

## FACP Certification Guidelines

### 1. Overview of Certification Approaches

FAPA-CP offers two distinct pathways to certification for each level: a Training Pathway and an Experiential Pathway. This dual-pathway approach ensures flexibility and inclusivity, accommodating both traditional educational achievements and professional experience.

### 2. Training Pathway

The Training pathway is designed for candidates who meet certification requirement through FAPA CP-approved programs.

#### *Assistant Fellow of FAPA CP (Assist. FACP)*

- **Requirements:** Completion of at least 1,000 supervised practice hours in a specific area of specialization.
- **Specialty Focus:** This level focuses on hands-on experience in a selected area of pharmacy profession.
- **Objective:** Build advanced skills tailored to the specific focus area, establishing a strong foundation in specialized practices that are crucial for progressing to higher levels of responsibility and expertise within the pharmacy profession.

#### *Associate Fellow of FAPA CP (Assoc. FACP)*

- **Requirement:** An additional 1,000 practice hours beyond the Assistant Fellow level, totaling at least 2,000 practice hours.
- **Specialty Focus:** This level deepens expertise in advanced practice areas tailored to the candidate's professional aspirations and the needs of the sector.
- **Objective:** Prepare candidates for mid-level professional roles by enhancing their ability to manage complex clinical or operational issues within their specialty area. The training aims to develop specialized competencies that enable candidates to contribute significantly to healthcare teams and decision-making processes.

#### *Fellow of FAPA CP (FACP)*

- **Requirements:**
  - **Practice Hours:** Candidates must complete a total of 2,000 practice hours in relevant pharmacy settings.
  - **Professional Project:** Candidates are required to undertake and complete a substantial professional project. This could be in the form of original research, a practice improvement initiative, or the development of an innovative professional practice model. The project must be rigorously documented and made publicly accessible. Acceptable forms of dissemination include:
    - ◇ Publication in a recognized professional or academic journal.
    - ◇ Presentation at a major industry conference.
    - ◇ Other public acknowledgments or forums that contribute significantly to the field of pharmacy and are accessible to the professional community.

- **Specialty Focus:** The project should align with the candidate's specialized area of expertise, demonstrating innovation in practice or improvement of practices within the specialty.
- **Objective:** The purpose of this level is to position the Fellow as a thought leader and expert in their chosen specialty area. The project should gain peer recognition through mechanisms such as scholarly publication, the practical application of innovative practice, the adoption of new clinical or operational guidelines, or the demonstrable enhancement of patient care or pharmacy services or other forms of acknowledgment that affirm its value and impact.

### 3. Experiential Pathway

The Experiential Pathway recognizes the value of professional experience, allowing candidates to qualify for certification based on their work achievements and contributions to the field.

#### *Assistant Fellow of FAPA CP (Assist. FACP)*

- **Requirements:** At least 3 years of relevant professional experience in a specific area of pharmacy practice.
- **Documentation:** Comprehensive documentation including a portfolio of work, professional references, and a self-assessment report outlining foundational competencies, roles, responsibilities, and contributions to the field.

#### *Associate Fellow of FAPA CP (Assoc. FACP)*

- **Requirements:** A total of 6 years of relevant experience in the pharmacy field, or holders of an Assist. FACP certification can qualify with an additional 3 years of experience post-certification.
- **Documentation:** Comprehensive documentation including a portfolio of work, professional references, a self-assessment report outlining foundational competencies, roles, responsibilities, and contributions to the field, and evidence of advancing responsibility and expertise in pharmacy practice.

#### *Fellow of FAPA CP (FACP)*

- **Requirements:**
  - At least 10 years of extensive experience in the pharmacy field and
  - **Significant Professional Achievement:** Demonstrable significant professional achievements that have had a substantial impact on the field of pharmacy. This could include leading a major healthcare initiative, developing innovative practices that have been widely adopted, or other professional accomplishments that have been recognized within the professional community at an organizational level or beyond.
- **Documentation:** A comprehensive portfolio that includes detailed descriptions of professional achievements, endorsements from peers or supervisors, and any evidence of recognition within the professional community, such as awards, publications, or significant presentations at conferences.

### 4. Assessment and Validation for Both Pathways

- **Competency Assessments:** Whether through training or experience, candidates must demonstrate competencies that align with the expected learning outcomes for their desired certification level. Assessments may involve practical examinations, simulations, written tests, evaluations of capstone projects, or portfolio assessment.



- **Verification Process:** For the Experiential Pathway, the candidate's contributions and experience will be thoroughly verified through references, professional endorsements, and, where applicable, interviews or presentations.

## 5. Review and Approval

- **Certification Assessment Committees:** Each chapter will have a Certification Assessment Committee responsible for reviewing and approving certification applications according to the chosen pathway.
- **Executive Committee Endorsement:** Decisions made by chapter-level committees require final endorsement by the FAPA CP Executive Committee to ensure uniformity and integrity across all chapters.



## Revise History

Version	Date	Description of Revisions
1.0	2025-03-28	Initial adoption of the guideline

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