Infectious Diseases Society of America

Advancement to Fellow

Guidelines and Application

www.idsociety.org

Advancement to Fellow: *Guidelines*

What is an IDSA Fellow?

This category recognizes individuals who have achieved professional excellence and provided significant service to the profession. Applicants must meet the specified criteria for either the clinical practice or academic/investigator/administrator track.

Candidates for fellowship must demonstrate sustained excellence in the profession as defined in the paragraphs below.

Becoming a Fellow

Upon review, IDSA will advance most meritorious individuals who apply for fellowship after five years of ***full membership**.** The Society, however, *may advance individuals with exceptional qualifications* to fellowship after three years of ***full membership****. Rarely, IDSA will induct a new candidate for IDSA membership directly to fellowship, bypassing the member category for individuals exhibiting *unusual degrees of productivity and peer recognition*.

****Full membership does not include those years in training. To be eligible, you must have completed training at least five years ago and must have been an IDSA member for the last five years.***

Criteria

Clinical Track: Clinical practice of infectious diseases or related field as primary activity. Service to the profession must be significant in quality and have local, regional, ***or*** national impact as described below.

Clinical Track candidates must meet the following criteria:

1. **Continuing identification with the field of infectious diseases** (as infectious diseases clinician, researcher, microbiologist, epidemiologist, pharmacologist, or administrator)

2. **National *or* local recognition**

   Local recognition
   Evidence of local recognition could include any of the following: organization and/or participation as a teacher in local courses; and/or service as an officer for a local or state infectious diseases society; and/or documented excellence as a teacher, clinical microbiologist; and/or clinical appointment at a medical school (associate professor or higher); and/or leadership positions in hospital (e.g., related to infection control, pharmacy, and microbiology); and/or leadership in local or state public health initiatives (e.g., related to planning for bioterrorism or pandemic influenza).

   National recognition
   Service on committees and task forces of IDSA; service on national committees addressing infectious diseases issues, e.g., those of the American Medical Association (AMA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

3. **Publication of work**

   Publication after post infectious disease Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) training is not a requirement for advancement to fellowship in the clinical track. However, significant contributions to articles in peer-reviewed journals (e.g., case reports, case series, and review articles), chapters in textbooks, and/or contributions to other publications endorsed and disseminated by hospitals or health departments provide additional evidence that candidates for fellowship in this track have met the scholarly and pedagogical expectations of a fellow.

Academic/Investigator/Administrator Track: Clinical or basic research, administration, or teaching in infectious diseases or in a related field as primary activity. Service to the profession must be significant in quality and have local, regional, or national impact as described below.

Academic/Investigator/Administrator candidates must meet the following criteria:

1. **Continuing identification with the field of infectious diseases** (as infectious diseases clinician, researcher, microbiologist, epidemiologist, pharmacologist, or administrator)

2. **National or local recognition**

   Local recognition
   Evidence of local recognition could include any of the following: medical school appointment as associate professor or above; and/or documented excellence as researcher, administrator, teacher; and/or appointment as department head or head of infectious diseases division.

   National recognition
   Principal investigator or major investigator on National Institutes of Health (NIH), Veterans Administration (VA), CDC, foundation or industry sponsored grant; IDSA committee membership; NIH study section or VA merit review board member; and/or invited participant in national/international meetings

3. **Publication of work**
   Five or more substantial, scholarly first-authored publications or 10 or more multi-authored publications in peer-reviewed journals; and evidence of continued productivity as a researcher and scholar since completed training, e.g., via presentations at national/international meetings and publications

How to Apply

The following items must be submitted by the IDSA fellow who is serving as the primary nominator:

- **A completed Fellow Advancement Application.** The application along with other required documents (detailed below) may be mailed or faxed to:

  IDSA Member Services
  ATTN: Fellow Advancement
  1300 Wilson Blvd., Suite 300
  Arlington, VA 22209
  fax: (866) 889-7318

- **Letters of support from two IDSA fellows** must accompany the application for advancement. One of these fellows should be designated as the primary nominator. Both letters must indicate clearly whether the candidate is applying in the clinical or academic/investigator/administrator track, and they should **document in detail how the candidate meets the criteria for advancement.**
- **An updated Curriculum Vitae** must also accompany the application.

Assessment and Approval of Applications

Applications are reviewed for approval by the IDSA Board of Directors each summer. Disposition letters will be mailed to each applicant after the Board of Directors meets, with a copy of the letter being sent to the nominator and the seconder.