

Application for Membership Level in AIMEHI (Academy of Independent Medical Examiners Hawaii)

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Professional Degree _____

E-mail address _____

Telephone _____

Level of Membership applied for _____

New application or Renewal? _____

This application covers the time period from _____ to _____

Summary of Instructions:

1. Read this application
2. Read and sign "AIMEHI (*Academy of Independent Medical Examiners Hawaii*) Code of Ethics"
3. Read and sign that you agree with "Level of Membership Guidelines (AIMEHI)"
4. Complete a Narrative explaining how you have satisfied the criteria for the level of membership for which you are applying. **For each bulleted criterion write one short paragraph**. Address each bulleted point in a separate paragraph. See examples below.
5. Enclose copy of CV
6. Send in Application (either hard copy or electronic). If you submit in hard copy format, please submit 3 hard copies. Electronic submission (1 copy) is desirable, but not mandatory. For electronic submission, please send in Word or PDF format. Please send all information under one cover. Multiple submissions (multiple paper or electronic files) are not desirable.

For Hard Copy send to:

Membership Committee AIMEHI
C/O Chet Nierenberg, M.D.
932 Ward Ave. #460
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

For Electronic format:

Send as email attachment to:

dn@hsmed.com

Optional:

Applicant may submit an electronic document or web link URL to be used as link on their membership listing on website. Electronic documents should be in Word or PDF format. Examples would be a CV, a bio, description of their practice, other relevant material, or any combination thereof. AIMEHI webmaster may edit content if necessary. If you have your own website you may simply choose to have that URL listed as a hyperlink. You do ***not*** have to do this. It is only for informational purposes to further describe themselves on the AIMEHI Web page.

Examples:

Important: Please write one paragraph for each bulleted point (listed in membership requirements) with a title of the requirement first. Address each bulleted point in a separate paragraph.

Example #1 (applying for Good Standing)

Practice Requirement: I am currently practicing full time occupational medicine and have been since 1995.

Education Requirement: I have attended two AIMEHI CME meetings in last 12 months, Iatrogenic Disability: A forum for discussing behavioral and psychological issues in January 2003, and IME report writing process December 2002.

Current email requirement: My email is current and have been participating in the AIMEHI email discussion list. It is DRJOHNDOE@mail.com

Example #2 (applying for High Standing):

Education Requirement: I attended two AIMEHI CME meetings in last 12 months, Iatrogenic Disability: A forum for discussing behavioral and psychological issues in January 2003, and IME report writing process December 2002. In addition I lectured on IME disability at xyz conference on February 29, 2003.

Example #3 (applying for Fellow)

AIMEHI service requirement: I have served on the Legislative committee and also helped organize the AIMEHI CME activities by arranging for venues for conferences x, y, and z. I have been active on the e-mail list posting nearly every month and have participated in discussions via e-mail. I have contributed 3 articles that have been posted on the AIMEHI web site. I have arranged to have AIMEHI post a link to website x which has very valuable content relating to disability evaluations. I arranged for xyz company to sponsor AIMEHI activity abc.

AIMEHI (Academy of Independent Medical Examiners Hawaii) Code of Ethics

- 1) I will be honest, objective, and impartial in formulating my opinions. I will clearly explain the basis for my opinions.
- 2) I will make a conscious effort to educate others, including physicians, attorneys, claims adjusters, arbitrators, and other interested parties, regarding the principles and protocols involved in the IME process.
- 3) I will make every reasonable effort to be accommodating and available for any subsequent adjudication of the case, should it extend beyond the parameters of the original evaluation and report.
- 4) Although no doctor/patient relationship exists in the IME process, if a health-threatening condition is discovered, I will bring this information to the examinee's attention and instruct them to seek appropriate medical care.
- 5) Fees for my professional services will be based on time, expertise, and complexity. They will never be based on the outcome of the opinion.
- 6) If conflicts arise in performing Independent Medical Examinations I will strive to do what is right and honorable.
- 7) I will be respectful in all professional communications.
- 8) I will treat all examinees with dignity and respect.

Applicant's signature and date _____
Applicant's printed name _____

Level of Membership Guidelines (AIMEHI):

The membership level system or other descriptive category should not be used as a means of guaranteeing the quality or the ability of the examiner. The membership level system or other descriptive category should not be used as a basis on which to judge the reliability of the individual examiner's opinion. The membership level system does not imply that the quality of services that examiner may provide is superior to any other.

AIMEHI makes no representations or guarantees with regard to the individual certifications/qualifications of its members.

AIMEHI is not an accreditation body and should not be viewed as such. Its membership system should not be used as the basis for selecting an examiner to perform services. The level of membership more accurately describes the experience and commitment to AIMEHI.

Membership Discretion and Equivalency Principle:

The Membership Committee will have the sole authority to grant advanced levels of membership based on its discretion in following the established levels of membership. The Committee will have broad discretion in interpreting the membership level requirements.

In addition to the specific requirements, the Membership Committee will evaluate the application overall to determine if the applicant fulfills the *spirit*, as well as the letter, of the level of membership. For example, if an applicant exhibits outstanding merit in one area of the requirements but less in another, the Committee may still grant the higher level of membership. There is, however, no obligation to do so. Conversely, an applicant may satisfy all the technical criteria, but if the Committee feels that overall, the applicant does not fulfill the *spirit* of the level, the application may be denied.

