

# Application Guidance

## Distinction grades of membership for individuals overseas -2021/2022



FACULTY OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH

### Guidance for applications

**This application route is available only to individuals overseas who do not know any current FPH Fellows who might propose them for membership. It is not open to individuals living or working in the UK.**

The Faculty of Public Health (FPH) recognizes that there are individuals overseas who may meet the criteria for distinction grades of FPH membership but do not know any current FPH Fellows who might propose them. This application process has therefore been developed to allow candidates working or living in countries where public health systems are perhaps less developed, and where FPH may have few if any Fellows, to apply for membership.

The distinction grades of membership are the way in which the Faculty recognises those who have made a significant contribution to the science, literature or practice of public health whether in the UK or overseas.

The timeline for the 2021/2022 application round is:

- All applications, including supporting evidence, to be received by 17:00 on 30 November 2021
- Successful candidates to be notified of the outcome of their application in March 2022
- New members to be admitted to membership at the FPH annual general meeting in June 2022

In this document you will find:

- 1. The distinction grades of membership explained**
- 2. The rules and processes for making an application**
- 3. What happens after you submit your nomination form**

If you have any queries about the application process, please email [membership@fph.org.uk](mailto:membership@fph.org.uk)

## 1. Distinction grades of membership explained

There are three grades of distinction membership:

- Fellowship through Distinction
- Membership through Distinction
- Practitioner Membership through Distinction

Applicants for distinction grades of membership must work in core public health, whether in the UK or overseas.

### Definition of core public health

FPH considers core public health practice to be work which contributes to **one or more** of the three domains of public health:

- Health improvement, including work to improve mental and physical health as well as health inequalities
- Health protection, including disease prevention, environmental health and urban planning
- Improving services for clinical effectiveness, efficiency, service planning, audit and evaluation, equity or clinical governance

Public health intelligence, which supports these three domains, including academic research, is also considered core public health as part of FPH's application criteria.

This definition can be applied to anyone who considers public health as being their primary role.

### Criteria for distinction grades

#### ■ Fellowship through Distinction (FtD)

FtD is awarded to individuals working in core public health practice, policy or research at consultant level or above who have made an outstanding contribution to public health.

#### ■ Membership through Distinction (MtD)

MtD is awarded to individuals working in core public health practice, policy or research at or above Master's degree level who have made a significant contribution to public health.

#### ■ Practitioner Membership through Distinction (PMtD)

PMtD is awarded to practitioners working in core public health practice, policy or research who have made a significant contribution to public health.

**Overseas Fellows, Members and Practitioners through Distinction are expected to pay subscription fees equivalent to those of other paying Fellows, Members and Practitioners based outside the UK.**

Further details about all FPH membership categories and our current subscription rates can be found [here](#).

## 2. The rules and processes for making an application

1. The closing date for receipt of applications is 30 November 2021. Late proposals will not be accepted.
2. Application forms can be downloaded here - <https://www.fph.org.uk/membership/nominating-new-members-honorary-distinction-grades/>.
3. Forms must be typed and submitted electronically. Handwritten forms will not be accepted.
4. The following supporting documents must be submitted with the completed application form:
  - a. Documents that confirm the applicant's qualifications, honours, training and membership of any other professional organisations
  - b. A short CV (maximum two pages)
  - c. A professional reference from a current or recent employer or colleague
5. Applications will be considered by a sub-group of the Faculty's Global Health Committee and applicants invited to participate in an online interview. The sub-group will make a recommendation to the FPH Fellowship Committee on whether the applicant should be awarded membership.
6. The Fellowship Committee has delegated authority from the FPH Board to assess applications and will submit a formal recommendation to the Board for approval.
7. The Fellowship Committee and the sub-group of the Global Health Committee reserve the right to recommend a membership category different to that applied for. For example, an application for Membership through Distinction might result in an award of Fellowship through Distinction, or vice versa.

## 3. What happens after you submit your application form?

1. The Fellowship Committee meets annually to assess the applications and makes a recommendation to the FPH Board of those to be awarded distinction grades of membership. Those elected by the Board will be invited to accept their award and will be admitted to membership at the annual general meeting in June.
2. The Fellowship Committee retains the right not to make an award to a candidate if the majority of committee members believe that the award is inappropriate in light of the personal or professional status of the candidate, or if there are other factors that have an influence on the application. This could include, for example, rejecting an application if there was significant evidence that a candidate had conducted work that undermines the professional and moral values of FPH, either independently or via supporting an employer with a poor human rights record.
3. The Fellowship Committee will endeavour to make a judgement on the appropriateness of each application. However, candidates must accept that such judgement is limited to the committee members' assessment of the information contained within each application. The Board may request further scrutiny of an application if insufficient information is available and the Fellowship Committee is in doubt of their ability to reach a reasonable decision.
4. The applicant will be informed of the Board's decision by email in March; no information will be divulged before then. The Board has ruled that there shall be no correspondence on decisions of

the Fellowship Committee. This means that feedback will not be given on any of the results or decisions made.

5. On accepting membership, all candidates must agree to comply with the Faculty's minimum CPD requirements, either by participating in the FPH CPD scheme and submitting an annual return, or by being given a formal exemption against the criteria laid down by FPH.
6. In the event of rejection, applications will not be reconsidered until the next annual meeting of the Fellowship Committee when a fresh submission will be required using the current year's application form.

October 2021