



PAA News and Updates

Photographic Alliance of America (PAA)

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FIAP Announces Revised MFIAP Distinction Requirements

The MFIAP (Master Photographer of FIAP) has been the highest award that FIAP could bestow for photographic merit. These new MFIAP Distinction Requirements go into effect beginning January 1, 2026.

- The MFIAP applicant **must have received the EFIAP/p**. Previously, the MFIAP applicant needed to have achieved and held the EFIAP for a minimum of three years. There is no waiting period after receiving the EFIAP/p to submit an MFIAP application.
- An MFIAP application **can be submitted during either of two application periods each year**. Previously, there was only one application period each year. The MFIAP application could only be submitted in January and was evaluated during the spring FIAP Board of Directors meeting. The second application time will be before the fall FIAP Board of Directors meeting.
- The MFIAP submission is **twenty (20) digital images** that are to the most exacting standards. Previously, the MFIAP application required twenty prints.
- **Images from a series successfully used for one of the FIAP Portfolio distinctions, cannot be used for MFIAP applications** and, MFIAP application images cannot be used for a FIAP Portfolio Distinction application. Images used in applications for Distinctions based on exhibition results (NFIAP – EFIAP/d8) can be used in an MFIAP application.
- There is **no waiting period to submit a second MFIAP application** after a first MFIAP application has not been approved. Previously, an applicant for the MFIAP had to wait three years before submitting

another application, if the first application was not approved. Now a second application can be made in the same year.

- **There is no limit to the number of times a MFIAP application theme may be submitted.** Previously, an application theme could only be submitted one time. Now the applicant can work on the images and/or change some of the images and resubmit the same theme.
- There will be **feedback provided to the applicant if the MFIAP application is not successful**. Previously there was little direction or guidance provided.
- The MFIAP application process will go through a FIAP platform where the images will be uploaded by the participant and the county's Liaison Officer will be contacted for online approval that the applicant is a member of the national photography organization.

There will be a Second MFIAP Application Period offered under the old rules in December 2025!

To get an idea of what the images in a successful MFIAP application should be, check out the previous MFIAP recipients and their MFIAP images at:

www.fiap.net/en/mfiap

FIAP Announces New Highest Award for Photographic Achievement: GMFIAP

The PAA article in the September 2025 issue of the *PSA Journal* describes the new FIAP Portfolio Distinctions. The highest FIAP Portfolio Distinction is the **Master Portfolio (MPFIAP)** which is awarded after the applicant has received the Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum Portfolio Distinctions for a total of fifteen (15) different-themed portfolios having been approved.

If a person receiving the Master Portfolio Distinction has the MFIAP Distinction, they will automatically receive the **Grand Master of FIAP (GMFIAP)**.

