

# Applying to take the FIAOMC exam

When you decide to take the journey to attain your FIAOMC please understand that this will involve effort and commitment on your part. Also realize that this process assumes that you have fellowship skills. While learning will take place on this journey, we do not have funding for significant mentoring. If you are unsure of your skills, your section may have a mentoring program to prepare you.

## What does it mean to be an FIAOMC? An FIAOMC....

- has made a serious commitment to the practice of myopia management (MM) and orthokeratology.
- is expert in all aspects of MM including risk assessment, orthoK, soft MM lenses, pharmaceutical and behavioral interventions.
- distinguishes themselves in their ability to design and troubleshoot complex and challenging cases.
- is the gold standard for managing myopia.

The FIAOMCs are an elite group of doctors who demonstrate their commitment to MM thru lectures, creating webinars, setting standards of care, educating the public and mentoring other practitioners.

## Application Process

### Mandatory Prerequisites

- Must provide proof of fitting 50 cases. A minimum of 40 must be orthoK-overnight or day wear but the remainder may be interesting myopia control cases.
- Must have been an IAOMC member for the last 2 continuous years
- Must have attended one IAOMC section meeting within last 3 years (COVID exceptions may apply)
- Must have attended OrthoK Bootcamp (If candidate can document having fit 100 orthoK cases, boot camp requirement is waived).
- Must own and use a topographer
- If the candidate is a member of the IAOMC-Asia, they must hold the rank of SIAOA (senior member of the IAOMC-Asia) before they may apply to take the FIAOMC test.

### Skills Required to attain an FIAOMC

#### Lens Design:

- Be able to demonstrate how and why one would manipulate each of the curves of an orthoK mold when designing and troubleshooting.
  - If your manufacturer of choice does not allow manipulation of all curves, you must still be able to demonstrate your ability to alter a fit on a theoretical lens by modifying the various parameters.
- **Topographic maps:**
  - Possess comprehensive knowledge of every type of topographic map
  - Understand which maps you would choose (and why) in prefit, post-fit analysis and troubleshooting.
- **Complex designs:**
  - Have the skills to design treatment or troubleshoot challenging cases such as high myopia, high astigmatism, limbus-to-limbus astigmatism, high or low eccentricity, resistant cornea, decentered treatment, etc. (see list below)
  - You must be able to present complex cases that highlight your advanced skills.
- **Manufacturers**
  - Fit using fully modifiable software or a minimum of two orthoK manufacturers
  - If your preferred manufacturer is not fully modifiable, be able to explain what can and cannot be modified as well as what you would predict was modified with the proprietary changes.
- **Troubleshooting**
  - Be able to troubleshoot a case and anticipate problems with outcome before you design (including myopia control)
  - Recognize all treatment complications, their causes and remedies.
- **Myopia Control**
  - Understand the modifications required of an orthoK lens design that better controls myopic progression
  - Comprehensive knowledge of all the alternative methods employed to control myopia

If you meet these prerequisites, continue.

Complete the FIAOMC application below.

Submit the application [fellowship@aaomc.org](mailto:fellowship@aaomc.org) (AAOMC) or the section fellowship chair for other sections

## I. General Information

Name of Applicant (Dr, Mr, Ms)	
Sex	M    F
Phone	Cell
Email address:	
We Chat name	
Preferred method of contact	
Address	
Other information	

## Education (beyond high school):

Institution	Degree	Date

## Professional Certification/Fellowships/Licenses

Institution	Description	Designation	Date

## Professional Organization/Society Memberships (including IAO)

Organization	Date joined	status
IAO		

## II. Professional Activities:

How many hours of post graduate education have you completed in the past 12 months

<i>Institution</i>	<i># hours</i>	<i>topic</i>

**Please list the approximate percentage of time you engage in:**

Private optometric clinical practice	
Private ophthalmologic clinical practice	
Gvmt/federal optometric/ophthalmologic service	
Educator/lecturer	
Research	
Other (please describe)	
Total	100%

**Employment history since graduation**

Clinical: list specialties and name of partners if group practice

Educators: list subjects taught; Researcher, list area of emphasis)

<b>Company/Institution and location</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Date (s)</b>

**III. OrthoK experience:**

<i>How many orthoK fits do you see in your practice each month?</i>		
New fitting	Refitting	Follow up
How many Myopia Management patients per month		

<i>Name of your topographer</i>	<i>model</i>

<i>Do you own an axial length biometer?</i>	<i>model</i>

<i>List all the orthoK lenses/myopia control lenses you have used</i>		
Manufacturer/lens	Approximate # fitted	Level of proficiency 1 minimal 5 expert


<i>What lens manufacturers do you plan to use when submitting your cases?</i>	

#### IV. Past History

Have you been convicted of a felony in any jurisdiction in which you hold a license or right to practice?  
 Have you ever had your license revoked, suspended, received an official reprimand/warning?  
 Had a complaint filed against you with your state/national professional or consumer organization?  
 If so, please explain in detail.

#### VI. Motivation

Please provide a one page document detailing why you wish to pursue an FIAOMC and what you plan to do for the Academy after attaining your fellowship.

#### VI. What solutions do you recommend for orthoK molds?

Surfactant	Rinsing
Disinfection	Periodic/Deep cleaning

#### VII. Case Abstract:

**Choosing a case:** One eye = one case

- Interesting complex case requirements:
  - ✓ Cases must be interesting\* and of sufficient complexity to demonstrate fellowship-quality fitting skills.
  - ✓ If the lens is ordered empirically, the first lens must be considered a “trial” lens. Candidate must show some modification to the trials lens provided and must be able to assess and document fitting characteristics.
  - ✓ Here is a list of categories for complex cases which may qualify. If you have a case that doesn’t fall in to these categories but is interesting, feel free to ask if it qualifies:

<input type="checkbox"/> Central Island	<input type="checkbox"/> Toric design due to high cyl or limbal to limbal
<input type="checkbox"/> Problems with glare	<input type="checkbox"/> Resistant or Failed Tx despite lens modifications
<input type="checkbox"/> Poor myopia control	<input type="checkbox"/> Post surgical case
<input type="checkbox"/> Over or under correction	<input type="checkbox"/> Keratoconus
<input type="checkbox"/> SPK that was resolved lens change	<input type="checkbox"/> Decentration – lateral or vertical
<input type="checkbox"/> Lens adherence	<input type="checkbox"/> Infection complication
<input type="checkbox"/> Refit from another practitioner	<input type="checkbox"/>

Interesting\*

- Simply performing orthoK on a high myope with no complications does not qualify.
- Simply designing a toric lens with excellent results on the first try is not interesting. The candidate must show that they know how to manipulate the design to improve the fit or health. Show off your skills.
- If you have a very complex case, designed from software and no troubleshooting is needed, you MUST be ready to show the panel every complex modification you made prior to ordering.

## FIAOMC Case #1 Abstract Form

<b>Candidate Name</b>	Case ID _____ Eye: R L
<b>Prefitting Rx:</b>	
<b>Prefitting Topography</b> Paste here →	
<b>Analysis of prefitting Maps</b>	
<b>Summary of treatment design</b> ( <i>eg., manufacturer, custom design, design philosophy, etc</i> )	
<b>If additional mold were needed, explain why.</b>	
<b>Why is this case interesting, unique or complex</b>	

### VIII. Certification of Understanding

**If accepted for candidacy, I understand:**

- that if any of the cases I submit were not performed by me **exclusively**, I will be banned from re-application.
- If I fail any portion of the test, I may repeat the test once at no charge but if I fail twice I must reapply and pay a new fee.

- If I do not pass any portion of the testing I have two years from the application date to attain a passing score or I will need to reapply and pay the full application fee again.
- I certify that the answers I have provided in the above application are accurate and truthful. I understand that if I have provided any false information, I will be banned from sitting for the fellowship exam.
- I understand that as part of the application process, my professional background will be investigated through the use of a colleague interview, social media, etc. I give my permission for this to occur.

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Applicant signature

Return this application to your section fellowship chair and you will be contacted with their decision.