

The Path to Becoming a Fellow



The Origin of the Fellows

- Established in 2000 by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners with 21 Charter Fellows
- Priority initiatives of FAANP are the creation and development of leadership and mentorship programs to foster the advancement of nurse practitioners and nurse practitioner students.

Purpose of FAANP

The purpose of the AANP Fellows Program, in support of the mission and vision of the AANP, is to impact national and global health by engaging recognized nurse practitioner leaders who make outstanding contributions to clinical practice, research, education or policy.

Beyond these slides...

- NPs interested in learning more about FAANP candidacy are strongly encouraged to read the following:
- Hicks, R.W., Bray, C.O., Green, R., & Olson, K.K. (2009). Fellowship in the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. *JAANP*, 21, 579-584.
- Rossiter, A., Sabol, V., & Hicks, R. (2017). So you want to be a Fellow in the American Association of Nurse Practitioners: Navigating the Fellowship process to ensure your success. *JAANP*, 29 (9) 501–505.

Stepping into Path to Fellowship

- Formal application process every Fall. . .
. . . but journey and process begins much earlier

Candidates Must Demonstrate

- Outstanding contributions and leadership in the two focus areas;
- Significance and scope of influence of one's efforts in the two focus areas;
- Sustained commitment and leadership in the two focus areas; and
- Potential for contributing to the mission of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and to FAANP initiatives.

Application for FAANP

- Application to FAANP is by invitation of two active FAANP members, who serve as primary and secondary sponsors
- Sponsorship is extended for FAANP consideration to AANP member sponsors believe have made **significant** achievements and contributions in two of the following priority areas:
 - Research
 - Practice
 - Education
 - Policy

First Steps

- Candidates must have maintained AANP membership for at least one year prior to the call for nominations
 - Any lapse in this period of time is disqualifying
- Prior to securing sponsors for Fellowship, candidates must conduct a self-assessment for readiness

FAANP Self-Assessment

- Review bios of Fellows printed in journals/websites
 - Consider the significance and scope of their contributions
- Review your portfolio of contributions and documented outcomes:
 - What is missing?
 - What do you need to accomplish to document the significance and scope of your contributions?

Advice from Active Fellows

- Review your portfolio with potential sponsors
- Ask:
 - Their advice about your readiness to successfully apply for FAANP
 - Which two areas are strongest
 - What examples should be submitted
 - What is missing

Along the Path for Future Fellowship

- Build strong history of evidence
- Identify your focus areas
 - Start now to build evidence for those area.
 - Document the outcomes, scope, and significance of your work:
 - Number of publication and grants. Conduct more research and document outcomes.
Document major projects
 - Evidence is needed at multiple levels.

Examples of Evidence

- The following examples are just that—examples
- The examples are provided to give reader a sense of the level of achievement expected
- Evidence is used to demonstrate the scope and significance of the candidate's contributions and achievement

Examples of Research Evidence

- Investigator-led research
 - Translational research, outcomes research, and evaluative research focusing on NPs and their practice
 - Progressive research program sustained over time
- Successful grant funding with documented outcomes and dissemination
 - Documented awards, publications, presentations
- Recognition for expertise in research related to NPs and their practice

Examples of Clinical Practice Evidence

- Leadership within practice-oriented organizations
- Development of models to influence population health
- Documented outcomes from innovative community-based programs
- Entrepreneurial activities, e.g. program development or non-traditional practice sites
- Demonstrated influence of professional evidence-based practice standards
- National recognition for clinical expertise

Examples of Education Evidence

- National or broad influence on NP curricula or programming
- Recognition for teaching innovations or advancement
- Sustained program of educational strategies dissemination
- Demonstrated significant grant funding and outcomes

Examples of Health Policy Evidence

- Involvement in influencing local, regional, national and international NP issues
- Exemplary service to professional organizations at national level
- Documented policy influence through interactions with policy or other decision makers
- Awards or recognitions from advocacy work and/or for policy expertise and contributions

Supporting Documents

- Beyond the candidate's and sponsors' descriptions of the candidate's achievement, the following are required
 - Curriculum vitae: Formatted according to the requirements to ensure that it is comprehensive, clear, and current
 - Summary of four representative samples of candidate's work: Selected to further demonstrate expertise in the main and secondary focus areas

Application Appearance and Organization

- Application and content should be
 - well-organized
 - professional with correct grammar and accurate spelling.
 - provided in specified format
- Credentials should be clear and accurate
 - Ensure CV lists degrees, type of NP, type of practice, location of institutions, and date of initial NP certification
 - Be sure your CV clearly supports that you are an NP
- Application should undergo review by sponsors and others familiar with your work

Sponsors

- Sponsors are critical as they mentor and guide their candidate through the application process.
- Candidates should know their sponsors and the sponsors know the candidate well enough to ensure competitive narratives
- Candidates and sponsors must correlate narrative evidence to adequately cover identified focus areas
- Each sponsor must be an active Fellow
- Each Fellow may be the primary sponsor for only one candidate

Deficient Applications

These will not be reviewed

- Incomplete application
- Candidate without required 1-year AANP membership
- Late submission
- Non/inactive Fellow sponsors

Please note: FAANP support is available at all times during the application period, either from your sponsors or AANP representative staff contacts.

Deficient Applications

These will result in non-selection

- Inconsistent areas addressed by applicant and sponsors
- Lack of clarity and specificity in descriptions of achievements and outcomes
- Lack of depth and breadth of NP accomplishments

Please note: FAANP support is available at all times during the application period, either from your sponsors or AANP representative staff contacts.

Summary

- Self-assessment is important starting point for pursuing FAANP Selection
- Discussions with potential sponsors should start early
- Be willing to develop a plan to improve upon contributions as needed for candidacy
- Familiarity with the application requirements and process is critical
- Organization and correlation of evidence should be guided by sponsors

When Invited to Submit an Application

- Work closely with sponsors throughout the application process
- Candidates are responsible for completion of all required forms and uploading both sponsors' supporting narratives
- Plan ahead to ensure submitting on time
- Always ask for clarification and information
- Use available resources

FAANPs

- Are passionate about advancing the AANP role
- Are committed to supporting the professional development of other NPs
- Available to provide guidance on the path to Fellowship

Resources

- FAANP section of the AANP website
- Executive Committee of FAANP and other Fellows
- *FAANP Forum* newsletter
- JAANP articles listed on earlier slide
- [Applying to FAANP at
http://www.aanp.org/NR/rdonlyres/468EBF49-BE7E-416C-B74F-4161852B4FC9/0/ApplyingToFAANP.pdf](http://www.aanp.org/NR/rdonlyres/468EBF49-BE7E-416C-B74F-4161852B4FC9/0/ApplyingToFAANP.pdf)
- [So You Want to be a Fellow at
http://aanp.org/NR/rdonlyres/F23F6606-2945-4C40-8F57-8C75926BE067/0/SoYouWantToBeAFellowrev.pdf](http://aanp.org/NR/rdonlyres/F23F6606-2945-4C40-8F57-8C75926BE067/0/SoYouWantToBeAFellowrev.pdf)

Good Luck

Please contact us if we can assist in any way



Edited: June 2018

Mary Jo Goolsby, EdD, MSN, NP-C, FAAN, FAANP

Diane L. Padden, PhD, CRNP, FAANP

Kat Van Duyn

Liza Cecchini

Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners