



EXPLANATION OF THE POINT SYSTEM CLINICAL CANDIDATES

A point system has been put into place to allow candidates more options to meet the written requirements. Once the candidate has achieved **50 Points**, he or she will be invited to sit for an oral examination at the next Annual Meeting of the Academy. It is the candidate's responsibility to provide their Regional Chair with any documentation requested before consideration for awarding points can be made, and it is the Regional Chair's responsibility to assess whether or not the materials presented satisfy the intent of the category.

Research papers, posters and publications in a vision science related curriculum completed prior to receiving the OD degree will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The faculty advisor must provide a statement documenting the student's significant level of involvement in the project. The project must be the candidate's work. Poster or paper presented at a professional meeting, or publication that involves *patient management* completed prior to receiving the OD degree and licensure is not acceptable for points.

If written work is submitted electronically, only one electronic copy is required. If written work is submitted in "hard copy", the Regional Chair will inform the candidate of the number of copies of each written work required.

CLINICAL CANDIDATES

CLINICAL CANDIDATES are optometrists who are licensed to practice at the highest level permitted by law in their jurisdiction and are ***engaged in active clinical practice***.

A combination of points from the following categories which total 50 points is required to complete the written requirements. ***At least one case report is required for all clinical candidates.***

CASE REPORTS (10 Points each—no limit)

1. Case report of a patient the candidate has managed **after** graduation/licensure in Optometry.
2. Guidelines for preparing a case report are documented at:
<http://www.aaopt.org/becoming/reportguide/index.asp>

PUBLICATIONS (10 Points each)

1. An article may be acceptable if it was published in one of the following or ***similar*** peer reviewed journals.

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| <i>American Journal of Ophthalmology</i> | <i>Journal of the BCLA</i> |
| <i>Archives of Ophthalmology</i> | <i>Ophthalmic & Physiological Optics</i> |
| <i>Canadian Journal of Optometry</i> | <i>Optometry</i> |
| <i>Clinical & Experimental Optometry</i> | <i>Optometry and Vision Science</i> |
| <i>Clinical Eye & Vision Opt. Clinic</i> | <i>Review of Optometry</i> |
| <i>Contact Lens Spectrum</i> | <i>Southern Journal of Optometry</i> |
| <i>ICLC</i> | |

- When multiple authored published articles are submitted for credit, the article will only be considered if the candidate appears as the **first or second author**. If the article is **over ten years old**, it may be acceptable, but a brief paper describing what changes have taken place on the topic since it was published may also be requested.
- The Regional Chair will make the decision if a submitted article meets the standards outlined above.

POSTER AND PAPERS (10 Points each)

- A **clinical case report poster or paper** written **after** graduation/licensure in Optometry will be considered, including periods of time when the candidate was a resident. A **research poster or paper** completed prior to the graduation/licensure may be accepted. Presentations that were made at the **Residents Day Program of the Academy meeting** may be accepted for points as well.
- A poster or paper may be accepted if it was presented at a scientific meeting which would include the Academy and ARVO, or any other meeting which has peer reviewed poster or paper sessions with citable published abstracts.
- When a multiple authored poster or paper is submitted for credit, it will only be considered if the candidate appears as the **first or second author**. A poster or paper over ten years old may not be accepted.
- The Regional Chair will make the decision if a submitted article meets the standards outlined above.
- Photocopies of the poster or an abstract, which clearly describes the poster presentation, may be requested by the Regional Chair.

ACADEMY LECTURE (10 Points each)

- A unique lecture given within the past ten years at an Annual or International meeting of the Academy may be accepted if:
 - Candidate was sole presenter of a one-hour lecture.
 - Candidate presented for at least one hour of a two-hour lecture.
- Documentation of successful completion of the lecture with dates and location must be provided along with a description of the lecture.

RESIDENCY OR OTHER GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL DEGREE (20 Points maximum)

1. Candidate must document completion of a residency program accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education, or post-baccalaureate degree other than an OD (e.g., MS, MPH, MBA, MEd, PhD) in a vision science related curriculum affiliated with an accredited college or university.
2. Documentation of the successful completion of the program with dates of attendance and location must be provided along with a description of the scope of the program.
3. Copies of any research reports, case reports, thesis, etc., completed within the program may be requested by the Regional Chair.

LEADERSHIP CONTRIBUTION (10 Points maximum)

1. While most candidates are in positions that inherently require leadership skills, points for leadership will only be awarded for activities at the national or state level outside of the scope of the candidate's regular compensated position. Leadership points will only be awarded for those candidates who can document a sustained record of highly significant contributions to the profession or vision science that resulted from the individual's leadership positions.
2. Candidates with accomplishments that might make them eligible for leadership points should seek preliminary approval from the Regional Chair by submitting the organization(s) served, the dates of service, the leadership position(s) and a statement outlining the significant contribution(s) to the profession.
3. After receiving preliminary approval from the Regional Chair, the candidate must complete a 1,200-word essay that demonstrates to the satisfaction of the committee that significant contributions to the profession or vision science resulted from the individual's leadership activities within the position.

PROFESSIONALLY RELATED BOOK (20 Points maximum)

1. A book published in one or more of the following or *similar* types of professionally related books: *Applied Science, Optometric Education, Optometric Management, Clinical Optometry* or other.
2. When multiple authored published books are submitted for credit, an explanation of the candidate's role in writing the book must be provided in order for the book to be considered. If the book is **over ten years old**, it may be acceptable, but a paper describing what changes have taken place on the topic since it was published may also be requested.
3. The Regional Chair will make the decision if a submitted book meets the standards outlined above.