



American Glaucoma Society

2009-2010 Membership Application

There are five types of membership in the AGS for new members: Active, Associate, International, Provisional, and Fellow in Training. Please read the attached Bylaws to ascertain which type of membership suits your situation.

A Fellow in Training Member may hold this status for a maximum of two years of fellowship training, there is no fee for the duration of this membership category and it is not required to submit a CV a long with this application.

Nominations for election to membership are made in writing and signed by two (2) Active AGS Members. Election to membership is made by the affirmative vote by ballot of a majority of the Active Members after the Executive Committee has reviewed the nomination and determined eligibility. Annual dues are \$275 for Active, Associate, International, and Provisional Members; which includes an annual subscription to the *Journal of Glaucoma*. Dues are waived for Provisional Members in their first year of practice. Only Active Members can vote, hold office, and serve on committees.

Return your completed application to the American Glaucoma Society's administrative office at:

American Glaucoma Society
P.O. Box 193940
San Francisco, CA 94119-3940
FAX (415) 561-8531

Applications for membership are considered twice a year. Deadlines for 2009/2010 applications are **September 18, 2009** and **January 8, 2010**. There is no application deadline for Fellow-in-Training Membership; these applications are presented throughout the year.

Please send the following materials with your completed application form:

- Current curriculum vitae (reprints of publications on glaucoma subjects are extremely supportive) or a personal statement on the nature and extent of your activities in glaucoma.
- A letter of verification of training from your glaucoma fellowship director(s) indicating the inclusive dates of your fellowship and your activities as a fellow (clinical, research, or both).
- Applications for Active and International Membership should also contain a letter of reference and practice verification from an Active AGS Member with personal knowledge of your clinical activities for the year prior to your membership application. If there is not an Active AGS Member in your community, this letter should be from a community ophthalmologist. If you are newly out of fellowship, this letter may be from your glaucoma fellowship director.

Be sure that your documentation includes enough detail so that your academic contributions can be evaluated. Academic contributions to the profession are evidenced by (1) major authorship of a glaucoma related original article, review article, book chapter, or module; (2) a glaucoma related oral or poster presentation at a major national scientific meeting (e.g., the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, or the American Glaucoma Society.) that is accompanied by an abstract; and/or (3) active post-fellowship participation in resident or glaucoma fellow education.

It is most important that your application is complete and contains each of the indicated pieces of information. We ask that you do not trust others to mail pieces separately to us but rather collect everything yourself and mail us a completed package. After ballot results for election to membership are available, applicants will be notified by mail.

Thank you for your interest in the AGS. I hope these explanations will ease the application process. If you have any further questions or difficulties in completing this application or if additional information is needed, please contact me or Deborah Pistel at (415) 447-0275 or ags@aao.org.

With best regards,

Richard P. Mills, M.D., MPH
Secretary, American Glaucoma Society

Nomination for Election as Member American Glaucoma Society



Name: _____

Applying for Membership as: Active Provisional (within 4 years of your fellowship training)
 Associate Fellow in Training
 International

Office Address: _____

Office Telephone: () FAX Number: ()

E-Mail: _____

Home Address: _____

Telephone Number: ()

Ophthalmology Residency (location, date): _____

Glaucoma Fellowship(s) (location, date): _____

Glaucoma Fellowship Director(s): _____
(attach verification letter)

Date Certified by American Board of Ophthalmology: _____

Sponsors (two Active Members must sponsor the nomination):

#1 _____
Name (and signature)

#2 _____
Name (and signature)

Chronology of professional experience and employment, ending with present position (list here or attach CV that contains this information):

What percent of your office visits are patients with glaucoma?

(Not applicable to Associate Member applicants)

(Please Circle): 0-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100%

Meeting presentations, if any, in the last five years (list here, or attach CV that contains this information):

Publications, if any, in the last five years (list here, or attach CV that contains this information):

Mail nomination to the Secretary of the American Glaucoma Society:

**Richard P. Mills, M.D., MPH
American Glaucoma Society
P.O. Box 193940
San Francisco, CA 94119-3940
(415) 561-8587, FAX (415) 561-8531, ags@aao.org**

Four years must have elapsed since completion of fellowship to be eligible for Active, Associate or International membership. CV with additional information may be attached. Membership is not automatic, but is determined by a ballot vote of the current Active Membership. Pending approval, you will become an Active Member upon payment of annual dues, which are presently \$250 per year for Active, Associate, International and Provisional membership. **DO NOT SEND PAYMENT with this application; you will be invoiced after your membership is approved by the ballot vote.**

By signing and submitting this application, I certify that all information submitted on or in support of this application is true, accurate, and complete, and I understand and agree that all such information is subject to review and verification by or under the supervision of the Executive Committee of the American Glaucoma Society (AGS). I authorize and consent to that review and verification. I authorize and consent to all inquiries and good faith disclosures concerning me that may be made in the course of that verification process. I authorize all persons who have information concerning me to report such information to AGS. I agree to, and do hereby, waive and release, indemnify, and hold harmless AGS and its members, directors, officers, employees, and representatives, and all other persons and entities, or any of them, seeking, obtaining, providing, disclosing or acting upon any such information concerning me, from, against, and with respect to any and all claims, losses, costs, expenses, damages, liabilities, and judgments of any and every kind arising, or alleged to have arisen, from, out of, with respect to, or in connection with seeking, obtaining, providing, disclosing, or acting upon any such information. I understand that I may become a member of AGS only upon the affirmative recommendation of the Executive Committee of AGS and my subsequent election to that status by the voting Members of AGS. I understand and agree that if I am elected a member of AGS, my continued status as a member will be subject to all of the terms and conditions of the Bylaws of AGS, and that the Executive Committee of AGS may revoke my membership if this application contains or is supported by information that omits or contains a substantial misstatement of any fact required or permitted by this application or the related instructions to be included on or submitted with or in support of this application.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____



**THE AMERICAN GLAUCOMA SOCIETY, INC.
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERS**

Section 3.1 Classes of members; Qualifications for membership.

Members of the Society shall be of the following classes:

A. Active Members: Membership as an Active Member in the American Glaucoma Society shall be open to those ophthalmologists in the United States and Canada who are actively engaged in the clinical practice, teaching, and/or research of glaucoma as their major involvement in ophthalmology. Members shall be recognized as leaders in the subspecialty of glaucoma, and considered experts in teaching, research, patient care, and/or community service in ophthalmology and glaucoma.

Applicants for Active Membership are expected to have attained a high level of professional accomplishment documented by excellence in the areas mentioned. Candidates shall be graduates of an accredited medical school or an accredited school of osteopathy, and shall have satisfactorily completed an approved residency program in ophthalmology. In addition candidates shall document:

1. Certification by the American Board of Ophthalmology or by the Royal College of Surgeons (Canada) in Ophthalmology.
2. Fellowship in the American Academy of Ophthalmology.
3. Completion of at least one year of fellowship training in glaucoma in an institution accredited by the ACGME (Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education) Residency Review Committee or conducted by a Member of this Society and successful completion certified by the Director of the Fellowship Program.
4. Completion of at least four years of active clinical practice primarily in the area of glaucoma after completion of the fellowship. At least 50% of the candidate's practice shall be limited to the management of patients with glaucoma.
5. Academic contributions to the profession as evidenced by (1) major authorship of a glaucoma related original article, review article, book chapter, or module; (2) a glaucoma related oral or poster presentation at a major national scientific meeting (e.g., the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, or the American Glaucoma Society) that is accompanied by an abstract; and/or (3) active post – fellowship participation in resident or glaucoma fellow education.
6. Candidates meeting most but not all of the above requirements may be considered for Active Membership. Such candidates must be practicing physicians in the United States or Canada who have had and maintained exceptional and intensive clinical practice experience in glaucoma and who represent a major resource in glaucoma and patient care nationally and for their community.

B. Associate Members: Membership as an Associate Member is available to persons considered deserving of membership but who fail to meet the requirements for Active Membership. Such candidates may include glaucoma fellowship-trained ophthalmologists who do not otherwise meet the criteria for Active Membership, non-practicing ophthalmologists involved in basic research or persons, other than practicing physicians, whose primary interest is in the basic scientific disciplines related to the study of glaucoma.

