

Guideline for Fellowship of HKAOK

Mission Aim to promote an awareness and appreciation of advances in the field of orthokeratology (ortho-k) practice.

- To advance optometry in the field of ortho-k practice and professionalism
- To unite optometrists with the purpose of educational advancement
- To establish a standard of ocular and ortho-k practice
- To encourage and facilitate cornea and ortho-k research
- To work towards raising the standard of contact lens and ortho-k practice

Aim of Fellowship

Advancing ortho-k practice, one optometrist at a time, by fostering the individual development through dissemination of knowledge in both clinical and basic vision science and by supporting research that will advance optometry in the field of contact lens and ortho-k

Criteria for Fellowship

An optometrist who

- is registered with the Optometrist Board of Hong Kong to practise at the highest level permitted by law in the jurisdiction of Hong Kong
- has good standing with the Optometrist Board of Hong Kong
- has the annual Certificate of Achievement from the Hong Kong Optometrists Board for Continuing Education
- has Professional Indemnity Insurance (Fellows in academia are exempted if they are not involved in private practice)
- is a member of good standing of the HKAOK and HKCCLS
- has attended 50% of the HKAOK continuing education program during the calendar year of the application
- has submitted a non-refundable application fee of HKD \$ 9800 along with the completed application form and Membership Pledge and Agreement before the deadline of the first of December of every year
- has or works in a practice which is appropriately set up for ortho-k practice including:

<i>Equipment</i>	<i>Remark</i>
Slit-Lamp	40X magnification
Corneal Topographer	
Clean and tidy practice	Proper supply of tap water
	Trial Lens Set
Appropriate Forms	Record
	Information and Consent Form

In qualifying for Fellowship, candidates are evaluated against the highest standards of professional competence. Fellowship signifies to colleagues and patients that rigorous qualifications for Fellowship have been met.

A candidate has a maximum of 3 years to successfully complete the application process.

The Admittance Committee will work with the candidate to develop and review the material required to demonstrate eligibility to sit for the written and oral examinations. The process is designed to help the candidate develop as a professional and to succeed in becoming a Fellow.

Earning a Fellowship

Fellowship is an earned distinction that requires demonstration of professional competence. Candidacy undergoes a three-step process.

Step 1 – Application Form

Submit the completed application form, including the Fellowship Pledge and Agreement, together with the application fee. A complete Curriculum Vitae of the applicant's clinical experience and qualifications should also be submitted. When the application is being processed, the candidate will receive an acknowledgement by email which will include information on how to apply for and submit the 50 eligibility points.

Step 2 – 50-Point System

The 50-Point System gives candidate various options to meet the requirement for eligibility for the Written and Oral Examinations.

Step 3 – Written and Oral examinations

Candidates will be asked to sit for two examinations:

- (1) Written examination. This examination will assess the candidate competency in clinical practice based on the fundamental knowledge and understanding of the principles applied in optometry practice especially in contact lens and ortho-k. Clinical application of basic scientific principles included but not limited to anatomy, biochemistry, physiology, immunology, microbiology, optics, pathophysiology, pharmacology, etc along with legal and ethical issues.
- (2) Oral examination. For the oral examination, the candidate will be required to present up to **3** cases and will be examined on the basis of the submitted cases and general ortho-k practice, with emphasis on the diagnosis and management plan.

Candidates who successfully completed both examinations will be inducted as Fellows at the next Annual Meeting.

Responsibility of Fellows

- Live up to the Membership Pledge and Agreement

- Attend the Annual Meeting and CPD seminars to achieve points for the maintenance of Fellowship
- Contribute to the work of HKAOK by serving on the committee when requested, submitting papers, posters, courses to HKAOK educational and scientific programs, and being active in the academy whenever possible.
- Sponsor and support additional candidates for Fellowship and serve as a mentor for candidates
- Fulfill the Maintenance of Fellowship requirement by submitting 30 points once every 3 years.

Benefits of Fellowship

- Priority reservation and discount for HKAOK events inclusive of CPD seminars, conference, symposium and meetings
- Exclusive ordering (for a specific duration) of specialty lenses, eg. NKL Z Night ortho-k lenses
- Members discount on ophthalmic products such as contact lens solutions
- Name on website referral list for ortho-k practice

50-Point System Summary – New Fellowship

A point system* has been established to give candidates several options to meet the Fellowship requirements. A total of 50 points is required to be eligible for the written and oral examinations.

(* subject to changes by HKAOK council)

Items	Points
Case Reports	10 pts/each; Max 50 pts
HKAOK CE Attendance	5 pts/event; Max 20 pts
Community Service (Guangxi Vision Screening)	10 pts/each; Max 10 pts
Assist in Workshop/Grand Rounds	10 pts/each; Max 20 pts
Publications	10 pts/each; Max 20 pts
Poster & Paper	10 pts/each; Max 20 pts
Lecture & Presentation	10 pts/each; Max 20 pts
Residency or Graduate Degree or Certificate Course	Max 20 pts
Leadership Contribution	10 pts/each; Max 20 pts
Professional Related Book	Max 20 pts

Note: All submissions will be reviewed by the Admission Committee for accreditation of points.

Clinical Candidates are optometrists who are licensed to practice Optometry at the highest level permitted by law in their jurisdiction and are engaged in active clinical practice. Of the 50 points required from clinical candidates, *at least one case report* is required prior to written and oral examinations.

Submitted cases will be reviewed by the Examination Committee, including local and overseas experts designated by HKAOK Council.

Fellowship Maintenance Requirement

Once a Fellowship is awarded, FHKAOK has to satisfy the following requirements to renew Fellowship every three years.

1. Live up to the requirement of a member as pledged and agreed when applying to be a Fellow
2. Practise orthokeratology in a properly equipped practice
3. Attend the Annual Meeting yearly (application approval is required for non-attendance)
4. Contribute to the Academy by serving on a committee when requested, to support education and scientific programs, to encourage research to ensure that Fellows provide high quality service
5. Recommend new candidates for Fellowship
6. Fulfill the requirements of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities which may include clinical practice, teaching, manuscript writing and/or conference/CE presentation
7. A minimum of 10 hours of CPD activities approved by the Optometrists Board of Hong Kong every year.
8. Must have Professional Indemnity Insurance (Fellows in academia are exempted if they are not involved in private practice)
9. Must accumulate at least 30 points over three years from the date that the Fellowship was awarded:

Items	Points
Annual Meeting	5 points/each
HKAOK CE	5 points/event
Case Report	5 points/case
Significant Contribution to HKOKA event (eg. Speaker)	10 points/each
Conference Poster Presentation	10 points/each
Conference Oral Presentation (or equivalent or published Case Report in peer-reviewed journals (only first or corresponding author)	15 points/each
Full published paper in peer-reviewed journals (only first or corresponding author & last author (if senior academics)	10 points/each

Note: Submitted items must be of different cases where applicable. All are subjected to the review by the Council from time to time.

Fellowship will be suspended if maintenance requirements are not satisfied. Procedures for re-instatement of Fellowship will be the same as a new application.

Membership Pledge and Agreement

With full deliberation I, _____ freely and solemnly pledge that:

I will practice the art and science of optometry faithfully and conscientiously, and to the fullest scope of my competence. I will uphold and honorably promote by example and action the highest standards, ethics and ideals of my chosen profession.

I will provide professional care for those who seek my services, with concern, with compassion and with due regard for their human rights and dignity.

I will place the treatment of those who seek my care above personal gain and strive to see that none shall lack proper care.

I will hold as privileged and inviolable all information entrusted to me in confidence by my patients.

I will advise my patients fully and honestly of all which may serve to restore, maintain or enhance their vision and general health.

I will strive to broaden my knowledge and skills to allow my patients to benefit from all new and efficacious means to enhance their vision.

I will share information cordially and unselfishly with fellow professionals for the benefit of patients and the advancement of knowledge and welfare.

I will accept responsibility for the consequences of my acts, make every effort to ensure that my services are used appropriately and, when indicated, recommend alternate sources of care.

I hereby commit myself to be steadfast in the performance of this my solemn oath and obligation.

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____