



Pathway to Fellowship of the Faculty of Pain Medicine

To apply for fellowship a candidate needs:

- 1) to be a fellow of the College in good standing
- 2) to have a diploma in pain medicine
- 3) to have completed a 12 month period of training in pain medicine
- 4) to submit a 15000 word original dissertation in a pain medicine topic of their choice.

The dissertation will be examined by two fellows of the faculty (in cases of dispute it may be sent to an extern). Candidates need also to be aware that the document could be subjected to plagiarism software if requested by the examiners or extern. On a positive note a successful dissertation may form the basis of a presentation to a faculty meeting on request.

It is important to note that the Faculty Board has taken a decision (see section on standing orders below) to move to a two part exit exam following two years of dedicated training in pain medicine from 2013. In this context the current diploma will be equivalent to part 1 of that process from 2013. Hence this pathway will close on the 31st December 2012. Thereafter candidates may have to do a further exit exam to gain fellowship.

Currently a doctor with the diploma in pain medicine who is appointed to a HSE approved consultant post with dedicated sessions in pain medicine can achieve fellowship by the ad eundem route. This route is also open for candidates with HSE approved posts who have the FIPP OR FFPMANZ or the DAPAPM. These pathways will also close on the 31st December 2012 unless new reciprocity and equivalence agreements are put in place.

Standing Orders

3.2 Fellows

The following shall be admitted to Fellowship in accordance with Standing Orders:

- (a) Those who hold the Diploma of Pain Medicine, have completed an approved 12 month period of training in pain medicine and have submitted a 15,000 word dissertation of the required standard in a prescribed pain medicine topic and are fellows of the College of Anaesthetists of Ireland in good standing. This pathway shall lapse on the 31st of December 2012. Henceforth the pathway to fellowship shall be through a two part examination for which the current diploma is equivalent to Part 1.
- (b) Foundation fellows
- (c) Honorary fellows
- (d) Ad Eundem fellows

3.3 Honorary Fellows

3.4 Ad Eundem fellows

- a) A Comhairle na nOspideal /HSE Hospital consultant, or NHS appointed consultant with at least 3 designated sessions or PA's in pain medicine (chronic pain), who is a Fellow of the College of Anaesthetists of Ireland in good standing, and holds the Diploma in Pain Medicine, College of Anaesthetists of Ireland shall be admitted to fellowship as an ad eundem fellow in accordance with standing orders. This will lapse at the end of 2012 when the examination system changes to a two part exam.
- b) A Comhairle na nOspideal Hospital consultant, or NHS appointed consultant with at least 3 designated sessions or PA's in pain medicine (chronic pain), who is a Fellow of the College of Anaesthetists of Ireland in good standing, and who holds the DABAPM, FPMANZA or FIPP shall be admitted to fellowship as an Ad Eundem fellow in accordance with Standing Orders. This will only be valid after 31st of December 2012 where reciprocity and equivalence can be established with our fellowship by examination.