The Membership Committee will have broad discretion in the application of the Equivalency Principle. If an activity or requirement is felt to be equivalent to a listed requirement, the Committee may still grant the advanced level of membership.

Application Process:

Applicants may nominate themselves to the Membership Committee for an advanced level of membership. For categories of High Standing or above, the Membership Committee may post the candidate's name on the e-mail list and invite comments from the general membership and other listers.

It is the applicant's responsibility to deliver a hard or electronic copy of their application to every Membership Committee member, as well as the AIMEHI president.

An interview may or may not be required.

It is the applicant's responsibility to document all criteria relevant to that level of membership. If the applicant feels a specific requirement should be waived in his or her particular case, or that he or she has an equivalent qualification not specifically listed, then the applicant should document this in writing. The Membership Committee will have sole discretion in determining if the criteria or a suitable equivalent has been met.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to document all membership requirements prior to application. It is the applicant's responsibility and promise to certify the accuracy of all relevant material with regard to membership. The Membership Committee will review information provided, but is not responsible for certifying its accuracy.

For Fellows and Master Fellows, the current practice requirement is waived. With regard to Fellow and Master Fellow levels, the current AIMEHI president, as well as the Membership Committee, must also approve the applicant.

There will be no appeal to any other body with regard to membership decisions. By submitting their application, each applicant specifically waives any action against AIMEHI or its members. The Membership Committee will have broad discretion in its interpretation of the criteria and its decision cannot be appealed. This does not preclude the applicant from applying at a later date.

I agree with all of the above and further specifically unconditionally release AIMEHI, any of its members and officers from any liability in regards to this application or the membership process. I agree that all decisions of the membership committee shall be final. I further certify that all statements made by my self on this application are truthful and not deceptive. I also certify that I support the AIMEHI Code of Ethics.

Applicant's signature and date _____

Applicant's printed name _____

Description of Member Levels for AIMEHI

(Not Part of Application, provided here for informational purposes only)

Level G

MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

- Performs IME's in Hawaii
- Practice Requirement: Must be currently practicing
- Education Requirement: Minimum 2 educational activities per year (preferably 2 AIMEHI, CME sponsored activities but minimum of one AIMEHI and one other). To satisfy this requirement, the applicant must convince the membership committee that applicant is active in and supports CME activities in the IME field on an ongoing basis. This requirement may be waived or modified for first year first time AIMEHI members.
- Has Current Email Address accessible to other AIMEHI members and is responsible for reading notices sent about AIMEHI activities via email.
- Has demonstrated knowledge and desire to perform quality IME's
- Endorses AIMEHI Code of Ethics

Level H

MEMBER IN HIGH STANDING

- All of the above plus
- Currently Licensed in Hawaii
- Member of AIMEHI minimum 1 year
- Minimum of 3 years performing IME's
- Practice Requirement: Must be currently practicing. Most or all of Practice is in Hawaii currently or in recent past.
- Advanced Credential requirement: Evidence of advanced independent examiner credential by a National Body. An example would include Certification by American Board of Independent Medical Examiners. Psychiatric or Psychological credentials in the field would also satisfy this requirement
- Has performed at least 50 IME's in Hawaii
- AIMEHI service requirement: Has contributed to AIMEHI substantially on an annual basis (e.g. participating in Email discussions, committee work, organization, legislative testimony etc.)
- Educational Requirement: Lectured or Organized IME Medical Education
- Samples of IME's Reviewed by membership committee
- Expert Requirement: Has been certified as medical expert in Hawaii or Federal Court minimum of 1 time (may be waived by committee if there is other evidence of expert ability)

Level F

FELLOW

- All of Above plus
- Member AIMEHI minimum 2 years

- Performed IMEs Minimum 7 years
- Performed 1,000 IME's in Hawaii
- Practice Requirement: Must have had substantial Clinical and IME practice experience.
- AIMEHI service requirement: Has contributed in an outstanding manner to AIMEHI (e.g., officer or committee chairman, or substantial legislative effort)
- Education Requirement: Has organized major IME education course in Hawaii or been Principal presenter
- Expert Requirement: Has been certified as medical expert in Hawaii or Federal Court minimum of 5 times. (May be waived by committee if there is other evidence of expert ability)

Level M MASTER FELLOW

- All of above
- Member AIMEHI minimum 2 years
- Performed IME's minimum 20 years
- Performed over 2,000 IME's in Hawaii
- Practice Requirement: Minimum of 40,000 Career Clinical Patient Encounters (Not IME's). Need not be currently practicing.
- AIMEHI service requirement: Exemplary services to AIMEHI (e.g. President of AIMEHI or exemplary time or other contribution)
- Education Requirement: Has organized major IME education course in Hawaii or been Principal presenter. In addition has in some other way contributed to IME educational process such as by written means (e.g. authoring or editing educational material). Exempted from above ongoing 2 CME per year requirement but strongly encouraged to participate.
- Expert Requirement: Has been certified as medical expert in Hawaii or Federal Court minimum of 10 times. Preferably has qualified and testified in more than one jurisdiction. (e.g. Federal and State Court)

Emeritus

Has been a member of AIMEHI in any category and is retired or semi-retired from performing IME's

Honorary Member

Awarded at discretion of membership committee