C. International Members: Membership as an International Member is limited to practicing physicians residing outside of the United States or Canada, but who have completed their clinical fellowship training in glaucoma in the United States or Canada and are engaged primarily in the diagnosis, care, and treatment of persons suffering from glaucoma.

D. **Emeritus Members:** Members of all classes who have reached the age of sixty-five (65)-or who have been members for twenty-five (25) years whichever occurs first, may choose to become Emeritus Members. Active Members who develop a total disability precluding medical practice also may be considered for Emeritus Membership.

E. **Provisional Members:** Membership as a Provisional Member is available to persons who have satisfactorily completed at least one year of fellowship training in glaucoma at an institution accredited by the ACGME Residency Review Committee, or conducted by a Member of this Society and certified by the Director of the Fellowship Program, and are not currently enrolled in an Ophthalmic Post Graduate Training Program. Provisional Membership can be renewed for four consecutive years with payment of dues. Provisional Members are eligible to apply for Active Membership after four years.

F. **Honorary Members:** An individual of outstanding caliber, not eligible for another class of membership, may be elected to honorary membership by the Board of Directors as provided by these bylaws. An Honorary Member shall not pay dues or the initiation fee. An Honorary Member shall not have the right to vote and shall be ineligible to hold office.

G. **Fellow in Training Member:** Membership as a Fellow in Training is available to ophthalmologists in the United States and Canada who have satisfactorily completed an approved residency program in ophthalmology and are actively engaged in a clinical glaucoma fellowship in an institution accredited by the ACGME Residency Review Committee or conducted by a Member of the Society. A Fellow in Training Member must be recommended by his or her Fellowship Director, who must be an Active Member of the American Glaucoma Society. However, election as described in section 3.4 is not required for Fellow in Training Members. A Fellow in Training Member may hold this status for a maximum of two years of fellowship training.

All members must agree to adhere to the principles of ethics of the American Academy of Ophthalmology .

Unless otherwise specifically designated in the Bylaws, the term Members shall be deemed to include Active Members, Associate Members, International Members, Emeritus Members, and Provisional Members.

Section 3.2. Rights and Privileges of Members.

Associate, International, Emeritus, and Provisional Members shall exercise all the rights and enjoy all the privileges of Active Members except the right to vote, the right to hold office and the right to membership on committees.

Section 3.3 Numbers of members.

There is no specified limitation to the number of members of the American Glaucoma Society.

Section 3.4. Election of Members.

Nominations for election to membership shall be made in writing, signed by at least two Active Members and delivered to the Board of Directors through the Secretary. The Board of Directors shall determine whether such nominees are eligible and suitable for membership. The Committee shall then certify to the Secretary nominees who are eligible for membership and the Secretary shall send written notice of such nominees to each Active Member together with a form of ballot to be used in voting for or against membership for the nominee. Election to membership shall be by the affirmative vote by ballot of a majority of the Active Members casting ballots for each candidate. Ballots shall be sent via regular mail, electronic mail, or by other means approved by the Board of Directors and must be returned to the Secretary's office not later than six (6) weeks from date of mailing of the ballots.

Section 3.5. Dues.

Membership dues shall be established by the Board of Directors and published on the Society Web Page.

Dues may be altered by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Dues for each year shall be paid to the Treasurer not later than December 31 of the preceding year. Dues may not be increased over fifty percent (50%) per annum. Any member defaulting in the payment of dues in two successive years shall be reported to the Board of Directors and dropped from the membership of the Society, unless the Board of Directors shall determine that the member's default shall be excused because of extenuating circumstances. In such cases the Board of Directors shall make such provision for dues as the Committee shall deem appropriate under the circumstances.

Section 3.6. Resignations.

A member may resign at any time by delivering his/her resignation in writing to the President or the Secretary. A resignation shall be effective upon receipt, or upon such later date as shall be specified in the resignation.

Section 3.7. Failure to Attend Scientific Meetings.

Any Active Member who fails to attend at least one of four consecutive scientific meetings of the Society shall be reported to the Board of Directors and shall be dropped from the membership of the Society unless the Board of Directors shall determine that the member's failure to attend such meetings shall be excused because of extenuating circumstances.