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AUPO FCC NEWS

Fall 2011

In This Issue



- [Verification of Program and 2012 Incoming Fellows](#)
- [2011 Triennial Review Results](#)
- [2011 Fellow Exit Survey Results](#)
- [Request for an Increase in the Number of Fellowship Positions](#)
- [Other News](#)
- [OKAP](#)
- [Important Dates](#)

Important Dates



- November 1**
AUPO FCC compliance list updated on website
- November 1**
SFMatch and Logo updated
- December 5**
Rank List Submission Deadline (SFMatch)
- December 12**
Match Results are released (SFMatch)
- December 14**
Any post-match vacancies announced (SFMatch)

AUPO FCC



Welcome to the Fall issue of AUPO FCC's quarterly eCommunication. We welcome your feedback. Comments may be sent to aupofcc@aao.org. Questions about information posted in the eCommunication should be directed to the appropriate staff contacts.

[↑ back to top](#)

Verification of Program and 2012 Fellows

ALL COMPLIANT PROGRAMS should now have submitted their verification form via the online service. If you have not yet completed this step please do so immediately. This is an IMPORTANT step for your fellow(s). Completing the online verification form will allow your fellow to begin entering procedures, surgeries, or cases (depending on your subspecialty), right away. They cannot start this log until they have been verified by you.

Change of Fellowship Director?

If there has been a change in fellowship director please take the time during this process to update the name and credentials along with appropriate contact information. Upon receipt of the update the AUPO FCC may request a biographical sketch be completed.

Is your fellow(s) meeting the surgical/procedure requirements?

We suggest you ask your fellows for a copy of their log throughout the year to be sure your program is complying with your subspecialty program requirements.

Have you shared the program requirements with your current fellows?

The most current copies are located on the [AUPO FCC website](#) under each subspecialty.

[↑ back to top](#)

2011 Triennial Review Results

All programs that have had a successful triennial review will receive an updated certificate and letter from the AUPO

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FCC late October/early November.

[↑ back to top](#)

2011 Fellow Exit Survey Results

Letters of continued compliance are being disseminated in the month of October to programs via email. If you have not received correspondence from us you will hear from us after the AAO annual meeting where all exit surveys have a final review by the AUPO FCC Review Committee.

[↑ back to top](#)

Request for an Increase in the Number of Fellowship Positions

All requests for increases in the number of compliant fellowship positions must be received by May 1, 2012 to be eligible for posting for the 2013 available positions. Requests for an increase for 2012 positions have been closed.

[↑ back to top](#)

Other News

For general information please visit the [AUPO FCC website](#). Here are just a few things you can find there:

- List of compliant programs
- Responsibilities and deadlines

[↑ back to top](#)

OKAP Policy

The AUPO and the AUPO FCC support the OKAP Committee policy regarding sharing the scores with fellowship programs.

Use of OKAP Examination Scores in the Screening of Fellowship Applicants

by David K. Coats, MD, Chair, Ophthalmic Knowledge Assessment Program (OKAP) Committee, American Academy of Ophthalmology, March 2010 *AUPO NEWS AND VIEWS*

During the fellowship application process, some fellowship training programs may request that applicants submit OKAP examination scores. Although a procedure for the release of OKAP scores is in place, the American Academy of Ophthalmology discourages fellowship training programs from using these scores as a criterion for admission. The OKAP examination is meant to be a tool for individual residents to assess their progress during residency training. Examination results are also useful for residency program directors to measure teaching effectiveness, and if necessary, guide changes in their curriculum.

Whereas a board certification examination requires all

candidates to have fully completed an accredited residency training program prior to the testing process, resident experience and training at any given point in time is highly variable in training programs, so there is no uniformity among residents. Thus, the OKAP examination does not provide an adequate measure of overall resident competency, nor is it intended to fulfill this purpose. If the true purpose and limitations of the OKAP examination are not understood, the use of these scores to screen fellowship applicants could potentially place both applicants and fellowship programs at a disadvantage.

The Academy's policy regarding the release of OKAP examination scores is that only the overall score is to be released, as this is the only figure for which statistically valid analysis is available. The amount of test items in subtest areas is too small to allow for valid statistical analysis. Furthermore, OKAP examination scores are only to be released by the residency training program director at his or her direction and upon written request by a resident.

The OKAP Committee encourages individual residency programs to develop a policy regarding the release of OKAP scores to fellowship programs and to disseminate this information to residents each year when OKAP examination scores are available. The OKAP User's Guide contains more information on Academy policies regarding the OKAP examination.

For questions and concerns specific to the OKAP, please contact Kathryn Peters at kpeters@aaoo.org.

[↑ back to top](#)

Important Dates

Monday, December 5

Rank List Submission Deadline ALL rank lists must be submitted to the [SF Match](#) office by 12:00 PM (PST). After the deadline your rank list choices will be locked and no changes can be made.

Monday, December 12

Match Results are released to programs and applicants. Login to [SF Match](#) account to view Match results.

Wednesday, December 14

Any post-match vacancies which remain after the match will be announced on the SF Match Vacancy Information System. Only vacancies of programs which have indicated that they will accept applications for their unfilled positions will be listed. Applicants who did not match may begin applying to these positions by negotiating directly with the programs regarding any documentation that they require.

Please contact the SF Match at help@sffmatch.org or (415) 447-0350 if you have any questions about this process.

[↑ back to top](#)



The AUPO FCC e-Communication provides links to new and updated documents posted on the website, as well as other information of interest to fellowship directors, administrators and coordinators, Review Committee members, and Board members. To ensure delivery of the AUPO FCC e-Communication, please add the aupofcc@aao.org e-mail address to your list of safe senders.

The AUPO FCC provides a voluntary compliance process to monitor approximately 350 ophthalmology fellowship programs in the United States that educate approximately 1,000 fellows. Its mission is to improve health care by assessing and advancing the quality of subspecialty training physician education through exemplary compliance.