

**Fellow Status in Society of Pediatric Psychology  
Division 54, American Psychological Association**

**CRITERIA**

Fellow status in the American Psychological Association is formal recognition by professional peers that an individual has achieved great distinction in the field. Election to fellow status in Division 54 requires evidence of **unusual and outstanding** contributions or performance in the area of pediatric psychology. Fellow status requires that a person's work has had a national influence on the field. A high level of competence or steady and continuing contributions are not sufficient solely to warrant fellow status.

To demonstrate unusual and outstanding contributions or performance in pediatric psychology, the applicant must be able to provide documentation of sustained contributions or performance in pediatric psychology over a period of at least five years, evidence of distinctive contributions to pediatric psychology that are recognized by others as excellent, and data exhibiting an influence beyond the immediate setting in which the candidate works.

There is no single criterion for fellow status to be recommended to the APA Membership Committee and Council of Representatives. Examples of such contributions include publications that have influenced the field, significant community service, work that has been cited by others, presentations of papers, chairing symposia, conducting workshops, holding office in psychological organizations, influencing legislation, receiving awards or grants, documented innovation in pediatric psychology, production of empirically supported interventions. Single or even repeated performance of these activities is expected. Fellow status is awarded based on long-term and broad achievement contributing to the science and practice of pediatric psychology.

The society seeks to recognize exceptional contributions including, but not limited to, theory development, research, evaluation, teaching, intervention, policy development and implementation, advocacy, consultation, program development, administration and service, model service delivery, or empirically supported clinical applications.

Minimum qualifications include:

- Doctoral degree based in part on a psychological dissertation or from a program primarily psychological in nature
- Prior membership in APA for at least one year and a member in good standing of the division
- Active engagement at the time of application in the advancement of psychology in any of its aspects
- Five years of acceptable professional experience subsequent to the granting of the doctoral degree
- Supporting letters from at least three APA fellows who are familiar with the applicant's work with supportive statements attesting specifically to significant contributions to psychology and to pediatric psychology (not required for members who are fellows in other divisions)
- Self statement identifying significant contributions of psychology in general and to pediatric psychology in particular
- A curriculum vita in which the above contributions are highlighted and peer-reviewed publications as indicated with an "R" in the left column

Members interested in applying for Fellow status through the Society of Pediatric Psychology should refer to the APA Fellows page: <http://www.apa.org/membership/fellows/>

Questions about policy and review should be directed to the Chair of the SPP Fellows Committee:

Edward R. Christophersen, PhD, ABPP  
E-mail: [echrist@cmh.edu](mailto:echrist@cmh.edu)

The deadline for submission of all Initial and Current Fellow materials is December 1.

The SPP Fellows Committee, consisting of six members of the Society who are Fellows of APA, will review the completed applications. Approved nominations will be forwarded to the Society's Board of Directors for informational purposes. Endorsed nominations will then be sent to the APA Membership Committee (and ultimately to the APA Council of Representatives, which has the final formal vote on awarding Fellow status).

Incomplete applications cannot be reviewed.

SPP members who are Fellows of other APA divisions (Current Fellows) can also apply for SPP Fellow status if they have made outstanding contributions to pediatric psychology. Although the application itself differs, the criteria and procedures for review and approval are the same for Current Fellows as it is for applications for Initial Fellow status.

Adopted as official policy of the Society of Pediatric Psychology  
Division 54 of the American Psychological Association  
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