science resulted from the individual's leadership activities within the position.

Professionally Related Book (20 points maximum)

A book published in one or more of the following or similar types of professionally related books: Applied Science, Optometric Education, Optometric Management, Clinical Optometry, or other.

When multiple authored published books are submitted for credit, an explanation of the candidate's role in writing the book must be provided in order for the book to be considered. If the book is more than ten years old, it may be acceptable but a paper describing what changes have taken place on the topic since it was published may also be requested.

The Subcommittee Chair will make the decision if a submitted book meets the standards outlined above.

Original 6,000-Word Paper (50 points)

The candidate is the primary author.

The candidate and the Subcommittee Chair will mutually agree upon the topic of the paper.

The paper can be based on prior works or projects but must be new original work written for the purpose of Fellowship.

Original 1,200-Word Paper (10 Points each)

The candidate describes the current work they are doing, what they have learned from their work, and what it means to the profession of optometry.

The paper must be new original work written for the purpose of Fellowship.

Synopsis of Five Consultative Services Provided to Practitioners (10 points each)

Candidates who provide consultative services (i.e. Contact Lens Consultant, Practice Management Consultant, etc.) can summarize five different cases/situations in which they demonstrate their expertise and represent the depth and breadth of their services.

Synopsis of Educational Course Work the Candidate Has Given Related to the Profession of Optometry (10 points each)

Optometric educators can provide a synopsis of their course objectives, lesson plans, and lessons learned. Minimum course duration must be one quarter/semester. The Subcommittee Chair will make the decision if a submitted synopsis meets the standards outlined above.



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