Fellow of the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses

Fellow Designation

AMSN values long-term volunteers and engaged members for their contributions to medical-surgical nursing. The AMSN Fellows program will give AMSN the opportunity to recognize those individuals who have made a significant impact on AMSN and the medical-surgical nursing community through volunteer service and leadership, promotion of certification, research activities, and publications. The AMSN Fellows program is an honorary recognition and a call to continued leadership and service within the medical-surgical nursing community.

An AMSN Fellows Program aligns with strategic goals as outlined in the 3-year strategic plan approved by the AMSN Board of Directors in late 2021. These goals are as follows:

- The medical-surgical nurse will be a well-equipped, highly respected professional with career satisfaction and a *strong professional identity*.
- The global healthcare community will look to AMSN as the thought leader on all aspects of med-surg nursing practice through *advocacy, education, certification, and scholarships*.
- AMSN shapes the field of medical-surgical nursing through a diverse workforce and equitable *opportunities for all nurses*.
- AMSN's health and continued *organizational growth* will be advanced through the effective integration of technology, systems, and people.

Nurses who are designated as Fellows of the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses have demonstrated leadership in medical-surgical nursing with sustained and notable contributions to the specialty beyond their work environment at a regional, state, national, and even global level. Recipients of this designation have achieved success in the field of medical-surgical nursing; consistently exhibited exemplary professional deportment; provided academic accomplishment, mentorship, advocacy, and volunteer service; and demonstrated their commitment to defining, refining, and advancing the specialty.

The AMSN Board of Directors confers recognition as a Fellow upon the recommendation of the Awards, Scholarships, and Grants Committee according to the criteria outlined below. Fellows will be granted the privilege of using the credential FAMSN (Fellow of the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses) based on program guidance and will be identified as an AMSN Fellow in the directory. Fellows will be expected to serve as ambassadors for AMSN in the nursing and healthcare community, and to acknowledge AMSN when making professional presentations or attending conferences. Activities of support may include but are not limited to writing for the *Med Surg Monitor*, guesting on the podcast, acting as a webinar or conference presenter, and submitting manuscripts for possible publication in the official AMSN journal Advances in Medical-Surgical Nursing.

Fellows must maintain membership in AMSN and pay annual Fellows fees to continue to use the FAMSN credential. However, a Fellow who is permanently retired or disabled, or otherwise unable to participate in AMSN and Fellows activities, can apply for Emeritus status after four years of active appointment and service. After emeritus status is approved by the AMSN Board of Directors, annual Fellows' dues will be waived, and the Fellow may continue to use the credential. Membership dues will continue to maintain active AMSN membership.

Benefits of FAMSN Designation

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- Peer and public recognition as an accomplished medical-surgical nurse leader and nursing expert
- Evidence of a lifelong commitment to improving medical-surgical health
- Opportunities to participate in AMSN initiatives to help shape the future of medical-surgical nursing, and to represent AMSN on national and global levels with other nursing organizations through work groups, panels or other collaborative initiatives
- Personal sense of achievement

To Apply, You Must Demonstrate

- Current membership in AMSN (verified by full individual membership number on application), with a minimum of 3 consecutive years of membership prior to application
- Current licensure as a registered nurse
- Engagement in the work of AMSN (e.g., conference attendance/presentation, committee service, publication)

Certification related to medical-surgical patient populations preferred as a recognition of expertise. It will be reflected on the scoring tool. The highest level of education also will be reflected on the scoring tool.

Required Components of the Application:

- Professional narrative addressing defined criteria
- Curriculum vitae (CV) following defined requirements
- Two letters of support for the nomination for Fellow designation, at least one of which is from a current AMSN member
- Attestation to letter of commitment
- Non-refundable application fee of $100

Professional Narrative

Your narrative submission will be considered and scored based on your description of actions that contribute to advancing medical-surgical nursing, as well as to the mission and vision of AMSN, and that demonstrate an impact beyond your organization at a regional, state, national, and even global level. The narrative should clearly relay your accomplishments to reviewers, how these actions have extended beyond your work setting, and how you will continue to contribute to AMSN. Clear supporting evidence of the accomplishments/contributions should be provided. Reviewers also should be able to identify the influence AMSN has had on your professional growth and leadership evolution, and the contributions you have made to AMSN and the profession of nursing.

Each section has specific word limits; applications exceeding the word limit **will not** be accepted. When composing your narrative, ensure its organization and clarity. Reviewers will determine if:

- The narrative for each criterion is clear, coherent, focused, and free of spelling or grammatical errors.
- The content of the narrative is well developed and organized in providing evidence to support each section, with no bulleted lists.

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- The reader benefits from the applicant's logical, well-developed narrative of how the Fellow designation criteria have been met.

Two criteria within the professional narrative must be met by each applicant. Please see the attached scoring tool for the evaluation method.

