



# **Fellows of the Heart Rhythm Society (FHRS)**

## Application Guide



# Table of Contents

- 1** Introduction
- 2** ABIM/AOBIM - Certified Electrophysiologists
- 3-4** Electrophysiologists Trained Outside of the United States
- 5** Allied Health Professionals
- 6-7** Scientists & Physician Researchers
- 8** Pediatric Electrophysiologists
- 9-10** Cardiac Surgeons
- 11** After You Apply

# Welcome and Congratulations!

You've taken an exciting step toward advancing your professional journey—congratulations on your decision to apply for the Fellow of the Heart Rhythm Society (FHRS) designation.

The FHRS credential isn't just a set of letters after your name—it's a **respected symbol of excellence in electrophysiology**. It recognizes your advanced training, board certification, and deep commitment to the field.

Earning FHRS sets you apart from your peers and demonstrates to patients, colleagues, policymakers, and the media that you are dedicated to delivering the highest standard of care.

Whether you're just beginning your application or putting the final touches on your materials, this checklist is here to help. Inside, you'll find the key steps, tips, and reminders to guide you through the process with confidence. The journey to FHRS is one of professional pride—and we're honored to support you every step of the way.

If you have questions as you work through your application, please email the HRS member support team at [membership@hrsonline.org](mailto:membership@hrsonline.org).

# ABIM/AOBIM - Certified Electrophysiologists

- 1 Make sure all the following items in the checklist are completed before submitting your application:
  - ☐ Hold current **membership** with the Heart Rhythm Society as a Physician member. Check your member status at [my.HRSonline.org](https://my.HRSonline.org) under **Memberships & Subscriptions**.
  - ☐ Hold initial or current ABIM or AOBIM **certification in CCEP**. Check your status at the following links:
    - **ABIM:** <https://www.abim.org/verify-physician>
    - **AOBIM:** <https://certification.osteopathic.org/validate/>
  - ☐ Request sponsor letters of recommendation from two current FHRS members. View the current listing [here](#).
  - ☐ Write a **cover letter** stating your intent to apply that outlines how you meet the eligibility requirements.
- 2 Gather all required documentation, including:
  - ☐ CV/Biographical Sketch or resume
  - ☐ Cover letter
  - ☐ Sponsor names and reference letters
  - ☐ Additional supporting documents, if necessary. This can include scans of other Board Certifications or correspondence from your Program Director.
- 3 Apply online and upload the two recommendation letters, your cover letter, and any other required documentation.
- 4 Pay the application fee of \$135.

# Electrophysiologists Trained Outside of the United States

**Note:** Electrophysiologists who trained in Canada may apply using the ABIM/AOBIM-certified Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiologist criteria if those criteria are met.

1 Make sure all the following items in the checklist are completed before submitting your application:

- ☐ Hold current **membership** with the Heart Rhythm Society as a Physician member. Check your member status at [my.HRSonline.org](https://my.HRSonline.org) under **Memberships & Subscriptions**.
- ☐ Have performed a **minimum of 150** intracardiac, catheter-based ablation procedures or device-related procedures during training and/or in the first two years after completion of training, or in the previous three years of practice.
- ☐ Have **completed training and practiced EP/pacing** for at least two years after completion of training.
- ☐ Demonstrate **EITHER**:
  - Certification in EP/Pacing by ABIM, IBHRE, EHRA or equivalent organizations **OR**
  - At least 75% of clinical practice devoted to heart rhythm disorders **PLUS** one of the following:
    - Have performed a minimum of 300 intracardiac, catheter-based ablation procedures or device-related procedures during training and/or in the first two years after completion of training, or in the previous three years of practice.
    - Have authored at least 10 publications, including 5 as first author.
    - Have served at least one term as a volunteer on an HRS or IBHRE committee, sub-committee or writing group.
- ☐ Request sponsor **letters of recommendation** from two current FHRs members. View the current listing [here](#).
- ☐ Write a **cover letter** stating your intent to apply that outlines how you meet the eligibility requirements.

# Electrophysiologists Trained Outside of the United States

- 2 Gather all required documentation, including:
  - ☐ CV/Biographical Sketch or resume
  - ☐ Cover letter
  - ☐ Sponsor names and reference letters
  - ☐ Additional supporting documents, if necessary. This can include scans of other Board Certifications or correspondence from your Program Director.
- 3 Apply online and upload the two recommendation letters, your cover letter, and any other required documentation.
- 4 Pay the application fee of \$135.

# Allied Health Professionals

- 1 Make sure all the following items in the checklist are completed before submitting your application:
  - ☐ Hold current **membership** with the Heart Rhythm Society as an Allied Professional member. Check your member status at [my.HRSonline.org](http://my.HRSonline.org) under **Memberships & Subscriptions**.
  - ☐ Hold current IBHRE certification.
  - ☐ Devote **at least 75%** of your clinical practice to heart rhythm disorders.
  - ☐ Demonstrate **ONE** of the following:
    - Advanced degree (Master's level or higher) in a related field
    - More than one IBHRE certification
    - At least one term of service on an HRS/IBHRE Committee or Subcommittee
  - ☐ Request sponsor **letters of recommendation** from two current FHRS members. View the current listing [here](#).
  - ☐ Write a **cover letter** stating your intent to apply that outlines how you meet the eligibility requirements.
- 2 Gather all required documentation, including:
  - ☐ CV/Biographical Sketch or resume
  - ☐ Cover letter
  - ☐ Sponsor names and reference letters
  - ☐ Additional supporting documents, if necessary. This can include scans of other Board Certifications or correspondence from your Program Director.
- 3 Apply online and upload the two recommendation letters, your cover letter, and any other required documentation.
- 4 Pay the application fee of \$135.