1. Professional growth and leadership evolution (Max 500 words)

   a. Describe AMSN and medical-surgical nursing leadership roles (elected or formally appointed); awards and honors in nursing.

   b. Identify accomplishments, innovation, and influence in nursing practice, education, research, leadership, and/or public policy.

   c. Review substantial contributions to AMSN, medical-surgical nursing, and the nursing profession at local/state/regional/national/global levels in terms of mentorship, advocacy, volunteer service, and community activities.

   d. Highlight academic and/or scholarly accomplishments, to include presentations, publications, and research involvement. Please do not simply repeat activities that appear on the CV, but create a synthesis of accomplishments (e.g., chapter authorship in four successive editions of a noted textbook; creation of a research agenda).

2. Future professional development and leadership goals (Max 500 words)

   a. Describe your plan to further develop, expand, or evolve your nursing practice to support the medical-surgical nursing specialty and to remain engaged in advancing the mission/vision/strategic plan of AMSN.

   b. Identify specific leadership goals related to your involvement in AMSN and the nursing profession.

Submission of CV

The CV should not exceed 10 single-spaced pages in 12 pt font with 1-inch margins. Each category should begin with the most current information. The following template **must** be used, or the application will be disqualified:

HEADER: Name followed by credentials, work or home address, work telephone number (W) and mobile telephone number (C), business website (if applicable), email address LICENSES (include state of licensure and renewal date) BOARD CERTIFICATION(S) (include renewal date) EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION IN NURSING (highest earned degree first; also include formal

post-doctoral education, degrees in progress with institution and year of graduation)

EMPLOYMENT (relevant employment with years of employment, employer, location, positions held)

LECTURESHIP/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLICATIONS (peer-reviewed journals, books or book chapters, clinical practice guidelines, patents, tools, or instruments)

RESEARCH/EBP/QI

VOLUNTEER SERVICE (relevant voluntary, appointed, or elected leadership roles on boards/committees in nursing, health care, or other organizations with dates of service)

AWARDS/HONORS

Letters of Support and Nomination

Two letters of support are required. It is recommended that both letters be written by current AMSN members in good standing; at least one must be a current or past AMSN leader (e.g., chapter leader, AMSN leader, Fellow). It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure at least one letter author is a current AMSN member before submitting the letters with the application packet.

The most important characteristic of authors of support letters is their direct knowledge of the applicant. Authors should have sufficient knowledge about the applicant to expand on the contributions and outcomes for both leadership and AMSN engagement.

Letter of Commitment

The applicant will attest to the following letter of commitment as part of the electronic application:

I agree to adhere to the responsibilities of Fellow status, including the following:

- Support AMSN's goals, mission, vision, values, and strategic plan.
- Advocate for individuals with health disparities and chronic health issues (e.g., diabetes, cancer, osteoporosis) in cooperation with AMSN and outside the organization to help transform America's healthcare system.
- Offer my talents and expertise to the organization as desired, needed, or requested by the AMSN board.
- Participate in activities of the Fellows.
- Maintain membership in the organization.

I understand that I will be invited to attend a Fellowship Induction Ceremony at the AMSN Convention. My attendance is encouraged but not required to use the FAMSN credential.

I understand that if my Fellows annual fee is not paid, my membership in AMSN will end and the Fellowship ends. Upon reinstatement of membership, I will need to reapply for reinstatement of Fellow status and all applicable fees.

Application Fee

The application fee of $100.00 (US) is non-refundable.

Selection Process

Each calendar year in November, the application cycle opens. A call for application for Fellow status will be sent to all members via email, distributed to all chapter presidents, and posted on website. All applications, CV, and application fee for Fellow status must be submitted and received at the national AMSN office by January 31.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. No applications will be reviewed after this deadline.

Application review will be completed in February. A minimum of three currently active Fellows will join the Awards, Grants, and Scholarships (AGS) Committee as an official subcommittee to complete the annual application review and selection process. Subcommittee members will screen and review all applications and recommend a slate of candidates to the AMSN Board of Directors for approval. Eligible candidates whose applications are not recommended for approval will be encouraged to resubmit an application at a future date. Unsuccessful candidates may receive specific suggestions from reviewers on how to strengthen their future applications. Notification to candidates whose applications are approved and ratified by the AMSN Board of Directors will be notified via email in March.

A $50.00 induction fee must be collected prior to using the FAMSN credential. The Induction ceremony will occur at the AMSN Convention that same year. ***Annual fee of $75.00 to maintain credential of FAMSN is payable December 31 of each year.*** Fees will go to a Fellows subaccount maintained by AMSN and will be used for activities such as grants or conference speakers.

Application and induction fees will be used to defray costs of recognition gifts at the time of induction. Annual fees will be maintained in a subaccount by AMSN for use at the Fellows' discretion (e.g., AMSN conference speaker sponsorship).

The scoring rubric used by the Awards, Scholarships, and Grants Committee is included with the Fellows application. Applicants are encouraged to use this as a guide for self- assessment to determine whether the applicant has engaged in significant and substantial leadership, scholarly activities, and contributions to qualify to be a Fellow.

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