# Scientists & Physician Researchers

① Make sure all the following items in the checklist are completed before submitting your application:

- ☐ Hold current **membership** with the Heart Rhythm Society as EITHER a:
  - Scientist member OR
  - Physician member who now functions mainly as a researcher with a small amount of clinical activity and either
    - is not eligible for ABIM CCEP status **OR**
    - did complete an EP fellowship but did not achieve ABIM CCEP status.
  - Check your member status at [my.HRSonline.org](http://my.HRSonline.org) under **Memberships & Subscriptions**.

**Note:** If you completed an EP fellowship but did not achieve ABIM CCEP status, you can apply for physician FHRS status using the scientist criteria below, provided that you completely fulfill all other requirements and standards associated with a scientist applying for FHRS status.

- ☐ Have a PhD, MD or equivalent.
- ☐ Hold a **full-time faculty position** at an academic institution with an equivalent rank of assistant professor or higher.
- ☐ Devote **at least 50%** of your professional activity to heart rhythm research.
- ☐ Show **independent capability as a scientist**, demonstrated by one of the following:
  - Five or more publications on heart rhythm disorders, of which at least one is as the primary or senior author
  - Functioning as a PI on a funded extramural grant from government agency or professional organization intended for independent investigators.
- ☐ Request sponsor **letters of recommendation** from two current FHRS members.  
View the current listing [here](#).
- ☐ Write a **cover letter** stating your intent to apply that outlines how you meet the eligibility requirements.



# Scientists & Physician Researchers

- 2 Gather all required documentation, including:
  - ☐ CV/Biographical Sketch or resume
  - ☐ Cover letter
  - ☐ Sponsor names and reference letters
  - ☐ Additional supporting documents, if necessary. This can include scans of other Board Certifications or correspondence from your Program Director.
- 3 Apply online and upload the two recommendation letters, your cover letter, and any other required documentation.
- 4 Pay the application fee of \$135.

# Pediatric Electrophysiologists

**Were you trained outside of the United States?** You may also apply using the criteria for Electrophysiologists Trained Outside the United States. (See page 2)

- 1 Make sure all the following items in the checklist are completed before submitting your application:

- ☐ Hold current **membership** with the Heart Rhythm Society as a Physician member. Check your member status at [my.HRSONline.org](http://my.HRSONline.org) under **Memberships & Subscriptions**.
- ☐ Hold current **certification** in Pediatric Cardiology.
- ☐ Have had **at least 12 months of training** in a Pediatric EP fellowship or have begun Pediatric EP practice prior to January 1, 2000.
- ☐ Hold current **IBHRE certification**.
- ☐ Devote **at least 75%** of your clinical practice to the treatment of heart rhythm disorders.
- ☐ Request sponsor **letters of recommendation** from two current FHRS members. View the current listing [here](#).
- ☐ Write a **cover letter** stating your intent to apply that outlines how you meet the eligibility requirements.

- 2 Gather all required documentation, including:

- ☐ CV/Biographical Sketch or resume
- ☐ Cover letter
- ☐ Sponsor names and reference letters
- ☐ Additional supporting documents, if necessary. This can include scans of other Board Certifications or correspondence from your Program Director.

- 3 Apply online and upload the two recommendation letters, your cover letter, and any other required documentation.

- 4 Pay the application fee of \$135.

# Cardiac Surgeons

1 Make sure all the following items in the checklist are completed before submitting your application:

- ☐ Hold current **membership** with the Heart Rhythm Society as a Physician member. Check your member status at [my.HRSonline.org](http://my.HRSonline.org) under **Memberships & Subscriptions**.
- ☐ Have completed two years of practice after training in the same hospital.
- ☐ Have conducted 100 ablation procedures or CIED-related procedures:
  - in training and/or the first two years after training, *or*
  - in the previous three years of practice.
- ☐ Fulfill **one** of the following:
  - Currently devotes 20% of clinical practice to heart rhythm disorders
  - Currently performs at least 50 ablative or CIED-related procedures per year.
- ☐ Meet **one** of the following:
  - Authored five papers published in a peer-reviewed journal with at least one heart rhythm or CIED related paper.
  - Served at least one term on an HRS or IBHRE committee, subcommittee, or writing group, has been an invited speaker at the HRS annual meeting, or presented an abstract or poster at the HRS Scientific Sessions.
- ☐ Hold **certification** by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiners, or equivalent certification in the country where currently practicing.
- ☐ Request sponsor **letters of recommendation** from two current FHRS members. View the current listing [here](#).
- ☐ Write a **cover letter** stating your intent to apply that outlines how you meet the eligibility requirements.

# Cardiac Surgeons

- 2 Gather all required documentation, including:
  - ☐ CV/Biographical Sketch or resume
  - ☐ Cover letter
  - ☐ Sponsor names and reference letters
  - ☐ Additional supporting documents, if necessary. This can include scans of other Board Certifications or correspondence from your Program Director.
- 3 Apply online and upload the two recommendation letters, your cover letter, and any other required documentation.
- 4 Pay the application fee of \$135.

# After You Apply

- Completed applications from eligible candidates are considered by Membership staff and the Membership Committee. Please allow approximately three weeks for the review of your application.
- Please reach out to [membership@HRSonline.org](mailto:membership@HRSonline.org) with any questions.